

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

PA QL sofosbuvir (Sovaldi)

PA QL sofosbuvir/velpatasvir (Epcclusa)

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
- jantoven
- QL rivaroxaban
- 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 (25/25mg only)
- toremide
- triamterene/HCTZ

LIPID LOWERING AGENTS

- QL cholestyramine
- colestipol
- 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 (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 tranlycypromine
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 * lithium solution
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* 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

QLacamprosate tab
QL buprenorphine
QL buprenorphine/naloxone
SL tabs/film
disulfiram
naloxone inj syr and vials
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

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 ciclodan 8% soln
- QL PA ciclopirox 8% soln
- OTC clotrimazole
- ketconazole

- 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

ANTI-DIABETICS

INJECTABLE AGENTS

- ST albiglutide

- QL ST liraglutide

INSULINS

- QL insulin aspart/insulin aspart protamine (Novolog Mix)
- QL insulin glargine (Basaglar Kwipen)
- 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-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
QL ketorolac tromethamine
QL meclufenamate
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

*QLEE/norelgestromin

*QLEE/norgestimate

*QLEtonogestrel/EE vag ring
Today Contraceptive Sponge

EMERGENCY

CONTRACEPTIVES

ulipristal acetate (Ella)
levonorgestrel 1.5 mg tab

HORMONE THERAPY

estradiol tabs
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

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
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

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)

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
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/MI Syringe
epinephrine 1 Mg/MI Vial