

Fast Facts

FEBRUARY SPECIAL EDITION 2025

News for Providers from HealthPartners
 Provider Relations & Network Management

Administrative

Drug Formulary updates

COMMERCIAL DRUG FORMULARY

Updates are available in our online drug formulary.

- Eltrombopag (Promacta), for thrombocytopenia, has been removed from the formulary. Eltrombopag (Alvaiz) is preferred. This update applies only to new starts (current members can continue with Promacta for the duration of their PA approval). Alvaiz remains on-formulary with prior authorization, as a specialty medication.
- Ensifentrine (Ohtuvayre), a new inhaled nebulization therapy for COPD, is non-formulary with prior authorization and a quantity limit. Ohtuvayre is a specialty medication.
- Palopegteriparatide (Yorvipath), a new SQ for hypoparathyroidism, is non-formulary with prior authorization and a quantity limit. Yorvipath is a specialty medication.

Pharmacy Medical Policy updates

MEDICARE

- Prior authorization is being added for these medications: Cinqair, Eptinezumab (Vyepsti), Fasenna, Inclisiran (Leqvio), Nucala, Orencia, Pasireotide, Simponi Aria, Tezspire, Vedolizumab (Entyvio) IV, Xolair and Zinplava.
- Several medications are being added to the Part B Step Program: Adakveo, Adstiladrin, Amtagvi, Enjaymo, Enspryng, Uplizna, Eptinezumab (Vyepsti), Evkeeza, Fasenna, Nucala, Cinqair, Ilaris, Ilumya, Iluvien, Retisert, Yutiq, Inclisiran (Leqvio), Krystexxa, Orencia, Pombiliti, Qalsody, Rebyota, Simponi Aria, Tepezza, Tezspire, Vyvgart, Vyvgart Hytrulo, Rystiggo, Xolair, and Zinplava.

POLICIES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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, 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.

For additional information, please contact healthpartnersclinicalpharmacy@healthpartners.com.

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Medical Policy Updates – 2/01/2025

MEDICAL, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) & MEDICAL DENTAL COVERAGE POLICY

Please read this list of new or revised HealthPartners coverage policies. HealthPartners coverage policies and related lists are available online at healthpartners.com (path: Provider/Coverage Criteria). Upon request, a paper version of revised and new policies can be mailed to clinic groups whose staff does not have Internet access. Providers may speak with a HealthPartners Medical Director if they have a question about a utilization management decision.

Coverage Policies	Comments / Changes
Physical and occupational therapy – rehabilitative – Minnesota Health Care Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective immediately, policy was updated to reflect changes to the MHCP provider manual. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added a section which lists the types of providers that are eligible to order and refer for outpatient rehabilitative and therapeutic services. ○ Added that optometrists are eligible to refer for PT, OT services for low-vision rehabilitation. ○ Removed statement that rehabilitation and therapeutic services must be provided to a member whose functional status is expected by the physician (or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts) to progress toward or achieve the objectives in the member’s plan of care within a 90-day period. ○ Updated definition of “practitioner of the healing arts” to include optometrists.
Urine drug testing – Medicare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective 4/1/2025 prior authorization will be required for definitive urine drug testing consisting of 15 or more drug classes for Medicare products. • HealthPartners follows applicable National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) for urine drug testing.
Weight loss surgery – reoperations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective 4/1/2025, policy is retired.
Weight loss surgery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective 4/1/2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Criteria from the Weight loss surgery reoperations policy is now included in this policy. ○ Single anastomosis duodenal-ileal bypass with sleeve gastrectomy (SADI) (i.e., loop duodenal switch) was added to the list of covered weight loss surgery procedures. ○ Adjustable gastric banding will now be considered not medically necessary and will not be covered. ○ The evaluation from the mental health professional now includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The evaluation must be within the last 12 months. ▪ The mental health professional must be licensed. ▪ The need for active therapeutic interventions and a plan for any identified substance use disorder(s) must be addressed.

Contact the Medical Policy Intake line at **952-883-5724** for specific patient inquiries.

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.

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