



Pharmacy Program Updates: Quarterly Pharmacy Changes Effective Oct. 1, 2018

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DRUG LIST CHANGES

Based on the availability of new prescription medications and Prime's National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee's review of changes in the pharmaceuticals market, some additions, revisions (drugs still covered but moved to a higher out-of-pocket payment level) and/or exclusions (drugs no longer covered) were made to the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) drug lists. Your patient(s) may ask you about therapeutic or lower cost alternatives if their medication is affected by one of these changes. Changes that were effective Oct. 1, 2018 are outlined below.

Drug List Updates (Coverage Additions) – As of Oct. 1, 2018:

Preferred Drug ¹	Drug Class/Condition Used For
Basic, Multi-Tier Basic, Enhanced, Multi-Tier Enhanced Drug Lists	
ALINIA (nitazoxanide for susp 100 mg/5 mL)	Antiprotozoal
ALINIA (nitazoxanide tab 500 mg)	Antiprotozoal
ARNUITY ELLIPTA (fluticasone furoate aerosol powder breath activ 50 mcg/act)	Asthma, Allergic Rhinitis
BIKTARVY (bictegravir-emtricitabine-tenofovir af tab 50-200-25 mg)	HIV
CHLOROQUINE PHOSPHATE (chloroquine phosphate tab 250 mg)	Malaria
CIMDUO (lamivudine-tenofovir disoproxil fumarate tab 300-300 mg)	HIV
ERLEADA (apalutamide tab 60 mg)	Cancer
HUMIRA (adalimumab prefilled syringe kit 10 mg/0.1 mL, 20 mg/0.2 mL, 40 mg/0.4 mL)	Biologics
HUMIRA PEDIATRIC CROHNS DISEASE STARTER PACK (adalimumab prefilled syringe kit 80 mg/0.8 mL & 40 mg/0.4 mL, 80 mg/0.8 mL)	Biologics
HUMIRA PEN (adalimumab pen-injector kit 40 mg/0.4 mL)	Biologics
IDELVION (coagulation factor ix (recomb) (rix-fp) for inj 3500 unit)	Hemophilia
MEFLOQUINE HCL (mefloquine hcl tab 250 mg)	Malaria
NORVIR (ritonavir powder packet 100 mg)	HIV
SYMFI (efavirenz-lamivudine-tenofovir df tab 600-300-300 mg)	HIV
SYMFI LO (efavirenz-lamivudine-tenofovir df tab 400-300-300 mg)	HIV
TASIGNA (nilotinib hcl cap 50 mg (base equivalent))	Cancer
TOUJEO MAX SOLOSTAR (insulin glargine soln pen-injector 300 unit/mL)	Diabetes
ZENPEP (pancrelipase (lip-prot-amyl) dr cap 3000-10000-14000 unit, 10000-32000-42000 unit, 15000-47000-63000 unit)	Pancreatic Enzymes
Enhanced and Multi-Tier Enhanced Drug Lists	
CREON (pancrelipase (lip-prot-amyl) dr cap 3000-9500-	Pancreatic Enzymes

15000 unit, 6000-19000-30000 unit, 12000-38000-60000 unit, 24000-76000-120000 unit, 36000-114000-180000 unit)	
Performance and Performance Select Drug Lists	
ALINIA (nitazoxanide for susp 100 mg/5 mL)	Antiprotozoal
ALINIA (nitazoxanide tab 500 mg)	Antiprotozoal
ARNUITY ELLIPTA (fluticasone furoate aerosol powder breath activ 50 mcg/act)	Asthma, Allergic Rhinitis
BIKTARVY (bictegravir-emtricitabine-tenofovir af tab 50-200-25 mg)	HIV
CHLOROQUINE PHOSPHATE (chloroquine phosphate tab 250 mg)	Malaria
CIMDUO (lamivudine-tenofovir disoproxil fumarate tab 300-300 mg)	HIV
clozapine orally disintegrating tab 12.5 mg	Antipsychotic
colesevelam hcl tab 625 mg	High Cholesterol
cyclophosphamide cap 25 mg, 50 mg	Cancer
DALIRESP (roflumilast tab 250 mcg)	COPD
DDAVP (desmopressin acetate nasal soln 0.01% (refrigerated))	Diabetes insipidus
drospirenone-ethinyl estrad-levomefolate tab 3-0.03-0.451 mg (generic for SAFYRAL)	Oral Contraceptive
ERLEADA (apalutamide tab 60 mg)	Cancer
erythromycin tab 250 mg, 500 mg	Anti-Infective
FIRVANQ (vancomycin hcl for oral soln 25 mg/mL, 50 mg/mL)	Anti-Infective
HUMIRA (adalimumab prefilled syringe kit 10 mg/0.1 mL, 20 mg/0.2 mL, 40 mg/0.4 mL)	Biologic
HUMIRA PEDIATRIC CROHNS DISEASE STARTER PACK (adalimumab prefilled syringe kit 80 mg/0.8 mL & 40 mg/0.4 mL, 80 mg/0.8 mL)	Biologic
HUMIRA PEN (adalimumab pen-injector kit 40 mg/0.4 mL)	Biologic
IDELVION (coagulation factor ix (recomb) (rix-fp) for inj 3500 unit)	Hemophilia
MEFLOQUINE HCL (mefloquine hcl tab 250 mg)	Malaria
methylergonovine maleate tab 0.2 mg	Postpartum hemorrhage, Uterine hemorrhage
methylphenidate hcl chew tab 2.5 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg	ADHD
miglustat cap 100 mg	Gaucher Disease
NOCTIVA (desmopressin acetate nasal emulsion spray 0.83 mcg/0.1 mL, 1.66 mcg/0.1 mL)	Nocturia
nortriptyline hcl soln 10 mg/5 mL	Antidepressant
NORVIR (ritonavir powder packet 100 mg)	HIV
OMBRA TABLE TOP COMPRESSOR (*respiratory therapy supplies - devices**)	Nebulizer/Respiratory supply device
oseltamivir phosphate cap 75 mg (base equiv)	Influenza
phytonadione tab 5 mg	Vitamin K Deficiency
praziquantel tab 600 mg	Anthelmintic
ritonavir tab 100 mg	HIV
SYMDEKO (tezacaftor-ivacaftor 100-150 mg & ivacaftor 150 mg tab tbpk)	Cystic Fibrosis
SYMFI (efavirenz-lamivudine-tenofovir df tab 600-300-	HIV

300 mg)	
SYMFI LO (efavirenz-lamivudine-tenofovir df tab 400-300-300 mg)	HIV
TASIGNA (nilotinib hcl cap 50 mg (base equivalent))	Cancer
tiagabine hcl tab 12 mg, 16 mg	Anticonvulsant
TIMOLOL MALEATE OPHTHALMIC GEL FORMING (timolol maleate ophth gel forming soln 0.5%)	Glaucoma
TIMOPTIC-XE (timolol maleate ophth gel forming soln 0.25%, 0.5%)	Glaucoma
TOUJEO MAX SOLOSTAR (insulin glargine soln pen-injector 300 unit/mL)	Diabetes
ZENPEP (pancrelipase (lip-prot-amyl) dr cap 3000-10000-14000 unit, 10000-32000-42000 unit, 15000-47000-63000 unit)	Pancreatic Enzyme
Performance Select Drug List	
BONJESTA (doxylamine-pyridoxine tab er 20-20 mg)	Pregnancy-associated nausea and vomiting
sildenafil citrate tab 25 mg, 50 mg, 100 mg	Erectile Dysfunction

Drug List Updates (Revisions/Exclusions) – As of Oct. 1, 2018:

Please note: If you have patients with an HMO Illinois® or Blue Advantage HMOSM plan, these drug list changes will not apply to their pharmacy benefits, administered through Prime Therapeutics, until Jan. 1, 2019.

Non-Preferred Brand ¹	Drug Class/Condition Used For	Generic Preferred Alternative(s) ²	Preferred Brand Alternative(s) ^{1,2}
Basic Drug List Revisions			
ESTRACE (estradiol vaginal cream 0.1 mg/gm)	Menopausal Changes	<i>Generic equivalent available. Members should talk to their doctor or pharmacist about other medication(s) available for their condition.</i>	
FORTEO (teriparatide (recombinant) inj 600 mcg/2.4 mL)	Osteoporosis	N/A	TYMLOS
RENVELA (sevelamer carbonate tab 800 mg)	Kidney Disease	<i>Generic equivalent available. Members should talk to their doctor or pharmacist about other medication(s) available for their condition.</i>	
SUSTIVA (efavirenz tab 600 mg)	HIV	<i>Generic equivalent available. Members should talk to their doctor or pharmacist about other medication(s) available for their condition.</i>	
Drug ¹	Drug Class/Condition Used For	Preferred Alternative(s) ^{1,2}	
Performance and Performance Select Drug Lists Revisions			
CARTEOLOL HCL (carteolol hcl ophth soln 1%)	Glaucoma/ Ocular Hypertension	levobunolol ophth soln, timolol ophth soln	
KETOPROFEN (ketoprofen cap 50 mg, 75 mg)	Pain/Inflammation	diclofenac tablet, ibuprofen tablet, naproxen tablet	
TERCONAZOLE (terconazole vaginal cream 0.8%)	Fungal Infection	<i>Members should talk to their doctor or pharmacist about other medication(s) available for their condition.</i>	

TIMOLOL MALEATE OPTHALMI (timolol maleate ophth gel forming soln 0.5%)	Glaucoma/ Ocular Hypertension	levobunolol ophth soln, timolol ophth soln
Performance and Performance Select Drug Lists Exclusions		
SUSTIVA (efavirenz tab 600 mg)	HIV	<i>Generic equivalent available. Members should talk to their doctor or pharmacist about other medication(s) available for their condition.</i>
SYPRINE (trientine hcl cap 250 mg)	Wilson's Disease	<i>Generic equivalent available. Members should talk to their doctor or pharmacist about other medication(s) available for their condition.</i>
TOBRADEX (tobramycin-dexamethasone ophth oint 0.3-0.1%)	Ophthalmic Infection	neomycin-polymyxin-dexamethasone ophth susp 0.1%, tobramycin-dexamethasone ophth susp 0.3-0.1%
TOBREX (tobramycin ophth oint 0.3%)	Ophthalmic Infection	moxifloxacin ophth soln 0.5%, ofloxacin ophth soln 0.3%, tobramycin ophth soln 0.3%
Performance Select Drug List Exclusions		
CLINDAGEL (clindamycin phosphate gel 1%)	Acne	clindamycin gel 1%, clindamycin soln 1%, erythromycin gel 2%
SOLODYN (minocycline hcl tab er 24hr 65 mg, 115 mg)	Acne	doxycycline hyclate, doxycycline monohydrate, minocycline, Oracea
TREXIMET (sumatriptan-naproxen sodium tab 85-500 mg)	Migraine	<i>Generic equivalent available. Members should talk to their doctor or pharmacist about other medication(s) available for their condition.</i>
VIAGRA (sildenafil citrate tab 25 mg, 50 mg, 100 mg)	Erectile Dysfunction	<i>Generic equivalent available. Members should talk to their doctor or pharmacist about other medication(s) available for their condition.</i>

DISPENSING LIMIT CHANGES

The BCBSIL prescription drug benefit program includes coverage limits on certain medications and drug categories. Dispensing limits are based on U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved dosage regimens and product labeling.

Effective Oct. 1, 2018:

Drug Class and Medication(s)¹	Dispensing Limit(s)
Basic, Performance and Performance Select Drug Lists Changes	
Benlysta	
Benlysta	4 mL per 28 days
Therapeutic Alternatives	
Chlorzoxazone 250 mg tabs	120 tabs per 30 days
Fenoprofen 200 mg caps	180 caps per 30 days
Fenoprofen 400 mg caps	120 caps per 30 days

UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM CHANGES

- **Effective Oct. 1, 2018**, the following changes will be applied:
 - The Doxycycline/Minocycline PA program will be renamed the Oral Tetracycline Derivatives PA program. All targeted medications and program criteria remain the same.
 - Several drug categories and/or targeted medications will be added to current Prior Authorization (PA) and Step Therapy (ST) programs for standard pharmacy benefit plans, upon renewal for most members. *As a reminder*, please review your patient's drug list for the indicator listed in the Prior Authorization or Step Therapy column, as not all programs may apply. Additionally, please be sure to submit the specific prior authorization form the medication being prescribed to your patient.

Drug categories added to current pharmacy PA standard programs, effective Oct. 1, 2018:

Drug Category	Targeted Medication(s) ¹
Basic, Performance and Performance Select Drug Lists	
Hemophilia Factor VIII, IX	Adynovate, Afstyla, Alprolix, Elocbate, Idelvion, Rebinyn

Targeted drugs added to current pharmacy PA standard programs, effective Oct. 1, 2018:

Drug Category	Targeted Medication(s) ¹
Basic, Performance and Performance Select Drug Lists	
Cystic Fibrosis	Symdeko
Basic and Performance Drug Lists	
Therapeutic Alternatives	Aplenzin [†] , Chlorzoxazone/Parafon Forte, Fenoprofen

¹Third party brand names are the property of their respective owners

²These lists are not all inclusive. Other medications may be available in this drug class.

[†] Target drug moved from the Antidepressants ST standard program to the Therapeutic Alternatives PA standard program.

Per our usual process of member notification prior to implementation, targeted mailings were sent to members affected by drug list revisions and/or exclusions, dispensing limit and prior authorization program changes. For the most up-to-date drug list and list of drug dispensing limits, visit the Pharmacy Program section of our Provider website.

If your patients have any questions about their pharmacy benefits, please advise them to contact the number on their member ID card. Members may also visit bcbsil.com and log in to Blue Access for MembersSM (BAMSM) and MyPrime.com for a variety of online resources.

New Hemophilia Factor VIII, IX PA Program

Starting on or after Oct. 1, 2018 (based on the member's drug list and plan renewal/effective date), a new PA program will be implemented targeting select medications used to treat hemophilia. Letters were sent to prescribing physicians who have patients impacted by this new Hemophilia Factor VIII, IX PA program. The letter informs providers of the new program and provides instructions for submitting a prior authorization request form to BCBSIL for coverage consideration under the patient's benefit plan.

The intent of this PA program is to appropriately select patients for treatment according to product labeling and/or clinical studies and/or clinical practice guidelines. Program criteria also requires a trial with inadequate response to a standard half-life (SHL) clotting factor agent before an extended half-life (EHL) clotting factor agent may be approved.

- According to guidelines from the U.K. (2016), previously untreated patients should not routinely use these formulations, except as part of a clinical trial. In patients minimally treated with a SHL agent, switching to an EHL agent can be considered after a certain amount of exposure days.
- Patients should be made aware that EHL Factor VIII products may not allow a reduction in infusion frequency for all individuals.

- New EHL coagulation factor products that stretch the time between infusions and lower bleeding risks were found to actually raise hemophilia treatment costs, according to a study of integrated pharmacy and medical claims data by pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) Prime Therapeutics.

References:

- James, D. *Switch to Extended Half-Life Hemophilia Factor Products Found to Double Costs*. Specialty Pharmacy Times. (April 24, 2018). at <https://www.specialtypharmacytimes.com/news/switch-to-extended-half-life-hemophilia-factor-products-found-to-double-costs>
- Hemophilia 2016; 22: 487–498

Appropriate Use of Opioids Program Reminder

The Appropriate Use of Opioids Program was implemented on Aug. 1, 2018, to promote the safe and effective use of prescription opioids. Elements in the program follow safety guidelines as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other nationally recognized guidelines.

To help reduce disruption in current approved drug therapy, the Appropriate Use of Opioids Program has been further refined to roll out through a phased approach over the next several months. Each phase of the program will gradually expand the point-of-sale safety checks placed on prescription opioid quantities, medication dosages, and the number of dispensing pharmacies and/or prescribing physicians.

- The first phase of the program was implemented Aug. 1, 2018, to a smaller membership subset. These members are those at the highest risk of potential prescription opioid abuse, based on patient claims data and per the CDC's safety guidelines.

The next phase was implemented Dec. 1, 2018.

- Full implementation is targeted for April 1, 2019.

Program awareness letters may be sent to prescribing physicians and/or affected members before each additional phase implementation.

Please note: The Appropriate Use of Opioids Program applies to most members with BCBSIL prescription drug coverage. Members may be subject to the program's criteria threshold limits, regardless of their plan renewal date. This program does not apply to members with Medicare Part D or Medicaid coverage. Please call the number on the member's ID card to verify coverage, or for further assistance or clarification on your patient's benefits.

Prime Therapeutics LLC is a pharmacy benefit management company. BCBSIL contracts with Prime 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. MyPrime.com is an online resource offered by Prime Therapeutics.

The information mentioned here is for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for the independent medical judgment of a physician. Physicians are to exercise their own medical judgment. Pharmacy benefits and limits are subject to the terms set forth in the member's certificate of coverage which may vary from the limits set forth above. The listing of any particular drug or classification of drugs is not a guarantee of benefits. Members should refer to their certificate of coverage for more details, including benefits, limitations and exclusions. Regardless of benefits, the final decision about any medication is between the member and their health care provider.