

**WAC 296-20-03055 Opioid authorization requirement for the acute phase (0-6 weeks).** The department or self-insurer may cover opioids for up to six weeks when prescribed to treat pain from the acute industrial injury or after an authorized surgery. Providers must obtain and document the worker's baseline function and pain measurements during the acute phase if planning to prescribe opioids beyond this phase.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 51.04.020 and 51.04.030. WSR 13-12-024, § 296-20-03055, filed 5/28/13, effective 7/1/13.]