

Pharmacy News

October 2023

Drug Guide and Clinical Program Updates

The Prime Therapeutics[®] Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, in association with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama's Formulary Business Committee, recently approved updates to the Drug Guides and made clinical program changes to select medications. Members will receive a letter from Blue Cross if they are negatively affected by a formulary change that is not a result of a new generic being available.

Formulary and Clinical Programs – Effective October 1, 2023

Click the links below to view updated formularies and clinical programs. If members have questions about their benefits, they should call the Customer Service number on the back of their Blue Cross member ID card.

- Standard Prescription Drug Guide Updates
- Generics Plus Drug Guide Updates
- High-Cost Exclusion Updates
- Source+Rx 1.0 Prescription Drug List
- Source+Rx 2.0 Prescription Drug List
- Source Rx Formulary Updates
- NetResults Formulary Updates
- Clinical Programs
 - Prior Authorization
 - ► Step Therapy
 - Quantity Limit

New or Revised Provider-Administered (Medical) Drug Policies

Policy Name	Type of Policy	Coverage Criteria and Changes
Adstiladrin	Oncology PA	NEW – Effective 7/1/23 – New policy developed for the treatment of adult patients with high-risk Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG)-unresponsive non-muscle invasive bladder cancer (NMIBC) with carcinoma in situ (CIS) with or without papillary tumors.
Columvi	Oncology PA	NEW – Effective 10/1/23 – New policy developed for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, not otherwise specified (DLBCL, NOS), or large B-cell lymphoma (LBCL) arising from follicular lymphoma, after two or more lines of systemic therapy.
Elfabrio	Medical PA	NEW – Effective 9/1/23 – New policy for treatment of Fabry disease.
Epkinly	Oncology PA	NEW – Effective 10/1/23 – New policy developed for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), not otherwise specified, including DLBCL arising from indolent lymphoma, and high-grade B-cell lymphoma after two or more lines of systemic therapy.
Keytruda	Oncology PA	REVISED – Effective 8/1/23 – Added newly approved FDA indication for use in combination with Padcev for the treatment of adult patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial cancer who are not eligible for cisplatin-containing chemotherapy.

Policy Name	Type of Policy	Coverage Criteria and Changes
Padcev	Oncology PA	REVISED – Effective 8/1/23 – Added newly approved FDA indication for use in combination with Keytruda for the treatment of adult patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial cancer who are not eligible for cisplatin-containing chemotherapy.
Polivy	Oncology PA	REVISED – Effective 8/1/23 – Added the newly FDA-approved expanded indication for use in combination with a rituximab product, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and prednisone (R-CHP) for the treatment of patients with previously untreated DLBCL, not otherwise specified or high-grade B-cell lymphoma (HGBL) and who have an International Prognostic Index score of 2 or greater.
Vygart Hytrulo	Medical PA	NEW – Effective 10/1/23 – New policy for treatment of Myasthenia Gravis. Will be at parity with Vyvgart.
Vyjuvek	Medical PA	NEW – Effective 10/1/23 – New policy for treatment of Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa (DEB).

The Prime Therapeutics P&T Committee — consisting of doctors, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals — advises and makes recommendations based on clinical appropriateness. The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama Formulary Business Committee gives final approval of these clinical recommendations before implementation. Prime Therapeutics LLC is an independent company contracted by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama to provide pharmacy benefit management services. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. ICD-10 is the 10th revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD), a medical classification list by the World Health Organization (WHO).