1.0 Purpose
This policy provides guidance on multi-month and special circumstance medication supply coverage for medications provided by the Texas HIV Medication Program (THMP).

2.0 Authority
Texas Administrative Code (TAC), 25 TAC §98.103, Medication Coverage.

3.0 Background
The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) receives federal and state funding to purchase and distribute life-saving HIV medications to eligible clients (e.g. low-income, uninsured, or underinsured). The THMP is responsible for managing and overseeing all related operations throughout the state. Federal funds for the THMP are provided to DSHS by the Health Resources and Services Administration, which allows the dispensing of a 90-day medication supply. Having the option of a 90-day supply can be beneficial to clients and pharmacies, as well as more efficient for the THMP. For some THMP clients, multi-month supply of medication will help support adherence to their medication treatment. Treatment adherence is critical to maintain the health of persons living with HIV and to reduce HIV transmission by reducing or eliminating clients’ viral load (amount of virus within the blood).

4.0 Definitions
AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) – The State of Texas’ HIV Medication Program (THMP), administered by DSHS HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch.
Client – An applicant who has been determined to be eligible for services, has successfully completed the eligibility process, and is receiving services, including medications through the THMP.
Medical Care Team – One or more professionals working to provide services and care to people living with HIV (PLWH). This team can include, but is not limited to, clinicians, case managers, and pharmacists.
Medical Provider – A local organization, individual clinician, or group of clinicians who provide treatment and medical care to people living with HIV (PLWH).
Multi-Month Medication Supply – A medication that is prescribed and/or dispensed in a quantity exceeding one month, or 30 days.

Recertification – In order to continue receiving services through THMP, clients must submit documentation every six (6) months to verify their eligibility to remain enrolled in the program.

Self-Attestation – process of a client confirming no change in previous eligibility declaration and documentation.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) – The agency responsible for administering physical and mental health-related prevention, treatment, and regulatory programs for the State of Texas. DSHS oversees the Texas HIV Medication Program.

Texas HIV Medication Program (THMP) – Provides medications for the treatment of HIV and its related complications for low-income Texans. The THMP is the official ADAP for the State of Texas. It also operates the State Pharmacy Assistance Program (SPAP) and Texas Insurance Assistance Program (TIAP).

Texas Resident – An individual who resides within the geographic boundaries of the state of Texas.

Viral Load – A laboratory test that measures the amount of HIV viral copies in a milliliter of blood.

5.0 Persons Affected

- Providers/Physicians
- Pharmacist working at THMP participating pharmacies.
- THMP clients
- THMP staff

6.0 Policy

It is the policy of the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to approve dispensing of up to a 90-day supply of medication(s) upon prescription by a treating physician for certain medications and in special circumstances. Prescribing providers and pharmacists should familiarize themselves with the coverage guidelines, responsibilities, and limitations that could impact fulfillment of multi-month prescription requests.

7.0 Medication Coverage Guidelines

7.1 90-Day Medication Supply

THMP has approved certain medications provided by the program to be dispensed to patients in quantities up to a 90-day supply. The option for a 90-day supply is not a requirement and it is up to the prescribing physician to determine whether a medication should be refilled for 30 or 90 days.

A list of medications approved to be dispensed as a 90-day supply is posted in the Pharmacy and Medical Provider Guidelines and available on the program’s website at:

[www.dshs.texas.gov/hivstd/meds/pharmacy.shtm](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/hivstd/meds/pharmacy.shtm).
**7.2 Medication Supply for Special Situations**

Eligible THMP clients will be approved for up to a maximum of a 90-day supply of medications in special situations, as detailed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Medication Assistance</th>
<th>Documentation required</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temporary travel out of Texas.</td>
<td>May request up to a 90-day supply of prescribed medications at their assigned THMP pharmacy twice per year.</td>
<td>Must submit the THMP Temporary Out of State or Extra Medication Request Form.</td>
<td>A lost fill over 30 days will not be replaced</td>
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<tr>
<td>A client is enrolled as a student at an out-of-state educational institution, but retains residency in Texas.</td>
<td>May request to pick up medications in the state where he/she attends classes during the period of his/her education enrollment.</td>
<td>Must submit current proof of out of state educational enrollment, and an ADAP denial letter from the attending state’s ADAP.</td>
<td>A 30-day order will be allowed at a local pharmacy in the state where the recipient attends school, with verification of school enrollment required with every self-attestation and recertification.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Migrant/ Seasonal Workers</td>
<td>The client may request up to a 90-day supply while he/she is working.</td>
<td>Client must submit the Temporary Out of State or Extra Medication Request Form.</td>
<td>A lost fill over 30 days will not be replaced</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporary Job Assignments</td>
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<td>This may be approved up to twice a year nonconsecutively.</td>
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<td>Temporary Leave for an Extended period of time to care for family or attend to other personal matters out of state.</td>
<td>May request to pick up medications at an out-of-state pharmacy for a total of up to 90 days.</td>
<td>Client must submit a statement explaining their extended leave of more than 60 days.</td>
<td>A 30-day order will be allowed at a local pharmacy in the state where the client is visiting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Situation</td>
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<td>Natural Disaster Displacement Out of State.</td>
<td>The client may request to pick up medications at an out-of-state pharmacy for a period of up to 60 days</td>
<td>Client must submit a statement of intent to return to Texas or apply to the states ADAP where client may decide to remain.</td>
<td>A 30-day order will be allowed at a local pharmacy in the state where the client is displaced.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TIAP /SPAP clients with insurance.</td>
<td>The client may request to pick-up medications at an out-of-state pharmacy.</td>
<td>Client must submit the Temporary Out of State or Extra Medication Request Form.</td>
<td>A 30-day order will be allowed at a local pharmacy in the state where the client is visiting, working, attending school, or displaced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clients residing in hurricane-prone areas</td>
<td>A client may request an additional 30-day fill of medication between the months of June and November, which are recognized as Hurricane Season.</td>
<td>The client must reside in a county designated as a coastal area by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) or in a county with a disaster declaration during Hurricane Harvey</td>
<td>Additional fill will only be provided for medications that the client currently receives as a 30-day fill.</td>
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</table>
8.0 Responsibilities

8.1 Medical Provider
Reviews list of medications approved for a 90-day supply by ADAP and only write prescriptions for those included on this list; exceptions exist for client’s approved to receive extra medication due to situations stated in section 7.2 of this policy, Medication Supply for Special Situations.

Providers should reserve prescribing a 90-day medication supply for people on stable medication regimens; medications that are new or have changed in dose for a patient are not eligible to be dispensed as 90-day supply.

Submits updated Medical Certification Form (MCF) to THMP whenever a change in client’s therapy occurs, including a change in medication supply quantity. Supply quantity must be documented on MCF for each medication prescribed.

8.2 Pharmacist
Stays up-to-date on medications that are eligible for a 90-day supply through the THMP. Only dispenses multi-month prescriptions for medications on the approved list or when a Temporary Out of State or Extra Medication Request Form approved by THMP is submitted for an active prescription.

8.3 Client
A Client who needs extra medication or a multi-month supply of medication due to any situations described in section 7.2 of this policy, Medication Supply for Special Situations, must complete the Temporary Out of State or Extra Medication Request Form and obtain approval by the THMP.

The client must ensure that they have a prescription that is active for the amount of time requested by the extended fill and must inform their provider that they wish to order an extended fill. It is the client’s responsibility to recertify their eligibility to maintain access to medications while they are temporarily out of Texas. In the event that the client remains out of state longer than 90 days, he or she may be required to fully reapply, including current proof of Texas Residency.
8.4 THMP

Keeps the list of medications approved for a 90-day supply and the MCF up to date. Notifies providers and pharmacists to check the guidelines when changes to the list have been made.

9.0 Limitations

Medications approved to be dispensed as a 90-day supply and fulfilling requests for a multi-month medication supply are at the discretion of the THMP and subject to availability and funding constraints. Only those medications included on the Pharmacy and Medical Provider Guidelines are eligible to be dispensed in quantities exceeding 30 days, unless otherwise approved by the THMP, such as situations listed in section 7.2 of this policy.

10.0 Medication Replacements

A lost fill over 30 days will only be replaced as a 30-day supply. If a 90-day fill is lost, the client will only be eligible for 30-day medication refills from that date forward. Returning to a 90-day supply will be reassessed by THMP on a case-by-case basis in collaboration with the client’s medical care team.

11.0 Revision History

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