



# Do You Need Specialty Medications?



Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) has arranged for AllianceRx Walgreens Prime\* to support members who need self-administered specialty medication and help them manage their therapy.

Specialty drugs are often prescribed to treat chronic, complex or rare conditions, such as multiple sclerosis, hepatitis C and rheumatoid arthritis. These drugs may be given by infusion (intravenously), injection, taken by mouth or some other way.

Specialty drugs often call for carefully following a treatment plan (or taking them on a strict schedule). These medications have special handling or storage needs and may not be stocked by retail pharmacies. They often cost more than non-specialty prescriptions.

Some specialty drugs must be given by a health care professional, while others are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for self-administration (given by yourself or a care giver). Medications that call for administration by a professional are often covered under your medical benefit. Your doctor will order these medications. Coverage for self-administered specialty drugs is usually provided through your pharmacy benefit. Your doctor should write or call in a prescription for self-administered specialty drugs to be filled by a specialty pharmacy.

Your plan may require you to get your self-administered specialty drugs through AllianceRx Walgreens Prime or another in-network specialty pharmacy. If you do not use these pharmacies, you may pay higher out-of-pocket costs.\*\*

## Examples of Self-administered Specialty Medications

This chart shows some conditions self-administered specialty drugs may be used to treat, along with sample medications. This is not a complete list and may change from time to time. Visit [bcbsil.com](http://bcbsil.com) to see the up-to-date list of specialty drugs.

Condition	Sample Medications***
<b>Osteoporosis</b>	Forteo, Tymlos
<b>Cancer (oral)</b>	Gleevec, Nexavar, Sprycel, Sutent, Tarceva
<b>Growth Hormones</b>	Increlex, Omnitrope
<b>Hepatitis C</b>	Epclusa, Harvoni, Mavyret and Vosevi
<b>Multiple Sclerosis</b>	Betaseron, Copaxone, Rebif
<b>Rheumatoid Arthritis/Psoriasis</b>	Enbrel, Humira, Stelara

## Support in Managing Your Condition: AllianceRx Walgreens Prime

Through AllianceRx Walgreens Prime, you can have your covered, self-administered specialty drugs delivered straight to you. When you get your specialty drugs through AllianceRx Walgreens Prime, you get one-on-one support in managing your therapy – at no additional charge – including:

- Convenient delivery of drugs to you or your doctor's office
- Information to help you stay on track with your therapy and help you manage any side effects you may feel
- Syringes, sharps containers and other supplies with each shipment for self-injectable drugs
- 24/7/365 specialty pharmacy access

## Ordering Through AllianceRx Walgreens Prime

You can order a new prescription or transfer your existing prescription for a self-administered specialty drug to AllianceRx Walgreens Prime. **To start using AllianceRx Walgreens Prime, call 877-627-6337, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET.**

Certain coverage exclusions and limitations may apply, based on your health plan. For some medicines, members must meet certain criteria before prescription drug benefit coverage may be approved. Check your benefit materials for details, or call the number on the back of your ID card with questions.

**bcbsil.com**

## When switching pharmacies, have your ID card and be ready with your:

- Name, address, phone number
- Name of medication
- Current pharmacy's name and phone number (for existing prescriptions), and the prescription number
- Doctor's name, phone and fax numbers

Your doctor may also order select specialty drugs that must be given to you by a health professional through AllianceRx Walgreens Prime.

## Receiving Specialty Medications

Since many specialty drugs have unique shipping or handling needs, shipments will be arranged with you through AllianceRx Walgreens Prime. Medications are shipped in plain, secure, tamper-resistant packaging.

Before your scheduled refill date, you will be contacted to:

- Confirm your drugs, dose and the delivery location
- Check any prescription changes your doctor may have ordered\*\*\*\*
- Discuss any changes in your condition or answer any questions about your health\*\*\*\*

You can reach AllianceRx Walgreens Prime at 877-627-6337.



\*Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) contracts with Prime Therapeutics to provide pharmacy benefit management and related other services. BCBSIL, as well as several independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans, has an ownership interest in Prime Therapeutics. Prime Therapeutics has an ownership interest in AllianceRx Walgreens Prime, a central specialty pharmacy and home delivery company.

\*\*The BCBSIL specialty pharmacy network includes AllianceRx Walgreens Prime as well as other in-network specialty pharmacies for select specialty drugs. BCBSIL HMO members have a separate specialty pharmacy network. Based on the benefit plan, members may be responsible for the full cost of the specialty drug for not using an in-network specialty pharmacy. You can log in to your Blue Access for Members (BAM) account to find an in-network specialty pharmacy near you.

\*\*\*Third-party brand names are the property of their respective owners.

\*\*\*\*Treatment decisions are between you and your doctor.