

Medication Trend Updates and Drug Benefit Changes – 3rd Quarter 2025

Review drug list changes and medication safety issues

Stay up to date with information about:

- Preferred biosimilar medications.
- Changes to the Medi-Cal drug benefits for the third quarter of 2025.

Preferred biosimilar medications

Health Net*, on behalf of CalViva Health, began preferring certain biosimilar medications instead of their brand name versions (or reference products) for Medi-Cal members. Patients who have not tried a biosimilar must try and fail (or have side effects to) the preferred biosimilar(s) before the brand name or reference product will be approved. Refer to page 2 for a list of brand medications and their preferred biosimilars. Pharmacy prior authorization guidelines can be found on the Plan's provider website at bit.ly/drug-coverage.

Changes to Medi-Cal drug benefits

The Pharmacy Advisory Committee includes practicing physicians, pharmacists and other health care professionals. Each quarter, the Pharmacy Advisory Committee reviews Medi-Cal drug benefits to determine changes. A table listing some recent changes is available on page 3. The list contains brand-name prescription medications, status, other medication choices, and comments for the third quarter of 2025.

A complete list of formularies for all products, including the Medi-Cal Drug Lists, is available on the Pharmacy Information for Providers page on the provider website at bit.ly/PharmacyInformationforProviders.

For medical drug benefits, refer to the *Outpatient Pharmaceuticals (Submitted Under Medi-Cal Benefit)* section of the Medi-Cal Fee-for-Service CalViva Health Prior Authorization List at bit.ly/HealthNetPriorAuthorizations.

Pharmacy help lines

For more information regarding changes to the Medi-Cal medical benefit drugs, contact the proper pharmacy phone number listed.

THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups

PROVIDER SERVICES

CalViva Health Medi-Cal
(including ECM and CS providers) –
888-893-1569

PROVIDER PORTAL

provider.healthnetcalifornia.com

Product	Phone number	Fax number
Pharmacy Benefit (Medi-Cal Rx)	800-977-2273	800-869-4325
Medical Benefit Drugs (Medi-Cal)	800-675-6110	833-953-3436

Additional information

Providers are encouraged to access the provider portal online at provider.healthnetcalifornia.com for real-time information, including eligibility verification, claims status, prior authorization status, plan summaries, and more.

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update, contact CalViva Health at 888-893-1569.

The Plan’s preferred biosimilar medications

The table below lists brand medications and their preferred biosimilars.

Medications

Reference/non-preferred products	Preferred products
Bevacizumab agents (Alymsys, Avastin, Avzivi, Vegzelma) ¹	Mvasi, Zirabev
Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (Aranesp, Epogen, Mircera, Procrit)	Retacrit ³
Filgrastim agents (Granix, Neupogen, Nypozi, Releuko)	Zarxio ³ followed by Nivestym
Infliximab agents (Remicade, Zymfentra) ²	Inflectra, Renflexis, Avsola, infliximab
Pegfilgrastim agents (Fulphila, Fylnetra, Neulasta, Neulasta Onpro, Rolvedon, Ryzenuta, Stimufend, Ziextenzo)	Udenyca, Udenyca Onbody, Nyvepria
Rituximab agents (Riabni, Rituxan, Rituxan Hycela)	Ruxience ⁴ , Truxima ⁴
Trastuzumab agents (Herceptin, Herceptin Hylecta, Hercessi, Herzuma, Ontruzant)	Kanjinti, Ogivri, Trazimera

¹Only applies to non-ophthalmology

²Avsola preferred for Medi-Cal.

- Preferred biosimilars are required in lieu of branded drugs.
- Must try all preferred products. Please refer to the drug specific policy for complete list of preferred products.
- Unbranded infliximab (NDC 57894-0160-01) is required prior to branded Remicade.
- Unbranded infliximab also requires preferred biosimilar.

³No PA required under medical benefit.

⁴No PA required for oncology/hematology.

Changes to the CalViva Health Medi-Cal drug benefits

Medication	Status	Formulary alternative(s)	Comments
Injectable preparation			
Casgevy™ (exagamglogene autotemcel) suspension	Carved out to state		Effective July 1, 2025, gene therapy used for sickle cell disease is carved out to state for Medicaid.
Lyfgenia™ (lovotibeglogene autotemcel) suspension	Carved out to state		Effective July 1, 2025, gene therapy used for sickle cell disease is carved out to state for Medicaid.
Ryoncil® (remestemcel-L-rknd) suspension	Medical benefit ¹		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 two months of age and older.

Note: The information above is subject to change. Please refer to the Prior Authorization List at bit.ly/HealthNetPriorAuthorizations for the most up-to-date information.

¹ Prior authorization (PA) is required to verify that the member is eligible and satisfies clinical protocols to ensure appropriate use of the medication.