



Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization and Preferred Drug List

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Pharmacy Prior Authorization

Everyone enrolled in Medicaid adheres to the same formulary. Some drugs on the formulary may require prior authorization.

- The managed care organization administers pharmacy prior authorization services for people enrolled in Medicaid managed care
- The Texas Prior Authorization Call Center administers traditional Medicaid prior authorizations

Formulary

The Medicaid formulary includes legend and over-the-counter drugs. Certain supplies and select vitamin and mineral products are also available as a pharmacy benefit. Some drugs are subject to one or both types of prior authorization: clinical or non-preferred.

- The Formulary Drug Search (txvendordrug.com/formulary/formulary-search) identifies the list of Medicaid-covered drugs and whether the drug requires prior authorization

Preferred Drug List

HHSC arranges the preferred drug list by the drug therapeutic class and contains a subset of many, but not all, drugs on the Medicaid formulary. Drugs identified on the PDL as “preferred” are available without prior authorization unless there is a clinical prior authorization associated with the drug. Some drugs are subject to both non-preferred and clinical prior authorizations. (CHIP drugs are not subject to PDL requirements.)

- txvendordrug.com/formulary/prior-authorization/preferred-drugs

The **PDL Prior Authorization Criteria Guide** explains the criteria used to evaluate prior authorization requests

- paxpress.txpa.hidinc.com/pdl_crit_guide.pdf

Drugs requiring clinical prior authorization are hyperlinked within the list, as shown in Table 1. Links will take the user to the specific clinical prior authorization criteria with a narrative explaining the purpose and requirements.

Table 1: PDL Example

<i>Therapeutic Class Name</i>		
Preferred Agents	Non-Preferred Agents	Prior Authorization Criteria
bacitracin ointment BACTROBAN (mupirocin) cream	BACITRACIN PACKET BACTROBAN (mupirocin) ointment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment failure with preferred drugs within any subclass Contraindication to preferred drugs Allergic reaction to preferred drugs Treatment of stage-four advanced, metastatic cancer and associated conditions Clinical Prior Authorization applies

Clinical Prior Authorization

Clinical prior authorizations may apply to any individual drug or an entire drug class on the formulary, including some preferred and non-preferred drugs. There are specific clinical prior authorizations all managed care organizations are required to perform. Usage of all other clinical prior authorizations will vary between MCOs at the discretion of each MCO. The Texas Medicaid Drug Utilization Board approves all criteria.

- For Medicaid managed care:
 - ▶ txvendordrug.com/formulary/prior-authorization/mco-clinical-pa
- Traditional Medicaid:
 - ▶ txvendordrug.com/formulary/prior-authorization/ffs-clinical-pa
- The Clinical Prior Authorization Assistance Chart identifies which MCOs utilize each clinical prior authorization:
 - ▶ txvendordrug.com/sites/default/files/docs/prior-authorization/cpa-assistance-chart.pdf

PDL Prior Authorization

Drugs identified as “non-preferred” require a PDL prior authorization. The PDL Prior Authorization Criteria Guide explains the criteria used to evaluate the non-preferred prior authorization requests.

Obtaining Prior Authorization

As a prescribing provider, you can help people enrolled in Medicaid receive medications quickly and conveniently with a few simple steps. Prescribing providers or their representatives should contact one of the following authorization authorities:

Medicaid Managed Care

Pharmacy prior authorization call centers vary by MCO. The **Prescriber MCO Assistance Chart** (txvendordrug.com/sites/default/files/docs/managed-care/prescriber-assistance-chart.pdf) identifies each MCO and its prior authorization call center phone numbers.

Traditional Medicaid

The **Texas Prior Authorization Call Center** accepts prior authorization requests by phone at 1-877-PA-TEXAS (1-877-728-3927) or online. Online submission is only available for non-preferred prior authorization requests.

- Texas Prior Authorization Call Center: txvendordrug.com/about/manuals/pharmacy-provider-procedure-manual/2-contact-information/2-1-vendor-drug-program/2-8
 - ▶ Account Registration Instructions: paxpress.txpa.hidinc.com/Account_Reg_Instructions.pdf
 - ▶ Provider Quick Reference: paxpress.txpa.hidinc.com/Provider_Quick_Ref_Guide.pdf
- Xenical requires prior authorization but is reviewed internally by HHS staff
 - ▶ Download form from txvendordrug.com/about/manuals/pharmacy-provider-procedure-manual/p19-forms/p19-3-medicaid-ffs-prior-authorization

Texas Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Board

The board makes recommendations for the PDL and clinical prior authorizations four times a year. Close to 75 therapeutic classes are reviewed each year, with approximately one-quarter of the classes reviewed at each meeting:

- The January edition of the PDL includes decisions made at the July and October meetings
- The July edition of the PDL includes decisions made at the January and April meetings

Education

Texas Health Steps offers free online continuing education courses and the **Prescriber's Guide to Texas Medicaid Outpatient Pharmacy Prior Authorization** quick course:

- txhealthsteps.com

Epocrates

Epocrates is a publisher of mobile device software applications designed to provide information about drugs to doctors and other health care professionals. Both the formulary and PDL are available for free on mobile devices using the Epocrates drug information system. Refer to section 9.1 (Formulary Search) in the **Outpatient Drug Services Handbook** (Vol. 2, Provider Handbooks) of the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual (tmhp.com/resources/provider-manuals/tmppm) for more information.

Contact

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