

Step therapy – Premium

Utilization management updates
Jan. 1, 2023



Most medical conditions have many medication options. Although their clinical effectiveness may be the same, the costs can be very different. The step therapy program gives you the treatment you need, usually at a lower cost.

This is a list of medications that have been added to the step therapy program.

Here's how it works:

With this program, you must try a step 1 medication first, before a step 2 medication may be covered. When you bring a prescription to your pharmacy, our system will check the medication for step therapy requirements. If your pharmacy claims show you have tried a step 1 medication in the recent past, the step 2 medication may be filled. If not, the pharmacist will contact your doctor to explain next steps.

If you see your medication listed, we encourage you to talk with your doctor about your treatment and medication options. If you have questions about the step therapy program, call the phone number on your member ID card.

Step therapy medications

The following medications have been added to a step therapy program. This means you must try a lower-cost medication (step 1) before a higher-cost medication (step 2) is covered. Therapeutic use Step 1 medication Step 2 medication

Condition	Step 1	Step 2
Anti-infectives		
Bacterial vaginosis agents	One of the following generics: metronidazole 0.75% vaginal gel, clindamycin 2% vaginal cream, metronidazole tablet, tinidazole tablet	SOLOSEC
	One of the following generics: metronidazole 0.75% vaginal gel, clindamycin 2% vaginal cream	VANDAZOLE
Oral brand tetracyclines	Any one of the following generics: doxycycline, minocycline	VIBRAMYCIN
	Both of the following generics: doxycycline AND minocycline	SEYSARA
Otic agents	ofloxacin	CETRAXAL , ciprofloxacin otic
Cardiovascular		
Renin-angiotensin system agents	Any one of the following generics: amlodipine-benazepril, amlodipine-olmesartan, benazepril, benazepril-HCTZ, candesartan, candesartan-HCTZ, captopril, captopril-HCTZ, enalapril, enalapril-HCTZ, fosinopril, fosinopril-HCTZ, irbesartan, irbesartan-HCTZ, lisinopril, lisinopril-HCTZ, losartan, losartan-HCTZ, moexipril, olmesartan, olmesartan-HCTZ, olmesartan-amlodipine-HCTZ, perindopril, quinapril, quinapril-HCTZ, ramipril, telmisartan, telmisartan-HCTZ, trandolapril, trandolapril-verapamil	EDARBI, EDARBYCLOR, TEKTRUNA HCT
Fibric acid derivatives	Any one of the following generics: fenofibric cap, fenofibrate tab, fenofibrate micronized cap, fenofibric acid tab AND LIPOFEN	FENOGLIDE, FIBRICOR, TRIGLIDE
Statins	Any one of the following generics: atorvastatin, fluvastatin, fluvastatin ER, lovastatin, pravastatin, rosuvastatin, simvastatin	ALTOPREV, EZALLOR, FLOLIPID
Central nervous system		
ADHD agents	Any one of the following generics or preferred brands: amphetamine-dextroamphetamine IR or ER, dexamethylphenidate IR or ER, dextroamphetamine IR or SR, methylphenidate IR or ER, VYVANSE	AZSTARYS², JORNAY PM²
	Any three of the following generics or preferred brands: amphetamine-dextroamphetamine IR or ER, dexamethylphenidate IR or ER, dextroamphetamine IR or SR, methylphenidate IR or ER, VYVANSE	ADZENYS ER², AMPHETAMI ER², APTENSIO XR², DESOXYN², DEXEDRINE², METHYLIN² solution, PROCENTRA², RELEXII²
	Any two of the following generics: atomoxetine, guanfacine, clonidine	KAPVAY
Anticonvulsants ³	Any one of the following generics: lamotrigine IR, levetiracetam IR or ER, oxcarbazepine IR, topiramate IR	BRIVIACT, XCOPRI
	topiramate IR	TROKENDI XR
Antidepressants ³	bupropion ER	APLENZIN²
	Any two of the following generics: desvenlafaxine succinate ER, duloxetine, venlafaxine, venlafaxine ER	FETZIMA²
	Any two of the following generics: bupropion, citalopram, desvenlafaxine succinate ER, duloxetine, escitalopram, fluoxetine, mirtazapine, paroxetine, paroxetine ER, sertraline, venlafaxine, venlafaxine ER	DESVENLAFAXINE ER², PAXIL suspension, TRINTELLIX²
	Any one of the following generics: duloxetine	DRIZALMA²
Antidepressants	vilazodone	VIIBRYD²
Antipsychotics ³	Any two of the following generics: asenapine, aripiprazole, clozapine, olanzapine, paliperidone, quetiapine IR or ER, risperidone, ziprasidone	CAPLYTA², FANAPT²
	Any one of the following brands: Invega Sustenna or Invega Trinza	INVEGA HAFYERA
Insomnia agents	Any one of the following generics: eszopiclone, temazepam, zaleplon, zolpidem, zolpidem CR	BELSOMRA², DAYVIGO²
	Any one of the following generics: zolpidem, zolpidem CR	EDLUAR², ZOLPIMIST²
Migraine agents	Any two of the following generics: almotriptan, eletriptan, frovatriptan, naratriptan, rizatriptan, sumatriptan, zolmitriptan	sumatriptan-naproxen ² , ZOMIG NASAL²

Bold type = Brand-name drug

Plain type = Generic drug

Condition	Step 1	Step 2
Neurologic agents	<i>gabapentin</i> Any one of the following generics: <i>amitriptyline, cyclobenzaprine, duloxetine, gabapentin, pregabalin</i>	GRALISE ² <i>pregabalin ER</i> ² , SAVELLA ²
Non-narcotic analgesics	Any two of the following generics: <i>celecoxib, diclofenac potassium tab, diclofenac sodium, diflunisal, etodolac, fenoprofen, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, indomethacin, ketoprofen, ketorolac, meclufenamate, meloxicam, nabumetone, naproxen, oxaprozin, piroxicam, sulindac, tolmetin</i>	<i>diclofenac cap</i> , INDOCIN suppository , INDOCIN suspension , INDOMETHACIN capsules , LOFENA , TIVORBEX , VIVLODEX
Opioid withdrawal	<i>clonidine</i>	LUCEMYRA ²
Parkinson's disease	Any one of the following generics: <i>pramipexole IR or ER, ropinirole IR or ER</i>	NEUPRO
	Any one of the following generics: <i>carbidopa-levodopa, carbidopa-levodopa CR</i>	RYTARY
	Both of the following generics: <i>rasagiline, selegiline</i>	XADAGO ²
	<i>entacapone</i>	ONGENTYS
Dermatology		
Rosacea	Any one of the following generics or preferred brands: <i>azelaic acid gel</i> , FINACEA FOAM , SOOLANTRA	FINACEA GEL , ZILXI
Skin cancer agents	Any one of the following generics: <i>fluorouracil, imiquimod 5%</i>	<i>diclofenac gel 3%</i> ² , PICATO
	Both of the following generics: <i>fluorouracil, imiquimod 5%</i>	KLISYRI
	<i>imiquimod 5%</i>	<i>imiquimod 3.75%</i>
Topical immunomodulators	<i>tacrolimus ointment</i>	<i>pimecrolimus</i> ² , PROTOPIC ² ointment
	Any one of the following generics: <i>alclometasone, amcinonide, betamethasone, clobetasol, clocortolone, desonide, desoximetasone, diflorasone, fluocinolone, fluocinonide, fluticasone, halobetasol, hydrocortisone, mometasone, prednicarbate, triamcinolone, pramoxine-HC, calcipotriene-betamethasone, tacrolimus, pimecrolimus</i>	EUCRISA
	Any three of the following generics or brands: <i>clocortolone 0.1% cream, fluocinolone acetonide 0.025% ointment, flurandrenolide 0.05% ointment, fluticasone propionate 0.05% cream, hydrocortisone valerate 0.2% ointment, mometasone furoate 0.1% cream/lotion/solution, triamcinolone 0.1% cream/ointment, triamcinolone 0.05% ointment, triamcinolone aerosol spray, calcipotriene-betamethasone suspension</i> , ENSTILAR , TACLONEX suspension	SERNIVO
Endocrinology		
Diabetic agents	Any one of the following generics: <i>metformin, metformin ER, glipizide-metformin, glyburide-metformin, pioglitazone-metformin</i>	AVANDIA , CYCLOSET , RIOMET , RIOMET ER
DPP4 inhibitors	Any one of the following generics: <i>metformin, metformin ER, glipizide-metformin, glyburide-metformin, pioglitazone-metformin</i>	JANUMET , JANUMET XR , JANUVIA , JENTADUETO , JENTADUETO XR , TRADJENTA
GLP-1 agonists	Any one of the following generics: <i>metformin, metformin ER, glipizide-metformin, glyburide-metformin, pioglitazone-metformin</i>	SOLIQUA ² , XULTOPHY ²
SGLT2 inhibitors	Any one of the following generics or brands: <i>metformin, metformin ER, glipizide-metformin, glyburide-metformin, pioglitazone-metformin</i> OR any one of the following generics: <i>captopril, enalapril, lisinopril, quinapril, ramipril, fosinopril, trandolapril, perindopril, candesartan, valsartan, losartan, bisoprolol, carvedilol IR, carvedilol ER, metoprolol succinate, spironolactone, eplerenone</i> , ENTRESTO	FARXIGA , JARDIANCE , XIGDUO XR
	Any one of the following generics: <i>metformin, metformin ER, glipizide-metformin, glyburide-metformin, pioglitazone-metformin</i>	GLYXAMBI , SYNJARDY , SYNJARDY XR , TRIJARDY XR
Gastroenterology		
Constipation agents	Any one of the following generics: <i>lactulose, polyethylene glycol</i>	LINZESS ² , SYMPROIC ²
	Any one of the following generics: <i>lactulose, polyethylene glycol</i> AND LINZESS ¹	MOTEGRITY ²
Proton pump inhibitors	Any two of the following generics or preferred brands: <i>esomeprazole, omeprazole, lansoprazole, pantoprazole, rabeprazole</i> , DEXILANT	ACIPHEX SPRINKLE ² , ESOMEPRAZOLE STRONTIUM ² , FIRST-LANSOPRAZOLE , FIRST-OMEPRAZOLE , PREVACID ² , PRIOLESEC PACKET ² , PROTONIX PACKET ²

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Condition	Step 1	Step 2
Hormone modifiers		
Thyroid replacement	<i>levothyroxine</i>	ARMOUR THYROID, NATURE-THROID, WESTHROID, WP THYROID
Miscellaneous		
Antigout agents	<i>allopurinol</i>	ULORIC, febuxostat
Iron replacement	<i>Any one of the following generics: ferrous sulfate, ferrous gluconate, ferrous fumarate</i>	FERAHEME, ferumoxytol, INJECTAFER, MONOFERRIC
Phosphate Binders	<i>Any two of the following generics: calcium carbonate, calcium acetate, lanthanum carbonate, sevelamer carbonate, sevelamer HCl</i>	FOSRENOL, PHOSLYRA
Obstetrics and gynecology		
Contraceptives	<i>Any one of the following generics: Gemmily, Merzee, norethindrone-ethinyl estradiol-ferrous fumarate</i>	TAYTULLA
Hormone replacement	<i>estradiol patch</i>	ALORA, MENOSTAR, MINIVELLE
	<i>Any one of the following preferred brands: IMVEXXY, OSPHENA, PREMARIN VAGINAL CREAM</i>	FEMRING²
	<i>Any two of the following preferred brands: IMVEXXY, OSPHENA, PREMARIN VAGINAL CREAM</i>	INTRAROSA
Oncology		
Antifolic Agent ³	<i>pemetrexed</i>	ALIMTA, PEMFEXY
Chemotherapy rescue agents	<i>levoleucovorin</i>	KHAPZORY
Ophthalmology		
Antiglaucoma agents	<i>All of the following generics and preferred brands: latanoprost, travoprost, LUMIGAN</i>	XELPROS²
Ophthalmic antihistamines	<i>Both of the following generics: azelastine AND olopatadine</i>	<i>bepotastine</i>
Respiratory		
Epinephrine auto injectors	<i>epinephrine</i>	EPIPEN
Leukotriene modifiers	<i>Any one of the following generics: montelukast, zafirlukast</i>	<i>zileuton ER, ZYFLO</i>
Long-acting bronchodilators	<i>Any two of the following generics or preferred brands: fluticasone-salmeterol, ADVAIR, BREO ELLIPTA, SEREVENT, STRIVERDI RESPIMAT, SYMBICORT</i>	ARCAPTA
Urology		
BPH agents	<i>Any two of the following generics: alfuzosin, doxazosin, silodosin, tamsulosin, terazosin</i>	CARDURA XL
Overactive bladder agents	<i>Any two of the following generics or preferred brand: fesoterodine, oxybutynin IR/ER, tolterodine IR/ER, trospium IR/ER, solifenacin, darifenacin ER, MYRBETRIQ</i>	GELNIQUE, OXYTROL²

Step therapy requirements are effective as of Jan. 1, 2023. The list of step therapy medications is subject to change without notice. Step therapy requirements may vary by benefit plan. Additional clinical programs, including quantity limits and prior authorization, may exist for the above medications which may affect your prescription drug coverage.

¹ These agents are also subject to additional step requirements as indicated in table.

² Quantity limits may also apply. Please refer to the Premium Quantity Limits document.

³ Applies to new starts only



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