

PROVIDER Update



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Medication Trend Updates and Formulary Changes – 4th Quarter 2025

Review drug list, formulary and drug benefit changes and medication safety issues

Stay up to date with information about:

- Big changes to opioid medicine labels to help prevent overdose.
- Contact information for prescription drug prior authorization requests.
- Changes to the Health Net* Commercial Formulary, Medi-Cal Drug Lists and Medicare Part D Formulary drug benefit changes for the fourth quarter of 2025.

Big changes to opioid medicine labels to help prevent overdose

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is making big changes to the labels on all opioid pain medicines. These changes will help people understand the risks of using these drugs over a long period of time.

In May 2025, experts looked at data showing that long-term use of opioids can lead to serious problems like misuse, addictions, fatal and nonfatal overdoses.

FDA Commissioner Dr. Marty Makary said, “Almost one million Americans have died during the opioid crisis. We must do better to protect people.”

The new labels will include:

- Clear warnings about addiction and overdose.
- Stronger dosing warnings for high or prolonged use.
- Tips for stopping the medicine safely.
- Treatment guidance recommending long-acting opioids only if shorter options are inadequate.
- Information about overdose-reversal drugs like naloxone.
- Details about how opioids can interact with other drugs and cause rare problems in the brain and stomach.

The FDA is also asking for a new study to better understand the risks and benefits of long-term opioid use.

THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO CALIFORNIA PROVIDERS:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups

LINES OF BUSINESS:

- IFP
 - Ambetter HMO
 - Ambetter PPO
- Employer Group
 - HMO/POS
 - PPO
- Medicare Advantage (HMO) (Wellcare By Health Net)
- Medi-Cal
 - Amador
 - Calaveras
 - Inyo
 - Los Angeles
 - Molina
 - Mono
 - Sacramento
 - San Joaquin
 - Stanislaus
 - Tulare
 - Tuolumne

PROVIDER SERVICES

provider_services@healthnet.com

Ambetter from Health Net IFP

Ambetter PPO – 844-463-8188

Ambetter HMO – 888-926-2164

Health Net Employer Group HMO, POS & PPO – 800-641-7761

Medicare (individual & employer group) (Wellcare By Health Net) – 800-929-9224

Medicare Supplement – 800-641-7761

Medi-Cal (including CS and ECM providers) – 800-675-6110

PROVIDER PORTAL

provider.healthnetcalifornia.com

PROVIDER COMMUNICATIONS

provider.communications@healthnet.com

Health care providers are encouraged to give the smallest dose of short-acting opioids for the shortest time possible. They should also talk to patients about the risks and how to use overdose-reversal drugs.

Source: [FDA News Release](#)

Contact information for prescription drug prior authorization requests

A new version of the *Prescription Drug Prior Authorization or Step Therapy Exception Request Form* is now available. You can find it in the Provider Library at providerlibrary.healthnetcalifornia.com > select line of business > *Forms and References* > search for **Prescription Drug Prior Authorization or Step Therapy Exception Form**.

Also, please note that contact information for submitting the form depends on which line of business the member's policy falls under. Make sure to use the correct contact details when sending your request.

Below highlights updated contact information for:

Commercial (HMO and PPO)

Prior authorization type	Contact	Fax	Phone
Pharmacy and self-injectable requests	Pharmacy services	800-314-6223	800-548-5524 Option 2
Physician-administered medications	Pharmacy services	800-314-6223	800-867-6564 Option 2

Medi-Cal

Prior authorization type	Contact	Fax	Phone
Self-administered medication requests	Medi-Cal Rx	800-869-4325	800-977-2273
Physician-administered medications	Pharmacy services	833-953-3436	800-867-6564 Option 2

Changes to the Commercial Formulary, Medi-Cal Drug Lists and Medicare Part D Formulary

The Pharmacy Advisory Committee is made up of participating physicians, pharmacists and other health care professionals. Every quarter, the committee reviews medications on the Drug Lists for Commercial members, Medi-Cal drug benefits and Medicare Part D (for Medicare members). They decide which medications stay on the same tier and which ones move to a different tier.

A table showing some of the recent changes for **Q4 2025** is available on **pages 4-6**. It includes:

- Medication names
- Their updated formulary status
- Formulary alternative options
- Notes or comments

You can find the full lists for Commercial, Medi-Cal and Medicare Part D Formularies on the *Pharmacy Information for Providers* page at <https://bit.ly/PharmacyInformationforProviders>.

For medical drug benefits, check the *Outpatient Pharmaceuticals (Submitted Under Medical Benefit)* section on the *Prior Authorization Lists* page at <https://bit.ly/HealthNetPriorAuthorizations>.

Pharmacy help line

For more information regarding changes to the Health Net Commercial Formulary or Health Net Medi-Cal Drug Lists, or Medicare Part D Formulary, contact the proper pharmacy phone numbers listed below:

Product	Phone number	Fax number
Pharmacy Benefit (Medi-Cal Rx)	800-977-2273	800-869-4325
Medical Benefit Drugs (Medi-Cal)	800-867-6564, option 2	833-953-3436
Commercial Pharmacy Services	800-548-5524, option 2	800-314-6223
Medicare Pharmacy Service Center	800-867-6564, option 1	800-977-8226

Health Net Commercial Drug List, Medi-Cal Drug Benefit and Medicare Part D Formulary Changes

Medication	Status			Health Net Formulary Alternative(s)			Comments
	Commercial Tier 3 plan (Tier 4 plan)	Medicare Part D ¹	Medi-Cal	Commercial (Tier 1 or 2)	Medicare Part D Value ¹	Medi-Cal	

Oral preparation

Gomekli™ (mirdametininib) capsule	NF	NF	Carved out to state				A kinase inhibitor indicated for the treatment of adult and pediatric patients 2 years of age and older with neurofibromatosis type 1 who have symptomatic plexiform neurofibromas not amenable to complete resection.
Journavx™ (suzetrigine) tablet	NF	NF	Carved out to state	Ibuprofen, naproxen, meloxicam codeine, codeine/acetaminophen, hydrocodone/acetaminophen, tramadol	Ibuprofen, naproxen, meloxicam codeine, codeine/acetaminophen, hydrocodone/acetaminophen, tramadol	Carved out to state	A sodium channel blocker indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe acute pain in adults.
Romvimza™ (vimseltinib) capsule	NF	NF	Carved out to state				A kinase inhibitor indicated for treatment of adult patients with symptomatic tenosynovial giant cell tumor for which surgical resection will potentially cause worsening functional limitation or severe morbidity.

¹ Medicare Part D: Wellcare CalViva Health Dual Align (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Dual Align (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Dual Liberty (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Low Premium (HMO), Wellcare Simple Focus (HMO), Wellcare Simple Ruby (HMO), Wellcare Premium Ultra (HMO), Wellcare Specialty Simple (HMO C-SNP), Wellcare CalViva Health Dual Align (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Dual Align (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Dual Liberty (HMO D-SNP).

NF indicates nonformulary; NP indicates nonpreferred. These medications require member-specific medical reasons why formulary medications cannot be considered. Requests are reviewed via Health Net's prior authorization process.

Health Net Commercial Drug List, Medi-Cal Drug Benefit and Medicare Part D Formulary Changes, *continued*

Medication	Status			Health Net Formulary Alternative(s)			Comments
	Commercial Tier 3 plan (Tier 4 plan)	Medicare Part D ¹	Medi-Cal	Commercial (Tier 1 or 2)	Medicare Part D Value ¹	Medi-Cal	

Oral preparation

Thiola EC® (tiopronin) delayed-release tablet	NF	NF	Carved out to state				A reducing and complexing thiol indicated, in combination with high fluid intake, alkali and diet modification, for the prevention of cystine stone formation in adults and pediatric patients 20 kg and greater with severe homozygous cystinuria, who are not responsive to these measures alone.
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Injectable preparation

Datroway® (datopotamab deruxtecan-dlnk) single-dose vial	Medical benefit ²	Medical benefit ²	Medical benefit ²	Non-small cell lung cancer: erlotinib (Tier 3 plan), Gilotrif ² (Tier 3 plan) Breast cancer: anastrozole, capecitabine, cyclophosphamide, exemestane, letrozole	Non-small cell lung cancer: erlotinib, Gilotrif Breast cancer: anastrozole, cyclophosphamide, exemestane, letrozole	Carved out to state	A Trop-2-directed antibody and topoisomerase inhibitor conjugate indicated for the treatment of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult patients with locally advanced or metastatic epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR)-mutated non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) who have received prior EGFR-directed therapy and platinum-based chemotherapy. • Adult patients with unresectable or metastatic, hormone receptor (HR)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative (IHC 0, IHC 1+ or IHC 2+/ISH-) breast cancer who have received prior endocrine-based therapy and chemotherapy for unresectable or metastatic disease.
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Health Net Commercial Drug List, Medi-Cal Drug Benefit and Medicare Part D Formulary Changes, *continued*

Medication	Status			Health Net Formulary Alternative(s)			Comments
	Commercial Tier 3 plan (Tier 4 plan)	Medicare Part D ¹	Medi-Cal	Commercial (Tier 1 or 2)	Medicare Part D Value ¹	Medi-Cal	

Injectable preparation

Ryoncil® (remestemcel-L-rknd) cell suspension for intravenous infusion	Medical benefit ²	Medical benefit ²	Medical benefit ²				An allogeneic bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stromal cell (MSC) therapy indicated for the treatment of steroid-refractory acute graft versus host disease (SR-aGvHD) in pediatric patients 2 months of age and older.
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Note: The information above is subject to change. Please refer to the Prior Authorization List at <https://bit.ly/HealthNetPriorAuthorizations> for the most up-to-date information.

¹ Medicare Part D: Wellcare CalViva Health Dual Align (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Dual Align (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Dual Liberty (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Low Premium (HMO), Wellcare Simple Focus (HMO), Wellcare Simple Ruby (HMO), Wellcare Premium Ultra (HMO), Wellcare Specialty Simple (HMO C-SNP), Wellcare CalViva Health Dual Align (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Dual Align (HMO D-SNP), Wellcare Dual Liberty (HMO D-SNP)

² Prior authorization is required to verify that the member is eligible and satisfies clinical protocols to ensure appropriate use of the medication.

NF indicates nonformulary; NP indicates nonpreferred. These medications require member-specific medical reasons why formulary medications cannot be considered. Requests are reviewed via Health Net's prior authorization process.