



Program Update

NYRx Providers Dispense Brand Name Drug when Less Expensive than Generic Program

On April 3rd, 2023, the brand-less-than-generic (BLTG) criteria was temporarily relaxed for **Ventolin HFA**, to allow pharmacists time to order the appropriate stock of that product for members. The Department wanted to ensure member access to albuterol HFA products following the change in benefit from Medicaid Managed Care to NYRx, the Medicaid Pharmacy Program, on April 1st, 2023. **Effective May 8th, 2023, the Ventolin HFA BLTG criteria will be reinstated. Pharmacies should review their inventory to ensure their supply will reflect this change.**

In conformance with State Education Law, which intends patients receive the lower cost drug alternative, brand name drugs included in this program:

- **Do not require ‘Dispense as Written’ (DAW) or ‘Brand Medically Necessary’ on the prescription.**
- Have a generic copayment.
- Are paid at the Brand Name Drug reimbursement rate or usual and customary price, whichever is lower (SMAC/FUL are not applied).
- Do not require a new prescription if the drug is removed from this program.

IMPORTANT BILLING INFORMATION

Pursuant to this program, prescription claims submitted to the Medicaid program **do not require** the submission of Dispense as Written/Product Selection Code of ‘1’; **Pharmacies should submit DAW code 9** (Substitution Allowed by Prescriber but Plan Requests Brand). Pharmacies will receive a NCPDP reject response of “22” which means missing/invalid DAW code if other DAW codes are submitted. The only exception to this, is DAW code 1 and “*Brand Medically Necessary*” on the prescription.

List of Brand Name Drugs included in this program (updated 3/15/2023)

Advair Diskus	Depakote Sprinkle	Pentasa
Alphagan P 0.15%	Epipen, Epipen JR	Pradaxa
Amitiza	Firvanq	Rapamune solution
Apriso	Flovent HFA	Renvela tablet
Azopt	Glumetza	Restasis
Bethkis	Hetlioz	Retin-A cream
Cellcept suspension	Kazano	Symbicort
Ciprodex	Kitabis Pak	Tegretol suspension
Combigan	Lialda	Tegretol XR
Concerta	Nesina	Trileptal suspension
Copaxone 20mg	Nexavar	Ventolin HFA
Daytrana	Nuvaring	Zegerid

Drugs in this program may be subject to prior authorization requirements of other pharmacy programs. This list is subject to change.