

# Fast Facts

AUGUST PHARMACY POLICY SPECIAL EDITION 2021

News for Providers from HealthPartners Professional Services and Hospital Network Management

## Pharmacy Policy

### Drug Formulary Updates

#### COMMERCIAL DRUG FORMULARY

Updates for October 1, 2021 include:

- Ferrous gluconate and ferrous sulfate are being removed from the ACA drug list. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) establishes coverage for essential health benefits without charging a copayment, coinsurance or deductible. Iron is no longer included as a preventative health service. Iron is non-formulary and available as an OTC medication.
- Several medications have been added to formulary, including Dasiglucagon (Zegalogue), a new medication for hypoglycemia.

#### MINNESOTA HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS (MHCP) DRUG FORMULARY

Updates are available in our online drug formulary. These policy updates apply only to State Programs, and do not apply to members with Commercial or Part D plans.

- Exenatide (Bydureon) BCise has been added, providing an alternative for the Bydureon Pen (discontinued).

#### MEDICARE DRUG FORMULARY

Updates are available in our online drug formulary. Most updates occur in January of each year.

## Pharmacy Medical Policy

### COMMERCIAL UPDATES:

| Coverage Policies        | Comments / Changes  |
|--------------------------|---|
| Afamelanotide (Scenesse) | Prior authorization updated – the diagnostic criteria has been updated to accurately reflect new guidelines and expert recommendations. The policy still requires appropriate diagnosis and documentation of erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP), including symptoms of associated phototoxicity.   |
| Casimersen (Amondys 45)  | Prior authorization is required for Amondys 45 (a new FDA-approval). A new medical policy, specific to Amondys 45, has now been published. See the coverage policy for additional information.  |
| Fosdenopterin (Nulibry)  | Prior authorization is required for Nulibry (a new FDA approval).<br>A new medical policy, specific to Nulibry, has now been published. See the coverage policy for additional information.   |
| Idcabtagene (Abecma)     | Prior authorization is required for Abecma (a new FDA approval).<br>A new medical policy, specific to Abecma, has now been published. See the coverage policy for additional information.   |
| Oncology drug coverage   | Prior authorization is required for oncology drugs listed on this policy.<br>Drugs recently added to this policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amivantamab (Rybrevant)</li> <li>• Dostarlimab (Jemperli)</li> <li>• Loncastuximab (Zynlonta)</li> </ul> Additional criteria may apply – see the coverage policy for more information. |

## MINNESOTA HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS (MHCP) MEDICAL POLICY

Updates are similar to Commercial. These policy updates apply only to State Programs, and do not apply to members with Commercial or Part D plans.

Pharmacy Medical Policies can be found in the medical coverage policy search page, searchable by drug name or billing codes. Policies will be searchable on, or in some cases before, the effective date of October 1, 2021.

[healthpartners.com/public/coverage-criteria](https://healthpartners.com/public/coverage-criteria).

Please see the HealthPartners Formulary for details and a complete list of formulary updates

([healthpartners.com/formularies](https://healthpartners.com/formularies)). For additional information, please contact

**HealthPartnersClinicalPharmacy@healthpartners.com**.

Quarterly Formulary Updates and additional information such as Prior Authorization and Exception Forms, Specialty Pharmacy information, and Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee policies are available at [healthpartners.com/provider/admin\\_tools/pharmacy\\_policies](https://healthpartners.com/provider/admin_tools/pharmacy_policies), including the [Drug Formularies](#).

Pharmacy Customer Service is available to providers (physicians and pharmacies) 24 hours per day and 365 days per year.

- Fax - **952-853-8700** or **1-888-883-5434** Telephone - **952-883-5813** or **1-800-492-7259**
- HealthPartners Pharmacy Services, 8170 33rd Avenue South, PO Box 1309, Mpls, MN 55440

HealthPartners Customer Service is available from 8 AM - 6 PM Central Time, Monday through Friday, and 8 AM – 4 PM Saturday. After hours calls are answered by our Pharmacy Benefit Manager.

If you have questions regarding the content of this newsletter, please contact the person indicated in the article or call your HealthPartners Service Specialist. If you don't have his/her phone number, please call **952-883-5589** or toll-free at **888-638-6648**. This newsletter is available online at [healthpartners.com/fastfacts](https://healthpartners.com/fastfacts).

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