

What is the Express Scripts Medicare Formulary?

A formulary is a list of covered drugs selected by Express Scripts Medicare in consultation with a team of healthcare providers, which represents the prescription therapies believed to be a necessary part of a quality treatment program. Express Scripts Medicare will generally cover the drugs listed in our formulary as long as the drug is medically necessary, the prescription is filled at an Express Scripts Medicare network pharmacy, and other plan rules are followed. For more information on how to fill your prescriptions, please review your *Evidence of Coverage*.

Can the formulary (drug list) change?

Generally, if you are taking a drug on our 2019 formulary that was covered at the beginning of the year, we will not discontinue or reduce coverage of the drug during the 2019 coverage year except when a new, less expensive generic drug becomes available, when new information about the safety or effectiveness of a drug is released, or the drug is removed from the market. (See bullets below for more information on changes that affect members currently taking the drug.). Other types of formulary changes, such as removing a drug from our formulary, will not affect members who are currently taking the drug. It will remain available at the same cost-sharing for those members taking it for the remainder of the coverage year. Below are changes to the drug list that will also affect members currently taking a drug:

- **New generic drugs.** We may immediately remove a brand-name drug on our Drug List if we are replacing it with a new generic drug that will appear on the same or lower cost-sharing tier and with the same or fewer restrictions. Also, when adding the new generic drug, we may decide to keep the brand-name drug on our Drug List, but immediately move it to a different cost-sharing tier or add new restrictions. If you are currently taking that brand-name drug, we may not tell you in advance before we make that change, but we will later provide you with information about the specific change(s) we have made.
 - If we make such a change, you or your prescriber can ask us to make an exception and continue to cover the brand-name drug for you. The notice we provide you will also include information on the steps you may take to request an exception, and you can also find information in the section below entitled “How do I request an exception to the Express Scripts Medicare Formulary?”
- **Drugs removed from the market.** If the Food and Drug Administration deems a drug on our formulary to be unsafe or the drug’s manufacturer removes the drug from the market, we will immediately remove the drug from our formulary and provide notice to members who take the drug.
- **Other changes.** We may make other changes that affect members currently taking a drug. For instance, we may add a generic drug that is not new to market to replace a brand-name drug currently on the formulary or add new restrictions to the brand-name drug or move it to a different cost-sharing tier. Or we may make changes based on new clinical guidelines. If we remove drugs from our formulary, or add prior authorization, quantity limits and/or step therapy restrictions on a drug or move a drug to a higher cost-sharing tier, we must notify affected members of the change at least 30 days before the change becomes effective, or at the time the member requests a refill of the drug, at which time the member will receive a 30-day supply of the drug.

The enclosed formulary is current as of September 27, 2018. To get updated information about the drugs covered by Express Scripts Medicare, please contact us. Our contact information appears on the front and back cover pages. If there are additional changes made to the formulary that affect you and are not mentioned above, you will be notified in writing of these changes within a reasonable period of time from when the changes are made.

How do I use the formulary?

There are two ways to find your drug within the formulary:

Medical Condition

The formulary begins on page 1. The drugs in this formulary are grouped into categories depending on the type of medical conditions that they are used to treat. For example, drugs used to treat a heart condition are listed under the category “Cardiovascular, Hypertension/Lipids.” If you know what your drug is used for, look for the category name in the list that begins on page 1. Then look under the category name for your drug.

Alphabetical Listing

If you are not sure what category to look under, you should look for your drug in the Index that begins on page 78. The Index provides an alphabetical list of all of the drugs included in this document. Both brand-name drugs and generic drugs are listed in the Index. Look in the Index and find your drug. Next to your drug, you will see the page number where you can find coverage information. Turn to the page listed in the Index and find the name of your drug in the first column of the list.

What are generic drugs?

Express Scripts Medicare covers both brand-name drugs and generic drugs. A generic drug is approved by the FDA as having the same active ingredient as the brand-name drug. Generally, generic drugs cost less than brand-name drugs.

Are there any restrictions on my coverage?

Some covered drugs may have additional requirements or limits on coverage. These requirements and limits may include:

- **Prior Authorization:** Express Scripts Medicare requires you or your physician to get prior authorization for certain drugs. This means that you will need to get approval from Express Scripts Medicare before you fill your prescriptions. If you don't get approval, Express Scripts Medicare may not cover the drug.
- **Quantity Limits:** For certain drugs, Express Scripts Medicare limits the amount of the drug that Express Scripts Medicare will cover. For example, Express Scripts Medicare provides two inhalers (17 grams) for a 1-month supply per prescription for PROAIR[®] HFA. This may be in addition to a standard 1-month or 3-month supply.
- **Step Therapy:** In some cases, Express Scripts Medicare requires you to first try certain drugs to treat your medical condition before we will cover another drug for that condition. For example, if Drug A and Drug B both treat your medical condition, Express Scripts Medicare may not cover Drug B unless you try Drug A first. If Drug A does not work for you, Express Scripts Medicare will then cover Drug B.

You can find out if your drug has any additional requirements or limits by looking in the formulary that begins on page 1. You can also get more information about the restrictions applied to specific covered drugs by visiting our website. We have posted online documents that explain our prior authorization and step therapy restrictions. You may also ask us to send you a copy. Our contact information, along with the date we last updated the formulary, appears on the front and back cover pages.

You can ask Express Scripts Medicare to make an exception to these restrictions or limits or for a list of other, similar drugs that may treat your health condition. See the section “How do I request an exception to the Express Scripts Medicare Formulary?” on page iii for information about how to request an exception.

What if my drug is not on the formulary?

If your drug is not included in this formulary (list of covered drugs), you should first contact Customer Service and ask if your drug is covered.

If you learn that Express Scripts Medicare does not cover your drug, you have two options:

- You can ask Customer Service for a list of similar drugs that are covered by Express Scripts Medicare. When you receive the list, show it to your doctor and ask him or her to prescribe a similar drug that is covered by Express Scripts Medicare.
- You can ask Express Scripts Medicare to make an exception and cover your drug. See below for information about how to request an exception.

How do I request an exception to the Express Scripts Medicare Formulary?

You can ask Express Scripts Medicare to make an exception to our coverage rules. There are several types of exceptions that you can ask us to make.

- You can ask us to cover a drug even if it is not on our formulary. If approved, this drug will be covered at a pre-determined cost-sharing level, and you would not be able to ask us to provide the drug at a lower cost-sharing level.
- You can ask us to cover a formulary drug at a lower cost-sharing level if this drug is not on the specialty tier. If approved, this would lower the amount you must pay for your drug.
- You can ask us to waive coverage restrictions or limits on your drug. For example, for certain drugs, Express Scripts Medicare limits the amount of the drug that we will cover. If your drug has a quantity limit, you can ask us to waive the limit and cover a greater amount.

Generally, Express Scripts Medicare will only approve your request for an exception if the alternative drugs included on the plan’s formulary, the lower cost-sharing drug or additional utilization restrictions would not be as effective in treating your condition and/or would cause you to have adverse medical effects.

You should contact us to ask us for an initial coverage decision for a formulary, tiering or utilization restriction exception. **When you request a formulary, tiering or utilization restriction exception, you should submit a statement from your prescriber or physician supporting your request.** Generally, we must make our decision within 72 hours of getting your prescriber’s supporting statement. You can request an expedited (fast) exception if you or your doctor believes that your health could be seriously harmed by waiting up to 72 hours for a decision. If your request to expedite is granted, we must give you a decision no later than 24 hours after we get a supporting statement from your doctor or other prescriber.

What do I do before I can talk to my doctor about changing my drugs or requesting an exception?

As a new or continuing member in our plan, you may be taking drugs that are not on our formulary. Or, you may be taking a drug that is on our formulary but your ability to get it is limited. For example, you may need a prior authorization from us before you can fill your prescription. You should talk to your doctor to decide if you should switch to an appropriate drug that we cover or request a formulary exception so that we will cover the drug you take. While you talk to your doctor to determine the right course of action for you, we may cover your drug in certain cases during the first 90 days you are a member of our plan.

For each of your drugs that is not on our formulary or if your ability to get your drugs is limited, we will cover a temporary 30-day supply. If your prescription is written for fewer days, we'll allow refills to provide up to a maximum 30-day supply of medication. After your first 30-day supply, we will not pay for these drugs, even if you have been a member of the plan less than 90 days.

If you are a resident of a long-term care facility and you need a drug that is not on our formulary, or if your ability to get your drugs is limited but you are past the first 90 days of membership in our plan, we will cover a 31-day emergency supply of that drug while you pursue a formulary exception.

Other times when we will cover a temporary 30-day transition supply (or less, if you have a prescription written for fewer days) include:

- When you leave a long-term care facility
- When you are discharged from a hospital
- When you leave a skilled nursing facility
- When you cancel hospice care
- When you are discharged from a psychiatric hospital with a medication regimen that is highly individualized

If you are entering a long-term care facility, we will cover a 31-day transition supply.

The plan will send you a letter within 3 business days of your filling a temporary transition supply, notifying you that this was a temporary supply and explaining your options.

For more information

For more detailed information about your Express Scripts Medicare prescription drug coverage, please review your *Evidence of Coverage* and other plan materials.

If you have questions about Express Scripts Medicare, please contact us. Our contact information, along with the date we last updated the formulary, appears on the front and back cover pages.

If you have general questions about Medicare prescription drug coverage, please call Medicare at 1.800.MEDICARE (1.800.633.4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1.877.486.2048. Or, visit <http://www.medicare.gov>.

Express Scripts Medicare's Formulary

The formulary that begins on page 1 provides coverage information about the drugs covered by Express Scripts Medicare. If you have trouble finding your drug in the list, turn to the Index that begins on page 78.

The first column of the chart lists the drug name. Brand-name drugs are capitalized (e.g., JANUMET®) and generic drugs are listed in lowercase italics (e.g., *omeprazole*).

The information in the Requirements/Limits column tells you if Express Scripts Medicare has any special requirements for coverage of your drug.

B/D PA: Part B or Part D Prior Authorization. This drug may be covered under Medicare Part B or Part D depending upon the circumstances. Information may need to be submitted describing the use and setting of the drug to make the determination.

GC: Gap Coverage. We provide additional coverage of this prescription drug in the Coverage Gap. Please refer to our *Evidence of Coverage* for more information about this coverage.

LA: Limited Availability. This prescription may be available only at certain pharmacies. For more information, consult your *Pharmacy Directory* or call Customer Service at **1.800.758.4574** (New York State residents: **1.800.758.4570**), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users, call **1.800.716.3231**.

MO: Mail-Order Drug. This prescription drug is available through our home delivery pharmacy service, as well as through our retail network pharmacies. Consider using mail order for your long-term medications (the kind you take regularly, such as high blood pressure medications). Retail network pharmacies may be more appropriate for short-term prescriptions (such as antibiotics).

PA: Prior Authorization. The plan requires you or your doctor to get prior authorization for certain drugs. This means that you will need to get approval before you fill your prescription. If you don't get approval, we may not cover the drug.

QL: Quantity Limit. For certain drugs, the plan limits the amount of the drug that we will cover.

ST: Step Therapy. In some cases, the plan requires you to first try a certain drug to treat your medical condition before we will cover another drug for that condition. For example, if Drug A and Drug B both treat your medical condition, we may not cover Drug B unless you try Drug A first. If Drug A does not work for you, we will then cover Drug B.

Your costs

The amount you pay for a covered drug will depend on:

- **Your coverage stage.** Express Scripts Medicare has different stages of coverage. In each stage, the amount you pay for a drug may change.
- **The drug tier for your drug.** Each covered drug is in one of five drug tiers. Each tier may have a different copayment or coinsurance amount. The "Drug Tiers" chart on the following page explains what types of drugs are included in each tier and shows how costs may change with each tier.

The *Evidence of Coverage* has more information about the plan's coverage stages and lists the copayment and coinsurance amounts for each tier.

If you qualify for Extra Help

If you qualify for Extra Help for your prescription drugs, your copayments and coinsurance may be lower. Please refer to the “*Evidence of Coverage Rider for People Who Get Extra Help Paying for Prescription Drugs (LIS Rider)*” to find out what your costs are or you may contact Customer Service for more information.

Drug Tiers

Tier	Description
Tier 1: Preferred Generic Drugs	This tier includes commonly prescribed generic drugs. Use Tier 1 drugs for the lowest copayments.
Tier 2: Generic Drugs	This tier includes generic drugs. Use Tier 2 drugs to keep your copayments low.
Tier 3: Preferred Brand Drugs	This tier includes preferred brand-name drugs as well as some generic drugs. Drugs in this tier will generally have lower copayments than non-preferred drugs.
Tier 4: Non-Preferred Drugs	This tier includes non-preferred brand-name drugs as well as some generic drugs. There may be lower-cost alternatives for you. Ask your doctor if switching to a lower-cost generic or preferred brand drug may be right for you. Drugs in this tier are limited to up to a 30-day supply from either your local retail network pharmacy or from our network home delivery service.
Tier 5: Specialty Tier Drugs	This tier includes very high-cost brand-name and generic drugs. To learn more about medications in this tier, you may contact a pharmacist at the numbers listed on the front and back covers of this document. Drugs in this tier are limited to up to a 30-day supply from either your local retail network pharmacy or from our network home delivery service.

Key

The abbreviations listed below may appear on the following pages in the Requirements/Limits column that tells you if there are any special requirements for coverage of your drug. You can find information on what the symbols and abbreviations on these tables mean by going to page vi.

<p>B/D PA: Part B or Part D Prior Authorization GC: Gap Coverage LA: Limited Availability MO: Mail-Order Drug PA: Prior Authorization QL: Quantity Limit ST: Step Therapy</p>
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This formulary was updated on 09/27/2018. For more recent information or other questions, please contact Express Scripts Medicare Customer Service at **1.800.758.4574**; New York State residents: **1.800.758.4570** or, for TTY users, **1.800.716.3231**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or visit **express-scripts.com**.

Express Scripts Medicare (PDP) is a prescription drug plan with a Medicare contract.
Enrollment in Express Scripts Medicare depends on contract renewal.

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