Part B Step Therapy Updates for Medicare Advantage

Florida Blue is making a change in Part B step therapy programs. Effective May 15, 2023, BlueMedicare℠ is including additional drugs to the programs affecting patients enrolled in Medicare Advantage.

Drug Alternatives

Step therapy is required, and the definition of medical necessity must be met, for certain higher-cost non-preferred medications. We encourage you to consider prescribing one of the following preferred alternatives (pre-authorization may apply) instead of the non-preferred drugs:

Cancer and Supportive Therapy

Preferred Products		Non-preferred Products	
Mvasi	Q5107	Avastin (for oncology diagnosis only)	J9035
Zirabev	Q5118		
		Alymsys	C9142
			Q5126
		Vegzelma	Q5129
			C9399

Colony Stimulating Factors

Preferred Products		Non-preferred Products	
Fulphila	Q5108	Neulasta	J2505
Udenyca	Q5111	Fylnetra	Q5130
Nyvepria	Q5122	Rolvedon	J1449
Ziextenzo	Q5120	Stimufend	Q5127
Granix	J1447	Neupogen	J1442
Zarxio	Q5101	Releuko	Q5125
Nivestym	Q5110	Leukine	J2820

Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents

Preferred Product		Non-preferred Products	
Retacrit	Q5106	*Procrit/Epogen (*Step therapy does not apply until shortage is resolved)	J0885
		Aranesp	J0881
		Mircera	J0887

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Ophthalmic Agents

Preferred Product		Non-preferred Product	
Bevacizumab	J3490 C9257	Beovu	J0179
		Byooviz	Q5124
		Cimerli	C9399
			Q5128
		Eylea	J0178
		Lucentis	J2778
		Macugen	J2503
		Susvimo	J2779
		Vabysmo	J2777
		Visudyne	J3396

Note: Step therapy may only be applied to new prescriptions or administrations of Part B drugs for enrollees who are not actively receiving the affected medication.

The most recent list of medications that require Step therapy is available online at MCG.bcbsfl.com. (Enter "Medicare" in the "Search MCG's" box below the Florida Blue logo.)