

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Opioid Trend

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March 22, 2019

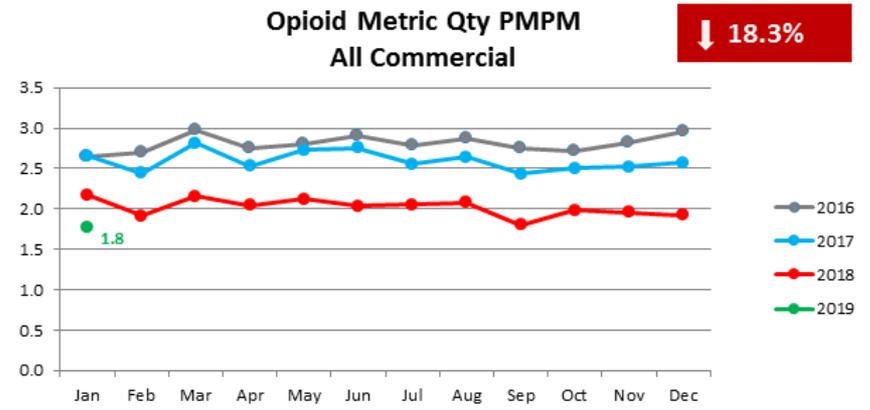
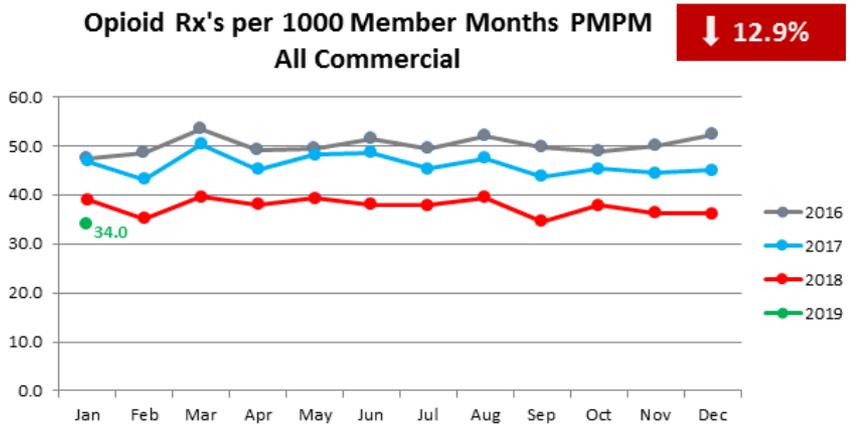


Blue Cross' Opioid Policy

- Implemented new opioid coverage policies **to decrease the quantity of opioids in the community and minimize the number of patients who become chronic opioid users**, while still meeting the needs of our members.
- Members may have a limit on how many days' supply of an opioid drug they can fill at a time, or their doctors may need to ask for prior authorization before filling an opioid drug.
 - Exceptions for most members who were already on long-term pain medications when policy went into effect and for those taking these drugs because they have cancer or are receiving end-of-life care.
- Blue Cross developed this policy after considering a breadth of clinical guidelines, industry best practices, state regulatory requirements, and our own member population.

Opioid Utilization in a Commercial Population

- Since Jan. 1, 2016, the number of opioid prescriptions per member per month is **28.3% lower**; and the number of opioids dispensed in our communities is **33.2% fewer**.
- From Jan. 1, 2018 to Jan. 1, 2019, Blue Cross' Opioid Overutilization program's first full year, we show nearly **13% fewer opioid prescriptions** per 1,000 members and **18.3% fewer opioid quantities** dispensed per member per month.



- Members can learn about **Safer Pain Care** at: bcbsla.com/pharmacy

Opioid Policy and Community Involvement

- Partnered with our Foundation, the state Attorney General and other partners to provide at least one safe place to drop off unwanted drugs – no questions asked – in nearly every parish.
 - Currently, there are more than **55 boxes** around the state, with most parishes hosting one. **East Baton Rouge Parish currently has three drop boxes, and nearby parishes Livingston and West Baton Rouge have one each.** Visit www.bcbsla.com/safedrugdrop to find permanent drug drop off boxes.
- Each year, Blue Cross plays a role in organizing and promoting **Drug Take Back Day** with the DEA and other healthcare partners across the parish. Several hundred pounds of unused medicines are collected at this event each year.
- We continue to support efforts that educate our members about opioid misuse or overuse and keep our communities safe from the harmful effects of opioid drugs.