

National Drug List

Medication alternatives



The National Drug List is a list of prescription medications approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). We've reviewed these drugs through our Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Process, which considers a drug's:

- Effectiveness
- Safety
- Similarity to other drugs within a therapeutic class
- Affordability

The National Drug List is an open drug list or formulary, with some closed drug classes. The list includes a broad range of drug choices – including 99% of all prescription medications.* If a medication is not on the list, there are other high-quality, cost-effective choices, called preferred alternatives, that are.

Medications not included on the National Drug List are shown on the chart included here, along with their preferred alternatives that are on the list. Your coverage has limitations and exclusions. For details about what's covered and what's not, it's best to check your *Certificate/Evidence of Coverage* or *Summary Plan Description*.

To view and search the complete National Drug List, visit anthem.com/ca/pharmacyinformation. Information on dosage/strength options and any restrictions such as quantity limits, prior authorization or step therapy requirements is available. Members can also call Member Services at the number on their member ID card.

What if a medication isn't on the National Drug List?

There may be times when a member's drug isn't on the National Drug List and the doctor thinks that another option isn't right for the member. The doctor can submit a request for an exception. This process, called prior authorization, requires the doctor to call the Member Services number on the member's ID card or go to anthem.com/ca/pharmacyinformation to download and submit the prior authorization form.

*Internal data, 2016.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit anthem.com/ca.

Drug class	Medications not on the National Drug List	Preferred alternatives ¹
Allergic Reaction Treatment	Adrenaclick, Auvi-Q, Epinephrine auto-injector (Impax and Lineage), EpiPen, EpiPen JR	Epinephrine auto-injector (Authorized generic EpiPen from Mylan)
Dermatologic – oral anti-infectives	Acticlate, Adoxa, Doryx, Doryx MPC, Doxycycline IR-DR 40mg Capsule, Minocin, Monodox, Vibramycin 50mg/5ml Syrup, Solodyn	doxycycline hyclate, doxycycline monohydrate (immediate release), doxycycline 25mg/5ml suspension, minocycline, Oracea
Diabetes – Biguanides	Glumetza (brand and generic)	metformin ER (generic Glucophage XR)
Diabetes – DPP4s	Alogliptin, Alogliptin/metformin, Kazano, Kombiglyze XR, Nesina, Onglyza	Januvia, Janumet/XR, Tradjenta, Jentadueto
Diabetes – GLP1s	Adlyxin, Tanzeum	Byetta, Bydureon/Pen, Trulicity, Victoza
Diabetes – long-acting insulin	Basaglar, Tresiba	Lantus, Levemir, Toujeo
Diabetes – rapid-acting insulin	Apidra, Novolin, Novolog	Humulin, Humalog
Diabetes – SGLT2/combos	Farxiga, Glyxambi, Invokana, Invokamet, Invokamet XR, Xigduo	Jardiance, Synjardy

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Drug class	Medications not on the National Drug List	Preferred alternatives ¹
Diabetic Test Strips and Glucometers	All except Accu-Chek and One Touch Products	Accu-Chek and One Touch Products
Dry Eye	Lacrisert	Xiidra
Erectile dysfunction	Levitra, Staxyn, Stendra	Cialis, Viagra
Fish Oils (Omega-3 Fatty Acids)	Lovaza (brand and generic), Vascepa	fenofibrate, fenofibric acid, gemfibrozil
Growth hormone	Genotropin, Norditropin, Omnitrope, Saizen, Zomacton	Humatrope, Nutropin/AQ
Immunologicals	Actemra, Cimzia, Inflectra, Kevzara, Orencia, Tremfya, Renflexis	Enbrel, Humira, Remicade, Simponi/Aria, Stelara
Multiple sclerosis	Extavia, Rebif	Avonex/Pen, Betaseron, Plegridy
Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatories	diclofenac sodium 1.5% topical solution, Duexis, Fenoprofen capsules, Fenortho, Flector, Indocin Suppository & Suspension, klofensaid, Nalfon, Naprelan CR 750mg, Pennsaid 2% Pump, Sprix, Tivorbex, Vimovo, Vivlodex, Zipsor, Zorvolex	diclofenac 1% gel, diclofenac tablet, fenoprofen tablet, ibuprofen tablet & suspension, indomethacin capsule, meloxicam tablet & suspension, misoprostol, naproxen tablet & suspension
Pain management – transmucosal fentanyl	Abstral, Lazanda, Onsolis, Subsys	fentanyl citrate, Fentora
Pain management – narcotic analgesics	Embeda, Hysingla ER, Kadian, Morphabond ER, Nucynta ER, Opana ER, Oxycodone ER, Xartemis XR, Xtampza ER, Zohydro ER	morphine sulfate er, Oxycontin, oxymorphone er
Proton Pump Inhibitors	Aciphex (brand and generic), Dexilant, Esomeprazole Strontium, Nexium (brand and generic), Prevacid (brand and generic), Prilosec, Protonix, Zegerid (brand and generic)	omeprazole, pantoprazole
Respiratory – anti-inflammatory	Aerospan, Alvesco, Armonair Respiclick, Asmanex HFA/Twisthaler, Pulmicort Flexhaler	Arnuity Ellipta, Flovent HFA/Diskus, Qvar
Skeletal muscle relaxants	Amrix ER	cyclobenzaprine
Steroids - oral	Rayos	hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, prednisone, prednisolone
Testosterone – topical	Axiron, Fortesta, Natesto, Testim, Testosterone Gel 1% (brand versions ²), Vogelxo	testosterone gel 1% (generic versions ³), testosterone gel 30mg/1.5ml, AndroGel 1.62%

¹ Please note: Preferred alternatives are on multiple tiers, depending on benefit plan. Tiers represent levels of coverage. Member cost share amounts generally increase at higher tier levels.

²Prasco, Qualitest, Upsher Smith

³Actavis, PAR, and Perrigo