



**PENSION HOSPITALIZATION AND BENEFIT PLAN
JOINT INDUSTRY BOARD OF THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY**

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HARRY VAN ARSDALE JR.
Founder

May 2014

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Dear Participant:

This is to advise you that, effective **June 1st 2014**, certain compound prescriptions (**new or refilled prescriptions**) will no longer be covered under the Pension, Hospitalization and Benefit Plan of the Electrical Industry ("**the Plan**").

Compound prescriptions contain medications which are combined or mixed by a pharmacist to create a special formulation which is not commercially available. They are not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), so there is no way to confirm their quality, safety and effectiveness. They may, however, be covered with prior approval **by the Plan** if an FDA-approved commercially available medication doesn't work for you.

While the Plan has always sought to provide a wide range of choice to Participants, certain compounding pharmacies have priced their products at such an unreasonably high level as to endanger the Plan's ability to continue to cover these specific compounded drugs without imposing the following rules effective June 1, 2014:

1. All compounded medications containing any of the following are excluded from coverage:
 - a. ketamine
 - b. gabapentin
 - c. diclofenac
 - d. ketoprofen
 - e. flurbiprofen
 - f. hyaluronic acid
 - g. mometasone
 - h. fluticasone
 - i. nabumetone
 - j. meloxicam

2. In addition, a maximum dollar limit per claim of **\$300** will apply to all compounded medications, **regardless of the ingredients**. Compounded medications that exceed this dollar limit will not be approved at the pharmacy or through mail order without prior approval from **the Plan**.

The unrestricted coverage of certain compounded medications has put the health of both the Plan and, most importantly, our Participants at risk, which is why these changes are necessary. In all cases of these compounded medications, there is at least one, and most often, several alternatives that are proven to be equally effective.

If you have any questions regarding this change of the approval of compounded medications under the Plan, please contact 718-591-2000, extensions 1115 or 1233.

Sincerely,

The Pension,
Hospitalization and
Benefit Plan of the
Electrical Industry
Board of Trustees