

Discretionary Drugs and Your Pharmacy Plan

Many expensive prescription medicines have significantly lower cost alternatives available. Last year, we introduced a list of these high cost “discretionary” or elective drugs and removed them from coverage under the plan while making sure their lower cost alternatives remained available under the prescription drug plan. This year, as more high cost drugs in this category have come to market, we are updating the list of non-covered drugs.

Brand name medicines in the classes listed can be purchased at a discounted rate but **will not count** toward the accumulation of your out-of-pocket maximum.

Important: The brand name medicines in these classes have lower cost generic prescription or over-the-counter alternatives that are clinically comparable to their more expensive equivalents. If not, the manufacturer typically offers a copayment assistance program that members can seek to reduce the cost of the claim charge.

If you are prescribed brand name medicines in the following drug classes, we recommend that you discuss generic/over-the-counter or therapeutic alternatives with your doctor. You may also seek financial assistance for copayments from the maker of the brand medicine by doing an internet search on the drug name.

Discretionary Drugs CURRENTLY NOT COVERED:

- Epinephrine Autoinjectors (Auvi-Q)
- Probiotics/Antidiarrheals (Mytesi, Prodigen, Restora Rx, VSL#3, etc.)
- Hypnotics (Drugs for Sleep – Belsomra, Silenor, etc.)
- NSAIDs (Sprix, Vivlodex, Zipsor, Zorvolex, etc.)
- Drugs for Migraine (Cambia, Treximet, Zembrace, etc.)
- Multivitamins
- Artificial Saliva Agents (BocaSal, Salivamax, etc.)
- Acne Drugs (Absorica, Avar, Fabior, Veltin, etc.)
- Topical Rosacea Agents (Mirvaso, Rhofade, Soolantra, etc.)
- Topical Corticosteroids (Cordran, Enstilar Foam, Sernivo, etc.)
- Tetracycline Antibiotics (Adoxa, Solodyn, etc.)
- Androgens (Androgel, Testim, etc.)
- Estrogens (Premarin, Cenestin, Prempro, Vivelle Patches, Estring, Evamist, etc.)
- Nicotinic Acid Derivatives (Niaspan)
- Erectile Dysfunction Drugs (Viagra, Cialis, Levitra, etc.)
- Non Sedating Antihistamines (Clarinet, Xyzal, etc.)
- Nasal Medicines for Allergies (Nasonex, Veramyst, Omnaris, etc.)
- Antihistamines & Decongestant Combinations (Clarinet-D, etc.)
- Proton Pump Inhibitors (Nexium, Dexilant, Aciphex, etc.)
- Proton Pump Inhibitor NSAID Combination (Omeprazole w Sodium Bicarbonate)
- Drugs for Overactive Bladder (Detrol LA, Toviaz, Vesicare, etc.)
- Vaginal Estrogens (Estrace Vaginal Cream, Estring, Premarin Vaginal Cream, etc.)
- Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy Drugs (Avodart, Jalyn, etc.)
- Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder (Addyi)
- NSAID Combinations (Duexis, Vimovo, etc.)
- Nutrients (Glutamine Powder, L-Tryptophan Powder)
- Dietary Management or Medical Foods (Deplin, etc.)
- Hematopoietic Mixtures (multivitamins with Folic Acid)
- Ophthalmic AntiAllergy (Alamast, Alocril, Patanol, etc.)
- Topical Antifungals (Jublia, Kerydin, etc.)
- Topical Antiinflammatory Agents (Pennsaid, DermacinRx, etc.)
- Topical Antivirals (Denavir, Zovirax)
- Topical Anesthetic Combinations (Provenza, Renovo, Synera, etc.)
- Alternative Medicines (Resveratrol, Red Yeast Rice Extract, etc.)
- Chemicals (Powders, Creams, Solutions, used in Rx Compounding)
- Pharmaceutical Adjuvants (Powders, Creams, Solutions, used in Rx Compounding)

This list is subject to change. If you have any questions regarding the discretionary drug benefit, please contact MedBen Customer Service at (800) 686-8425.