

***Preferred Drug List (PDL) requests for step therapy agents***  
**January 1, 2016**

For drugs listed in the *PDL* as step therapy agents, pharmacy claims are reviewed electronically to ensure a trial of a first-line drug(s) for step therapy agents that require them. If the patient has not been prescribed first-line therapy as listed, you must get prior authorization for the following drugs or classes of drugs.

- **Altabax (retapamulin)** requires first using mupirocin within the last 28 days.
- **Angiotensin-II receptor blockers (ARBs)** — Avapro (irbesartan), Avalide (irbesartan/HCTZ), Benicar (olmesartan), Benicar HCT (olmesartan/HCTZ), Diovan (valsartan), and Diovan HCT (valsartan/HCTZ) — require first using losartan or losartan/HCTZ within the last six months.
- **Bystolic (nebivolol)** requires first using two generic beta blockers within the last six months.
- **Celebrex (celecoxib)** requires first using a generic nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug, anticoagulant, or corticosteroid within the last six months.
- **Coreg CR (carvedilol controlled-release)** requires first using immediate-release carvedilol within the last four months.
- **Cymbalta (duloxetine)** requires first using at least two alternative medications within the last six months.
- **Daliresp (roflumilast)** requires first using a long-acting bronchodilator or a long-acting beta-agonist-inhaled corticosteroid inhaler within the last six months.
- **Gilenya (fingolimod)** requires first using beta-interferon or glatiramer within the last six months.
- **Intuniv (guanfacine extended-release)** requires first using immediate-release guanfacine within the last four months.
- **Invokana (canagliflozin)** and **Invokamet (canagliflozin/metformin)** require first using a 30-day supply of metformin and at least two alternative antidiabetic agents within the last six months.
- **Januvia (sitagliptin), Janumet (sitagliptin/metformin), and Janumet XR (sitagliptin/metformin)** require first using metformin or a product containing metformin within the last four months.
- **Jentadueto (linagliptin/metformin)** requires first using metformin or a product containing metformin within the last four months.
- **Lialda (mesalamine delayed-release tablets)** requires first using an alternative aminosalicic acid product, such as sulfasalazine, mesalamine, balsalazide, or olsalazine, within the last six months.
- **Natroba (spinosad)** requires first using an alternative topical antiparasitic agent within the last two months.
- **Oleptro (trazodone extended-release)** requires first using immediate-release trazodone within the last six months.
- **Pristiq (desvenlafaxine)** requires first using venlafaxine ER capsules within the last six months.
- **Retinoid topical products** — Differin (adapalene) and Tazorac (tazarotene) — require first using tretinoin within the last six months.

- **Savella (milnacipran)** requires first using gabapentin or two antidepressant medications (tricyclic antidepressants, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, or serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors) within the last six months.
- **Sensipar (cinacalcet)** requires first using calcitriol, calcium acetate, doxercalciferol, or sevelamer within the last six months.
- **Singulair granules (montelukast)** require first using an alternative asthma medication within the last six months.
- **Skelaxin (metaxalone)** requires first using two different skeletal-muscle relaxants within the last six months.
- **Sklice (ivermectin lotion)** requires first using an alternative topical antiparasitic agent within the last two months.
- **Tradjenta (linagliptin)** requires first using metformin or a product containing metformin within the last four months.
- **Triptan products** — generic Amerge (naratriptan), generic Maxalt (rizatriptan oral swallowable tablets), and generic Zomig (zolmitriptan) — require first using generic sumatriptan within the last three months; Generic Maxalt-MLT (rizatriptan orally dissolving tablets) requires first using generic sumatriptan and generic Zomig (zolmitriptan) within the last three months.
- **Venlafaxine ER tablets** require first using venlafaxine ER capsules within the last six months.
- **Voltaren gel (diclofenac)** requires first using an oral nonsteroid anti-inflammatory drug within the last six months.