

Preferred Drug List

Please refer to the *Preferred Drug List (PDL)* when prescribing for Empire BlueCross BlueShield HealthPlus members. This guide does not contain a complete list of drugs; rather, it lists the preferred drugs within the most commonly prescribed therapeutic categories.

The medications included in the *PDL* are reviewed and approved by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, which includes practicing physicians and pharmacists from our provider community. The goal of the *PDL* is to provide cost-effective pharmacotherapy choices based on prospective, concurrent and retrospective review of medication therapies and utilization.

Unless otherwise noted, the use of available generics is required. Multisource, brand-name drugs require prior authorization.

Note: Many over-the-counter products are covered and should be considered for first-line therapy when appropriate. Cough and cold agents may be an excluded benefit for some plans.

KEY:

- * age restrictions apply
- PA requires prior authorization
- ST requires trial of first step product
- QL daily dosage limits apply
- RX legend prescription product
- X distribution through specialty pharmacy network
- OTC over-the-counter available by prescription

ANTIBACTERIALS

ANTIBIOTICS

CEPHALOSPORINS

First Generation

QL cefadroxil

QL cephalexin

Second Generation

QL cefaclor

QL cefprozil

QL cefuroxime axetil

Third Generation

QL cefdinir

QL cefpodoxime

FLUOROQUINOLONES

QL* ciprofloxacin tabs

levofloxacin

* ofloxacin

MACROLIDES

QL azithromycin

QL clarithromycin

QL erythromycin (all salt forms)

PENICILLINS

QL amoxicillin

QL amoxicillin/clavulanate

QL ampicillin

QL dicloxacillin

QL penicillin VK

SULFONAMIDES

sulfadiazine
QL sulfamethoxazole /trimethoprim

TETRACYCLINES

doxycycline monohydrate (caps/susp only)
minocycline (IR)
tetracycline

ANTIFUNGALS

QL clotrimazole troches
QL fluconazole
QL griseofulvin
QL griseofulvin suspension
QL ketoconazole
QL nystatin
QL terbinafine

ANTIVIRALS- HEPATITIS C

PA QL elbasvir/grazoprevir (Zepatier)

PA peginterferon alfa 2a

PA peginterferon alfa 2b

PA QL sofosbuvir (Sovaldi)

PA QL sofosbuvir/velpatasvir (Epclusa)

PA ribavirin

ANTIVIRALS

acyclovir
famciclovir

QL valacyclovir

HIV/AIDS

Please see Amerigroup formulary for covered agents.

INFLUENZA

QL oseltamivir

QL zanamivir

MISCELLANEOUS

albendazole
atovaquone-proguanil
clindamycin
ethambutol

isoniazid
ivermectin
methenamine

QL mefloquine
metronidazole tabs
neomycin
QL nitrofurantoin caps
praziquantel
pyrazinamide
rifabutin
rifampin caps
rifapentine
rifater

CARDIOVASCULAR AGENTS

ACE INHIBITORS and COMBINATIONS

QL benazepril, benazepril/HCTZ
captopril, captopril/HCTZ
enalapril, enalapril/HCTZ
QL fosinopril, fosinopril/HCTZ
QL lisinopril, lisinopril/HCTZ
moexipril, moexipril/HCTZ
perindopril
quinapril, quinapril/HCTZ

ANGIOTENSIN II RECEPTOR BLOCKERS

QL candesartan, candesartan/HCTZ
QL irbesartan, irbesartan/HCTZ
QL losartan, losartan/HCTZ
QL valsartan, valsartan/HCTZ

ANTICOAGULANTS

apixaban
PA QL enoxaparin
QL rivaroxaban
warfarin (Brand and Generic)

ANTIPLATELET AGENTS

QL OTC aspirin
cilostazol

QL clopidogrel
QL dipyridamole
BETA BLOCKERS and COMBINATIONS

acebutolol
atenolol
atenolol/chlorthalidone
betaxolol
bisoprolol, bisoprolol/HCTZ
carvedilol
labetalol
metoprolol
QL metoprolol HCTZ
metoprolol ext rel
nadolol
pindolol
propranolol, propranolol/HCTZ
propranolol ext rel
sotalol
timolol

CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS

QL amlodipine
QL diltiazem ext-rel
QL felodipine ext-rel
QL isradipine
QL nifedipine ext-rel
QL nicardipine
QL verapamil ext-rel

DIURETICS

amiloride
amiloride/HCTZ
bumetanide
chlorthalidone
furosemide
hydrochlorothiazide
indapamide
metolazone
spironolactone
spironolactone/HCTZ (25/25mg only)
torsemide

triamterene/HCTZ
LIPID LOWERING AGENTS
QL cholestyramine
colestimol
QL PA ezetimibe
QL ST ezetimibe w/simvastatin
QL fenofibrate
QL gemfibrozil
QL lovastatin
QL OTC niacin
QL OTC nicotinic acid
QL pravastatin
QL simvastatin
PCSK-9 INHIBITORS
PA evolocumab
MISCELLANEOUS AGENTS
digoxin tab/soln

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE
QL donepezil
QL galantamine, ER
QL memantine
ANALGESICS
QL codeine/APAP
QL PA fentanyl transdermal
QL PA fentanyl citrate lozenge
QL hydrocodone/acetaminophen
QL hydrocodone/ibuprofen
QL hydromorphone
QL meperidine
QL PA methadone
QL morphine tab, soln, supp
QL PA morphine ER tab
QL oxycodone, oxycodone/APAP
HYLAURONICS
PA hyaluronate sodium (Euflexxa)
PA hyaluronate sodium (Gelsyn)
PA hyaluronate sodium (Supartz FX)
MISCELLANEOUS
lidocaine cream, HC

lidocaine jelly, gel, sol
lidocaine/pramoxine crm
(without applicator)
QL PA lidocaine topical patch
QL tramadol; tramadol/APAP
ANTICONVULSANTS
QL* carbamazepine
QL clonazepam tabs
QL diazepam rectal gel
QL divalproex del-rel, ER, sprinkle
QL epitol
QL ethosuximide
QL felbamate
QL gabapentin
QL lamotrigine disper tab, ER,
ODT
QL levetiracetam
QL oxcarbazepine
QL phenobarbital
QL phenytoin sod ext-rel
QL phenytoin tabs, chewable
QL primidone
QL roveepra
QL tiagabine (2mg and 4mg)
QL topiramate
QL valproic acid
QL zonisamide
ANTIDEPRESSANTS
QL amitriptyline
QL amitriptyline/perphenazine
QL amoxapine
QL bupropion, bupropion SR/XL
QL chlordiazepoxide/amitriptyline
QL desipramine
QL doxepin
QL imipramine
QL maprotiline
QL mirtazapine
QL nortriptyline
QL phenelzine
QL protriptyline
QL tranylcypromine

QL trazodone
QL trimipramine
SNRIs
QL venlafaxine
QL venlafaxine XR
SSRIs
QL citalopram
QL escitalopram
QL fluoxetine (except 60mg)
QL fluvoxamine
QL paroxetine hcl
QL sertraline
ANTIPSYCHOTICS – oral
QL* aripiprazole (tabs only)
QL* carbamazepine
QL* chlorpromazine
QL* clozapine
QL* lithium carbonate
QL* lithium carbonate ext rel
QL* loxapine
QL* olanzapine tab
QL* paliperidone ext rel
QL* perphenazine
PA QL* pimozide
QL* risperidone tab/soln
QL* quetiapine IR
QL* thioridazine
QL* thiothixene
QL* trifluoperazine
QL* ziprasidone
ANTIPSYCHOTICS – injectables
* PA aripiprazole (Abilify Maintena)
* PA aripiprazole lauroxil (Aristada)
*QL fluphenazine decan, inj
*QL haloperidol inj
*PA olanzapine (Zyprexa Relprevv)
*PA paliperidone (Invega Sustenna)
*PA paliperidone (Invega Trinza)
*PA risperidone (Risperdal Consta)
ANXIETY
QL alprazolam
QL buspirone

QL chlordiazepoxide
QL clonazepam
QL clorazepate
QL diazepam
QL hydroxyzine HCl, pamoate
QL lorazepam
QL oxazepam
ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY
DISORDER
QL* amphet/dextroamph, ER
QL* atomoxetine
QL PA* dexmethylphenidate
QL* dextroamphetamine, ext-rel
QL ST* guanfacine
QL* methylphenidate, ext-rel
MIGRAINE
QL amitriptyline
QL butalbital/APAP
QL butalbital/APAP/caff
QL butalbital/APAP/caff/codeine
QL butalbital/ASA
QL butalbital/ASA/caff
QL butalbital/ASA/caff/codeine
QL naratriptan
propranolol, ext-rel
QL sumatriptan tabs
QL ST sumatriptan inj, spray
OPIOID/ALCOHOL DEPENDANCE
QL acamprosate tab
QL buprenorphine
QL buprenorphine/naloxone
SL tabs/film
disulfiram
naloxone inj
naloxone nasal spray
naltrexone tab
naltrexone inj
PARKINSON'S DISEASE
QL amantadine (except tabs)
bentropine
bromocriptine
carbidopa/levodopa

carbidopa/levodopa ext-rel
carbidopa/entacapone
/levodopa
pramipexole
ropinirole
selegiline caps, tabs
trihexyphenidyl
SEDATIVE/HYPNOTICS
QL chloral hydrate
estazolam
QL temazepam (15/ 30mg only)
QL PA triazolam
QL zolpidem
zaleplon

COUGH & COLD

benzonatate
QL OTC* dextromethorphan
syrup
QL OTC diphenhydramine
liquid, capsules
QL OTC guaifenesin syrup
QL guaifenesin w/codeine syrup
QL* promethazine w/codeine syrup
QL* promethazine w/DM syrup
QL* pseudoephedrine syrup, tablets
QL saline spray, drops

DERMATOLOGY

ACNE ORAL
PA claravis
minocycline IR
PA myorisan
tetracycline
PA zenatane
ACNE TOPICAL
PA adapalene cream, gel
QL OTC benzoyl peroxide
clindamycin 1% gel, pad, soln
clindamycin-benzoyl peroxide 1.2-
5% gel

- erythromycin 2% pad, soln
- metronidazole cream
- * tretinoin gel (0.01%, 0.025%)
- * tretinoin gel micro 0.1% tube
- * tretinoin cream (0.025%, 0.05%, 0.1%)
- * tretinoin emollient crm 0.05%

ANTIBACTERIALS

- OTC chlorhexidine
- mupirocin oint
- silver sulfadiazine

CORTICOSTEROIDS

Products are grouped based upon relative potency.

LOW

- QL RX/OTC hydrocortisone crm, lot, oint
- QL OTC hydrocortisone-aloë 1% crm

MEDIUM

- QL betamethasone valerate crm
- QL fluticasone propionate crm, oint
- QL mometasone furoate crm, oint, soln
- QL triamcinolone acet crm, oint

HIGH

- QL amcinonide oint, lot
 - QL betamethasone dipr aug crm
 - QL betamethasone dipr lotion
 - QL betamethasone valerate oint
 - QL diflorasone diacetate crm
 - QL fluocinonide E cream
 - QL triamcinolone acet crm, oint
- VERY HIGH**
- QL clobetasol E propionate crm
 - QL clobetasol propionate crm, gel, oint, soln
 - QL halobetasol propionate crm, oint

FUNGAL INFECTIONS

- OTC butenafine HCL

- QL PA ciclodan 8% soln
- QL PA ciclopirox 8% soln
- OTC clotrimazole
- ketoconazole
- OTC miconazole nitrate
- nystatin
- OTC generic terbinafine HCL cream
- terbinafine tab
- OTC tolnaftate

SCABIES AND PEDICULOSIS

- QL permethrin 5% cream
- QL OTC permethrin 1% rinse
- OTC pyrethrins/piperonyl butoxide 4%
- spinosad 0.9% topical suspension

VIRAL INFECTIONS

- QL acyclovir ointment
- QL docosanol topical
- podofilox

- QL OTC salicylic acid 17%

MISCELLANEOUS

- QL ammonium lactate 12% emollient ointment (hydrolatum)
- QL selenium sulfide shampoo
- QL ST tacrolimus oint
- QL urea crm/gel 40%

EAR, NOSE & THROAT

- QL acetic acid/aluminum acetate
 - benzocaine/antipyrine
 - OTC carbamide peroxide 6.5%
 - neomycin/polymyxinB/hc
 - QL ofloxacin
- ANTIHISTAMINES**
- QL azelastine spray
 - QL cyproheptadine
 - QL OTC diphenhydramine
 - QL OTC* fexofenadine

- QL OTC loratadine
- INTRANASAL STEROIDS**
- QL OTC fluticasone
 - QL OTC triamcinolone

ELECTROLYTIC AND RENAL AGENTS

- calcium acetate
- PA sucroferric oxyhydroxide (Velphoro)

ENDOCRINOLOGY

ANTIDIABETICS

INJECTABLE AGENTS

- ST albiglutide
- QL ST liraglutide

INSULINS

- QL insulin aspart/insulin aspart protamine (Novolog Mix)
- QL insulin glargine (Basaglar Kwikpen)
- QL insulin glulisine (Apidra)
- QL insulin isophane & regular (Humulin, Novolin)
- QL insulin lispro/insulin lispro protamine (Humalog Mix)

MONITORING STRIPS AND

KITS/DIABETIC SUPPLIES

- QL True Metrix (Trividia)
- QL select lancets, select syringes and needles
- QL True Metrix control sol
- QL alcohol prep pads (various)

ORAL AGENTS

- ST empagliflozin
- ST empagliflozin/metformin
- glimepiride
- glipizide, glipizide ext- rel
- glyburide, glyburide micronized

- glyburide/metformin

- QL linagliptin
- QL linagliptin/metformin
- QL metformin, metformin XR
- QL nateglinide
- QL ST metformin; saxagliptin
- QL ST metformin;sitagliptin/XR
- QL ST pioglitazone
- QL pioglitazone/glimepiride
- QL pioglitazone/metformin
- QL repaglinide
- QL ST saxagliptin
- QL ST simvastatin; sitagliptin
- QL ST sitagliptin
- QL ST sitagliptin/metformin XR

HORMONE THERAPY

- PA testosterone cyp inj
 - PA testosterone enan inj
 - PA QL testosterone gel 1%
- HUMAN GROWTH HORMONE**
- PA somatropin (Zomacton)

OSTEOPOROSIS/PAGETS

- QL alendronate
- QL raloxifene
- PA X teriparatide

THYROID DISEASE

- QL levothyroxine-levoxyl
- liothyronine
- nature-throid
- np thyroid
- unithroid
- westhroid

ANTINEOPLASTIC

- alkeran
- cyclophosphamide
- etoposide
- leukeran
- mercaptopurine
- QL octreotide tabloid

- trexall

GASTROINTESTINAL

DIARRHEA

- diphenoxylate/atropine
- OTC QL loperamide (tabs only)

EMESIS

- QL aprepitant
- OTC meclizine
- metoclopramide
- QL ondansetron ODT
- prochlorperazine
- promethazine

GERD/HEARTBURN/ULCERS

- OTC QL esomeprazole
- OTC RX famotidine oral/inj
- nizatidine

- OTC QL omeprazole

- OTC QL lansoprazole

- OTC RX ranitidine tabs/caps

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE

- QL balsalazide
 - QL hydrocortisone
 - QL mesalamine rectal susp
 - QL mesalamine
 - QL mesalamine/5 ASA
 - QL sulfasalazine
- PANCREATIC ENZYMES**
- QL pancrelipase

RHEUMATOLOGY and MUSCULOSKELETAL

COX II INHIBITORS

- PA QL celecoxib

MUSCLE RELAXANTS

- QL baclofen
- QL carisoprodol
- carisoprodol/ASA
- chlorzoxazone
- QL cyclobenzaprine IR (5mg and 10mg only)

dantrolene
QL methocarbamol
orphenadrine
QL tizanidine (tablets only)
NSAIDs
diclofenac
diclofenac ext-rel
etodolac
etodolac ext-rel
fenoprofen
ibuprofen
indomethacin
ketoprofen
meloxicam
meclofenamate
nabumetone
naproxen sodium
piroxicam
sulindac

MISC. ANTIRHEUMATIC

auranofin
azathioprine
hydroxychloroquine
leflunomide
methotrexate
sulfasalazine

CHELATING AGENTS (Wilson's
disease)
penicillamine
trientine

OB-GYN

CONTRACEPTIVES

All generic oral contraceptives are covered

*QL EE/norelgestromin

*QL EE/norgestimate

*QL etonogestrel /EE vag ring

EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTIVES

ulipristal acetate (Ella)
levonorgestrel 1.5 mg tab

HORMONE THERAPY/MENOPAUSE

conjugated estrogens
estradiol tabs
ethinyl
estradiol/norethindrone
estropipate
medroxyprogesterone acetate
norethindrone
VAGINAL INFECTIONS
clindamycin crm
OTC clotrimazole crm
fluconazole tabs
metronidazole tabs
metronidazole vaginal gel
OTC miconazole
nystatin vaginal tablet
terconazole

OPHTHALMIC

ALLERGY

QL cromolyn sodium

QL OTC ketotifen

QL lodoxamide

ANTI-INFLAMMATORIES

dexamethasone sodium phos

QL diclofenac 0.1% drops

fluorometholone 0.1% drops

flurbiprofen 0.03% drops

QL neomycin/polymyxinB/HC sol

dexamethasone drops

prednisolone acetate 1% drops

prednisolone sod 1% drops

sulfacetamide/prednisolone drops

tobramycin/dexameth ophth

susp

GLAUCOMA

QL brimonidine

QL dorzolamide

QL dorzolamide/timolol

QL latanoprost

QL levobunolol

QL pilocarpine
QL timolol
QL timolol maleate (solution only)
INFECTIONS
QL bacitracin
QL bacitracin/polymyxin B oint
QL ciprofloxacin
QL erythromycin
PA gatifloxacin
QL gentamicin
PA moxifloxacin
neomycin/polymyxin
B/gramicidin
ofloxacin
polymyxin B/trimethoprim
sulfacetamide 10%
tobramycin
QL trifluridine

RESPIRATORY DRUGS

BETA AGONISTS

QL albuterol tabs, syrup

QL albuterol sulfate (Ventolin
HFA)

QL metaproterenol syrup

QL terbutaline tabs

CORTICOSTEROIDS

QL flunisolide (Aerospan)

QL fluticasone furoate
(Arnuity Ellipta)

ST QL fluticasone/vilanterol
(Breo Ellipta)

ST QL mometasone/formoterol
(Dulera)

LEUKOTRIENE MODIFIERS

QL montelukast

QL zafirlukast

NEBULIZER INHALATIONS

QL albuterol soln

QL * budesonide susp

QL cromolyn soln

QL ipratropium soln

QL ipratropium/albuterol soln
OTHERS
QL AL albuterol; ipratropium MDI
QL ipratropium HFA
QL tiotropium QL
umeclidinium/vilanterol
(Anoro Ellipta)

PULMONARY ARTERIAL

HYPERTENSION AGENTS

PA ambrisentan

SPACER DEVICES

QL Ace Aerosol Cloud Enhancer

QL Aerotrach Holding Chamber

QL Aerovent Plus Holding Chamber

QL BreatheRite Spacer

QL BreatheRite Chamber

QL Compact Space Chamber

QL Liteaire

QL Microchamber

QL Microspacer

QL Optichamber Diamond

QL Pocket Chamber

QL Primeaire Chamber

QL Prochamber Holding Chamber

QL Riteflo Spacer

QL Vortex Holding Chamber

QL Vortex VHC Frog Child Mask

QL Vortex VHC Ladybug Toddler

QL Watchhaler Spacer

UROLOGICAL

alfuzosin

bethanechol

darifenacin

doxazosin

finasteride

QL oxybutynin, oxybutynin ext-rel

OTC oxytrol for women

tamsulosin

terazosin

tolterodine, tolterodine ER

trospium, trospium ER

SMOKING DETERRENTS

QL bupropion SR

OTC QL nicotine patch,gum,lozenge

Nicotrol Inhaler, nasal spray

varenicline (Chantix)

MISCELLANEOUS

QL epinephrine 0.15 Mg Auto-Inject

QL epinephrine 0.3 Mg Auto-Inject

epinephrine 0.1 Mg/ML Syringe

epinephrine 1 Mg/ML Vial