



Do You Need Specialty Medications?



Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois supports members who need self-administered specialty medication and helps them manage their therapy.

Specialty drugs are often prescribed to treat complex and/or chronic conditions, such as multiple sclerosis, hepatitis C and rheumatoid arthritis.

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 only be stocked by select pharmacies.

Some specialty drugs must be given by a health care professional, while others are approved by the 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 plan. Your doctor will order these medications. Coverage for self-administered specialty drugs is usually provided through your pharmacy benefit plan. 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 Accredo® or another in-network pharmacy. If you do not use these pharmacies, you may pay higher out-of-pocket costs.¹ Your doctor may also order select specialty drugs that must be given to you by a health professional through a contracted specialty pharmacy.

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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 to see the up-to-date list of specialty drugs.

Condition	Sample Medications ²
Autoimmune Disorders	Cosentyx, Enbrel, Xeljanz
Osteoporosis	Forteo, Tymlos
Cancer (oral)	Sprycel, Imbruvica, Kisqali, Ibrance, Xtandi
Growth Hormones	Omnitrope, Genotropin
Hepatitis C	Eplclusa, Harvoni, Mavyret, Sovaldi, Vosevi
Multiple Sclerosis	Betaseron, Rebif, Aubagio

Support in Managing Your Condition: Accredo

Through Accredo, you can have your covered, self-administered specialty drugs delivered straight to you. When you get your specialty drugs through Accredo, you get:

- One-on-one counseling from 500+ condition-specific pharmacists and 600+ nurses
- Simple communication, including refill reminders, by your choice of phone, email, text or web³
- An online member website to order refills, check order status and track shipments, view order and medication history, set profile preferences and learn more about your condition
- A mobile app that lets you refill and track prescriptions, make payments and set reminders to take your medicine
- Free standard shipping
- 24/7 support

Ordering Through Accredo

You can order a new prescription or transfer your existing prescription for a self-administered specialty drug to Accredo. **To start using Accredo, call 833-721-1619.**

An Accredo representative will work with your doctor on the rest.

Once registered, you can manage your prescriptions on accredo.com or through the Accredo mobile app.

Receiving Specialty Medications

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

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

- Confirm your drugs, dose and the delivery location
- Check any prescription changes your doctor may have ordered⁴
- Discuss any changes in your condition or answer any questions about your health

One-on-One Support

Accredo has 15 Therapeutic Resource Centers®, each focused on a specific specialty condition. Through your one-on-one counseling sessions, they'll discuss how to reduce your disease progression and achieve your treatment goals, manage any side effects from your drugs, help you stick to your regimen and monitor your progress. They can also offer support with any financial or insurance concerns you may have.

Certain coverage exclusions and limits 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 customer service number listed on your ID card with questions.

1. The BCBSIL specialty pharmacy network includes Accredo as well as other in-network specialty pharmacies for select specialty drugs. 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 MembersSM account to find an in-network specialty pharmacy near you.

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

3. Not all medicines can be refilled on the app, by text or email.

4. Treatment decisions are between you and your doctor.

Prime Therapeutics LLC is a separate company Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois contracts with to provide pharmacy solutions. BCBSIL, as well as several independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans, has an ownership interest in Prime Therapeutics.

Accredo is contracted to provide services for BCBSIL. Accredo is a trademark of Express Scripts Strategic Development, Inc.