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) |
| Biguanides | Glumteza (brand and generic) | metformin ER (generic Glucophage XR) |
| 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 - 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 |

Chart continued on back

Continued from front

| 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, Restasis | 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 versions²), Vogelxo | testosterone gel 1% (generic versions³), 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