

From: [Bucek, John MD](#)
To: [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)
Subject: Please remove need for preauthorization
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I just spent 20 minutes trying to get my approval for two prescriptions that may help my patient quit smoking.

She is a 30 + year smoker who has complications of tobacco use that give her symptoms and will shorten her life.

She is enrolled in a smoking cessation program and two medicines that will improve her chances for quitting will be prescribed. She has a job and she has a prescription benefit with her health insurance plan.

I called the pre authorization number as directed by her pharmacy. The pharmacy benefits company gave me a different number to call and the second call resulted in a third call because this insurance administers pharmacy pre auth directly instead of the pharmacy benefits company. The process of telling the company rep the clinical info and getting a completed pre - auth request took 12 minutes. Adding the call and the on-hold time - the process took a total of 20 minutes. I will get my answer by fax in 24-48 hours.

There is no sense as to why evidence based therapy for deadly conditions require pre auth - when numerous marginally effective me too drugs require no approval.

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