



## Smoking Cessation Program

NDQuits

1-800-QUIT-NOW

Prior Authorization Vendor for ND Medicaid

North Dakota Medicaid has joined forces with the Department of Health to provide free, confidential, telephone-based cessation coaching to recipients interested in quitting tobacco. Beginning November 15, 2008, in order to receive smoking cessation products (patches, gum, lozenges, bupropion, or Chantix<sup>®</sup>), Medicaid recipients must be signed up with NDQuits (1-800-QUIT-NOW or 1-800-784-8669). Once a recipient is enrolled in coaching, they will work with their coach to determine which medications they wish to use. The complete process is described below:

1. Patient calls NDQuits and enrolls in coaching.
2. Coaches guide patient through quitting process.
3. Individualized treatment plan developed.
4. If medications are used, the patient will receive an enrollment letter which will include the NDQuit's standing orders for the specific medication(s).
5. The HID Prior Authorization form will be included with the letter
6. The client must contact their physician and obtain the prescription.
7. The patient, physician or pharmacy must fax the Prior Authorization form and enrollment letter to HID.
8. Patient takes prescription to pharmacy.
9. Pharmacy fills prescription and the claim is paid.

Patients will be limited to a 90 day supply of therapy for patches, gum, lozenges, and bupropion, every two years. Combination therapy with these medications is allowed.

Chantix is limited to the initial 12 weeks of therapy with an additional 12 weeks (24 consecutive weeks) allowed if the patient has continuously quit for a minimum of one month (since day 56 of therapy). The Chantix regimen will be allowed once every two years.

Prior authorizations will be entered based upon the recipient's Quit Date. This means that the approval date range will be sufficient to allow recipients to pick up medications at least one week prior to their Quit Date. Compliance will be an important aspect of the patient's success.

Please contact Health Information Designs, Inc. at (334) 502-3262 or toll free at 1-800-225-6998, with questions regarding the smoking cessation prior authorization process.