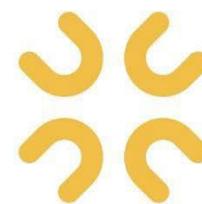


Provider Bulletin



News and Information

November 15, 2022

Medical Benefit Drug Prior Authorization for 2023 and Preferred Product Step Therapy Information

2023 Medical Benefit Drug Prior Authorization

Continuing for 2023, Care Continuum will perform UCare's Medical Benefit Drug Prior Authorization reviews for all lines of business.

- Prior authorization requests can be initiated at Care Continuum via the following methods:
 - Online (ePA) – via the Express Path Portal at <https://www.express-path.com/>
 - Fax – by faxing an authorization form to Care Continuum at 1-877-266-1871
 - Phone – by calling 1-800-818-6747
- The grid of medical drugs requiring prior authorization, their corresponding criteria and prior authorization form are posted on our provider website at ucare.org/providers/pharmacy/ (located under Medical Injectable Drugs Prior Authorization Resources).

Post-service or retrospective pharmacy authorization requests, along with non-participating requests should be sent:

- By fax to UCare, Attn: Clinical Services at 612-884-2499 or 1-866-610-7215
- By mail to UCare, Attn: Clinical Services at P.O. Box 52, Minneapolis, MN 55440-0052

To request an adjustment on an existing prior authorization:

- Providers should contact Care Continuum for medical drug prior authorization changes.
- The authorization must be active.
- End date extensions can be completed due to scheduling issues or health reasons (e.g., chemo delayed due to blood count) that may prevent the administration of the previously approved drug.
- Required information for these requests:
 - Reason for extension.
 - Revised end date.
- Adjustments are not approved for the following reasons. A new review/renewal is required.
 - Additional drug is requested.
 - The patient is due for a renewal.

Summary of Medical Drug Prior Authorization Changes for 2023

Below is a summary of the 2023 medical drug prior authorization requirements for all UCare lines of business.

- 218 drugs require authorization in 2023. Drugs requiring authorization by therapeutic category:
 - Biosimilar Step: 21 drugs
 - Enzyme Replacement: 12 drugs
 - Hematology: 8 drugs
 - Hereditary Angioedema: 8 drugs
 - Immunologicals: 5 drugs

- Infertility: 4 drugs
- Inflammatory Conditions: 11 drugs
- Multiple Sclerosis: 3 drugs
- Oncology: 85 drugs
- Ophthalmic Agents: 6 drugs
- Rare/Miscellaneous Conditions: 42 drugs
- Viscosupplements: 13 drugs
- Generally, criteria confirm appropriate diagnosis, appropriate prescriber and appropriate dose.
 - Some criteria may require use of a clinically appropriate trial of a previous medication.

Preferred Product Step Therapy for Medical Drugs in 2023

Several biosimilars are available in the marketplace for medical drugs. UCare will require a trial of a preferred biosimilar (or preferred product) first, prior to use of the reference list product or non-preferred biosimilar in most categories below. Based on available rebates and utilization of the on-body injector, Neulasta and Neulasta Onpro were moved to preferred product status in the pegfilgrastim category in 2022.

Biosimilar Step Therapy Program Details

Drug Name	Preferred Products	Non-preferred Products
Pegfilgrastim	Udenyca, Ziextenzo, Neulasta, Neulasta Onpro	Fulphila, Nyvepria, Fylnetra
Infliximab	Avsola, Inflectra	Remicade, Renflexis, infliximab authorized generic
Rituximab	Truxima, Ruxience	Rituxan, Riabni
Trastuzumab	Kanjinti, Trazimera	Herceptin, Ogivri, Ontruzant, Herzuma
Filgrastim	Zarxio	Neupogen, Granix, Nivestym, Releuko
Epoetin	Retacrit	Procrit, Epogen
Bevacizumab	Mvasi, Zirabev	Avastin, Alymsys

Step therapy requirement would be for members new to therapy only.

- 365-day lookback for Medicare and 180-day lookback for Medicaid and Health Exchange.
- We will grandfather members who we have a history of use with the reference list product within the lookback period timeframes.

Questions

If you have further questions, please call UCare's Provider Assistance Center at 612-676-3300 or 1-888-531-1493 (toll free) or visit ucare.org/providers.