

Premier Formulary Medical Exception Process

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island developed the Premier formulary to encourage the use of medically accepted, cost-effective drugs. Some drugs are excluded from the formulary because alternatives are available. Alternatives may be generic equivalents, alternative prescription drugs, or over-the-counter drugs that offer the same effectiveness and safety as the excluded drug.

On April 1, 2011, a medical exception process became available for the rare cases when a member is taking an excluded drug and his or her doctor determines that other drugs are not effective. This medical exception process will ensure that members have access to the medications that meet their unique needs, while still helping to make healthcare coverage more affordable for all of our members.

Medical Exception Process

- The healthcare provider must apply for an exception on the patient's behalf.
- The provider must fill out the appropriate medical exception form for the drug prescribed and submit it to Catamaran, our pharmacy benefits manager.
 - ▶ The provider may download the form from **BCBSRI.com**.
 - ▶ The provider/member may initiate a request for medical exception on **BCBSRI.com**.
 - ▶ Alternatively, the member may request the appropriate form from Customer Service and bring it to his or her provider to fill out.
- The provider must give a medical reason for the member to stay on an excluded drug.
- Catamaran will review the exception application according to normal utilization review guidelines and protocols.

The formal exception process began on April 1, 2011. Exceptions may be approved retroactively for members who have been taking excluded drugs.

Excluded Drugs Eligible for the Medical Exception Process

The medical exception process is available for the following excluded drugs:

Acanya	Duac CS	Prevacid
Aciphex	Duexis	Protonix
Aczone	Dynacin	Relion 70/30
Adoxa	Edluar	Relion N
Adoxa CK	Epiduo	Relion R
Adoxa TT	Fenoglide	Restasis
Akne-Mycin	Gemfibrozil POW	Retin-A Micro
Alodox	Gralise	Rosadan
Antara	Horizant	Rozex
Atralin	Inova	Silenor
Avar Gel	Intermezzo	Sod Sulfaceta/SULF
Avar LS	Intuniv	Solodyn
Avar-E LS	Kapvay	Sprix
Avidoxy DK	Lansoprazole	SSS 10-4
Azelex	Lipofen	Sulfoam
Bencort	Lunesta	Sumadan
Benzaclin	Minocin	Sumadan WASH
Benzamycin	Morgidox	Sumaxin CP
Benzashave 5	Naproderm	Sumaxin TS
Benzefoam	Neobenz Micro	Tretin-X
Benziq	Nexium	Treximet
Benziq LS	Nexium Granules	Tricor
Breze	Noritate	Triglide
Butrans	Novolin 70/30	Trilipix
Clarinox	Novolin L	Ultravate X
Clarinox-D	Novolin N	Uramaxin GT
Cleanse/TREA	Novolin R	Vanoxide HC
Clinac BPO	Novolog	Veltin
Clindacin	Novolog MIX	Vimovo
Clindagel	Nuox	Xyzal
Clindareach	Nutridox	Zacare KIT
Conzip	Ocudox	Zegerid POW
Differin	Omeprazole/Bicarbonate	Ziana
Doral	Oracea	Zoderm
Doryx	Oraxyl	Zolpimist
Doxycycline	Pacnex HP	
Doxycycline POW	Pantoprazole	