



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 12/27/2022)

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

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