

BCBSRI PRESCRIPTION DRUG FORMULARY

Overview of November 2010 Changes

As part of BCBSRI's ongoing efforts to improve the affordability of healthcare and slow the rate of escalating costs, we are changing our prescription drug formulary to encourage the use of clinically appropriate but lower-cost generic or over-the-counter drugs. **The new formulary—called "Premier"—is effective November 1, 2010, and will affect many of our commercial members.**

What are the principal changes in the drug formulary?

- Most commercial members will transition to the Premier formulary effective November 1. Please note that the new formulary does not apply to every BCBSRI member. It doesn't involve Medicare Part D or members with pharmacy benefits from other companies. In addition, some self-insured members may choose another plan.
- Prior authorizations will be removed in drug classes that now have exclusions.
- Exclusions and tier changes will not have an exceptions process for coverage.
- High-cost generic drugs are now Tier 2.
 - Selected generics that were high-cost will move to Tier 2, which is not subject to prior authorization or exceptions process. This list does not identify all affected drugs:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Benz Perox/Erythromycin (Benzamycin®) ▪ Clindamycin/Benz Perox (Benzacilin®) ▪ Famcyclovir (Famvir®) ▪ Fexofenadine (Allegra®) ▪ Isotretinoin (Accutane®) ▪ Topiramate (Topamax®) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budesonide Respules (Pulmicort®) ▪ Dextroamphetamine XR (Adderall XR®) ▪ Fentanyl (Duragesic®) ▪ Fexofenadine - D (Allegra-D®) ▪ Tamsulosin (Flomax®) ▪ Valcyclovir (Valtrex®)
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- Exclusions (not subject to prior authorization or exceptions process)
 - Brand-name drugs with a generic equivalent, with an exception for anticonvulsants, thyroid, oral transplant, and stimulants for ADHD
 - All brand-name nonsedating antihistamines
 - All brand-name fibric acid derivatives
 - All brand-name sedative/hypnotics, except Rozerem
 - Restasis
 - Treximet
 - All proton pump inhibitors except omeprazole (20mg) and Dexilant
 - All brand-name topical and oral products indicated to treat acne
 - All brand-name tetracycline products
- Prior authorization
 - Many removed
 - Abilify for new users (those not taking the drug for the past 60 days)—You must identify the diagnosis; if you diagnose depression, three antidepressants must have failed.
 - Provigil—Must satisfy a trial and failure of Nuvigil
 - Brand-name anticonvulsants for new users—You must identify the diagnosis; epilepsy is covered.
- Drugs moving from Tier 2 to Tier 3 (This list does not identify all affected drugs)
 - Ortho-Evra, Yaz, Ortho Tri-Cyclen Lo, Nuvaring
 - Pataday, Patanol
 - Abilify
 - Provigil