

Making the Most of your HealthPlus Pharmacy Benefit

Prescription Drug Program – Prior Authorization and Step Therapy

Welcome to HealthPlus! HealthPlus provides you and your family with comprehensive health benefits and a team of friendly professionals to assist you with your customer service needs. This fact sheet is designed to help you maximize your pharmacy benefit. The HealthPlus Prescription Drug Program is dedicated to quality, safety, and the cost-effective use of medications. Did you know that HealthPlus covers most FDA-approved drugs? **That’s right, drugs you may be taking now are most likely approved by HealthPlus; however, some drugs may require *Prior Authorization or Step Therapy.***

What is Prior Authorization?

Prior Authorization means that you have to meet certain criteria in order for the drug to be covered. This helps to make sure that you are getting an effective drug for the best value. HealthPlus will work with your doctor on Prior Authorizations for prescription drugs that require them.

What is Step Therapy?

Step Therapy means that you must try certain “first step” drugs before our “second step” drugs are covered. Generic drugs are usually in the “first step” so that treatment starts with safe, effective and affordable drugs. If needed, more expensive brand drugs are usually in the “second step”. HealthPlus will work with your doctor to determine whether you have met Step Therapy requirements for prescription drugs that require them. ***If you think you may already meet Step Therapy requirements, ask your physician to inform HealthPlus.*** Here are some common medications that require Prior Authorization or Step Therapy:*

Allergies

Clarinet
Clarinet-D
Xyzal
Beconase AQ
Nasacort AQ
Nasonex
Omnaris
Rhinocort Aqua
Singulair
Veramyst

Contraceptives

Branded Orals
Nuvaring
Ortho-Evra

Depression

Lexapro

ADHD

Concerta
Daytrana
Strattera
Vyvanse

Cholesterol

Crestor
Lescol/XL
Lipitor
Tricor
Trilipix
Vytorin

Migraine

Axert
Frova
Maxalt, Maxalt MLT
Treximet
Zomig, Zomig ZMT

Heart/Blood Pressure

Aceon
Altace
Atacand,
Atacand HCT
Avapro/Avalide
Micardis, Micardis HCT
Teveten,
Teveten HCT

Sleeping Aids

Ambien CR
Lunesta
Rozerem

Ulcer/Reflux

Aciphex
Dexilant
Nexium
Prevacid
Protonix

All Weight Loss Medications

If you, your spouse or any of your dependents are on any of these medications, please contact Jennifer Szumowicz, R.Ph., at (810) 230-2059 or jszumowi@healthplus.org. Jennifer will work with you and your physician to see if you meet Prior Authorization or Step Therapy requirements or to recommend an alternative medication. This will help ensure that you and your family have smooth transition to HealthPlus. If you have any other questions the HealthPlus PPO Customer Service Department is available to answer your calls Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. You may call PPO Customer Service at 1-888-212-1512. The telephone number for deaf members (TDD) is 1-800-992-5070.

You can also find information about HealthPlus programs at the HealthPlus website, www.healthplus.org, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year ... whenever it is convenient for you.

*This is a partial list of medications that require Prior Authorization or Step Therapy, and is subject to change. May or may not apply to Signature PPO Closed Formulary. N:\PHARMACY\Heather\Fomulary Document 2011\2nd Q Update\HealthPlus Rx Prior Auth. Step Therapy. PPO jen.doc