



An Anthem Company

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. This committee 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 cream, shampoo
 - QL nystatin
 - QL terbinafine
- ANTIVIRALS- HEPATITIS C
 - PA QL elbasvir/grazoprevir (Zepatier)
 - PA glecaprevir/pibrentasvir (Mavyret)
 - PA peginterferon alfa 2a
 - PA peginterferon alfa 2b
 - ribavirin
- ANTIVIRALS
 - acyclovir
 - QL famciclovir
 - QL valacyclovir
- HIV/AIDS
 - Please see 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
 - jantoven/warfarin
 - 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 (25/25 mg only)
 - toremide
 - 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 IR, ER
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
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
QL lidocaine 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 roweepra
QL tiagabine (2 mg and 4 mg)
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 tranlycypromine
QL trazodone
QL trimipramine
SNRIs
QL venlafaxine
QL venlafaxine XR
SSRIs
QL citalopram
QL escitalopram
QL fluoxetine (except 60 mg)
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 * lithium solution
QL * loxapine
QL * olanzapine tab
QL * paliperidone ext rel
QL * perphenazine
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* clonidine ER
QL* dexmethylphenidate
QL* dexmethylphenidate ER
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 syr and vials
QL naloxone nasal spray
naltrexone tab
naltrexone inj
PARKINSON'S DISEASE
QL amantadine (except tabs)
benztropine
bromocriptine
carbidopa/levodopa
carbidopa/levodopa ext-rel
carbidopa/entacapone/
levodopa
pramipexole
ropinirole
selegiline caps, tabs
trihexyphenidyl
SEDATIVE/HYPNOTICS
QL chloral hydrate
estazolam
QL temazepam (15/30 mg 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
 OTC Differin 0.1% gel
 erythromycin 2% pad, soln
 metronidazole 0.75% cream,
 lotion,
 gel
 metronidazole 1% gel, gel
 pump
 rosadan 0.75% cream, gel
 * 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-aloe
 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 ciclofan 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%
 QL 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
ANTI-HISTAMINES
 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
 QL ST Ozempic dose pen
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 ST linagliptin
 QL ST linagliptin/metformin
 QL ST linagliptin/metformin XR
 QL metformin, metformin XR
 QL ST nateglinide
 QL ST pioglitazone
 QL ST pioglitazone/glimepiride
 QL ST pioglitazone/metformin
 QL ST repaglinide
 QL ST simvastatin; sitagliptin
 QL ST sitagliptin
 QL ST sitagliptin/metformin
 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-
 levoxyol
 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 acid reducer DR 20mg cap
 OTC QL esomeprazole
 OTC RX famotidine oral/inj
 nizatidine
 OTC QL omeprazole
 RX QL * omeprazole 20 mg capsule (for
 members < 6 years of age)
 OTC QL lansoprazole
 OTC RX ranitidine tabs/caps
 OTC QL Zegerid 20-1100mg cap
INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE
 QL balsalazide

QL hydrocortisone
QL mesalamine rectal susp
QL mesalamine
QL mesalamine/5 ASA
QL sulfasalazine
PANCREATIC ENZYMES
QL pancrelipase
MISC AGENTS
PA sodium phenylbutyrate

RHEUMATOLOGY and MUSCULOSKELETAL

COX II INHIBITORS
PA QL celecoxib
MUSCLE RELAXANTS
QL baclofen
QL carisoprodol
carisoprodol/ASA
chlorzoxazone
QL cyclobenzaprine IR
(5 mg and 10 mg only)
dantrolene
QL methocarbamol
orphenadrine
QL tizanidine (tablets only)
NSAIDs
diclofenac
diclofenac ext-rel
etodolac
etodolac ext-rel
fenoprofen
ibuprofen
indomethacin
ketoprofen
meloxicam
QL ketorolac tromethamine
QL meclfenamate
nabumetone
naproxen sodium
piroxicam
sulindac
MISC. ANTIRHEUMATIC

auranofin
azathioprine
hydroxychloroquine
leflunomide
methotrexate
sulfasalazine
MISC. IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE
cyclosporine
gengraf
mycophenolic acid
sirolimus
tacrolimus
CHELATING AGENTS
(Wilson's disease)
PA Depen
PA Syprine

OB-GYN

CONTRACEPTIVES
All generic oral contraceptives are covered
*QL EE/norelgestromin
*QL EE/norgestimate
*QL estradiol/norethindrone acet
*QL etonogestrel /EE vag ring
Today Contraceptive Sponge
EMERGENCY
CONTRACEPTIVES
ulipristal acetate (Ella)
levonorgestrel 1.5 mg tab
HORMONE THERAPY
estradiol tabs
PA estradiol patch
ethinyl
estradiol/norethindrone
estropipate
PA hydroxyprogesterone
PA Makena vial
medroxyprogesterone acetate
norethindrone
Yuvaferm vaginal insert
VAGINAL INFECTIONS

clindamycin crm
OTC clotrimazole crm
fluconazole tabs
metronidazole tabs
metronidazole vaginal gel
OTC miconazole
nystatin vaginal tablet
terconazole
tioconazole oint

OPHTHALMIC

ALLERGY
QL cromolyn sodium
QL OTC ketotifen
QL lodoxamide
ANTI-INFLAMMATORIES
dexamethasone sodium phos
QL diclofenac 0.1% drops
fluorometholone 0.1% drops
QL neomycin/polymyxinB/HC sol
dexamethasone drops
prednisolone acetate 1%
drops
prednisolone sod 1% drops
sulfacetamide/prednisolone
drops
tobramycin/dexameth ophth
susp
DRY EYE
OTC artificial tears drops/ointment
PA Xiidra 5% (lifitegrast)
GLAUCOMA
betaxolol HCL 0.5%
QL brimonidine
carteolol
QL dorzolamide
QL dorzolamide/timolol
QL latanoprost
QL levobunolol
metipranolol
QL pilocarpine
QL timolol

QL timolol maleate (solution only)
INFECTIONS
QL bacitracin
QL bacitracin/polymyxin B oint
QL ciprofloxacin
QL erythromycin
gatifloxacin 0.5% drops
QL gentamicin
levofloxacin 0.5% drops
moxifloxacin 0.5% drops
neomycin/polymyxin B/
gramicidin
ofloxacin
polymyxin B/trimethoprim
sulfacetamide 10%
tobramycin
QL trifluridine
VASOCONSTRICTOR
DECONGESTANTS
OTC artificial tears (generic)
naphazoline 0.1% eye drops
phenylephrine 2.5% eye drops
phenylephrine 10% eye drops

RESPIRATORY DRUGS

BETA AGONISTS
QL albuterol tabs, syrup
QL albuterol sulfate (Ventolin
HFA)
QL metaproterenol syrup
QL terbutaline tabs
CORTICOSTEROIDS
QL* fluticasone propionate
HFA/diskus (Flovent)
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
XANTHINES
theophylline ER tabs
theophylline soln/elixir
OTHERS
QL AL albuterol; ipratropium MDI
QL ipratropium HFA
QL tiotropium (Spiriva Respimat)
QL umeclidinium/vilanterol
(Anoro Ellipta)
PA omalizumab (Xolair)
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 Breathrite 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 (patch)
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

ANAPHYLAXIS THERAPY
AGENTS
QL epinephrine 0.15 Mg Auto-
Inject
QL epinephrine 0.3 Mg Auto-
Inject
epinephrine 0.1 Mg/MI
Syringe
epinephrine 1 Mg/MI Vial
METABOLIC DEFICIENCY
AGENTS
levocarnitine 330 mg tab