

Policy Title:	Medical Drug Waste Program		
		Department:	PHA
Effective Date:	01/01/2025		
Review Date:	12/18/2024, 02/24/2026		

Purpose:

To ensure Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (Neighborhood) reduces drug waste across infused drug products under the medical benefit.

Scope:

Medicaid, Commercial

Policy Statement:

Neighborhood’s Pharmacy Department will assess for dosage optimization opportunities when performing medical benefit prior authorization reviews in attempts to reduce drug waste and allow for more efficient vial size utilization when clinically appropriate.

Procedure:

Prior Authorization process for a targeted list of medically administered medications will require doses to be rounded to the nearest next lowest vial size if within +/- 10% of the original prescribed dose unless the treating physician indicates that the recommended dose may result in suboptimal outcome for the member. Clinical exceptions may be provided when clinically appropriate.

Members will be excluded from dose rounding if the member:

- Is younger than age 18 years.
- Is partially responsive to the exact prescribed dose.
- Previously demonstrated a suboptimal response to a lower rounded down dose.
- Has a history of rapidly fluctuating body weight (i.e. weight gain of at least 10% body weight in a one-month time period within the 6 months).
- Is clinically unstable and at high risk for hospitalization if the requested medication produced a suboptimal response.