## **Provider alert**



Blue Cross commercial and BCN commercial Category: Authorizations/referrals, Pharmacy Date posted: Sept. 28, 2023

## Some diabetes drugs to require prior authorization for Blue Cross and BCN members, starting Jan. 1

Beginning Jan. 1, 2024, the presence of prior pharmacy claims for insulin alone will no longer qualify Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan commercial and Blue Care Network commercial members for coverage of the medications listed below. We'll require a prior authorization to confirm that the medications listed below are being used for Type 2 diabetes for members who don't have a supporting prescription or medical record with a diabetes diagnosis.

Brand-name medication	FDA-approved indication	Coverage requirements starting Jan. 1
Bydureon <sup>®</sup> Byetta <sup>®</sup> Mounjaro <sup>®</sup> Ozempic <sup>®</sup> Rybelsus <sup>®</sup> Trulicity <sup>®</sup> Victoza <sup>®</sup>	Type 2 diabetes	Coverage without prior authorization will require a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes verified by one of the following: 1. Trial of one generic or preferred
		medication for the treatment of Type 2 diabetes within the prior 12-month period, except for metformin, GLP-1 receptor agonist or <b>insulin</b> *
		<ol> <li>Diagnosis code for Type 2 diabetes identified in medical claim history within the prior 24-month period</li> </ol>
		If either coverage criteria outlined above are not fulfilled, you must submit a prior authorization to confirm that your patient has a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes for coverage

\*Effective Jan. 1, 2024, previous trial of only insulin will no longer qualify a member for coverage without prior authorization if they don't have a medical diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes in their medical claims history.

For more information on how to submit an authorization electronically:

- 1. Go to ereferrals.bcbsm.com.
- 2. Select *Blue Cross* for PPO members or *BCN* for HMO members.
- 3. Click *Pharmacy Benefit Drugs* on the left.
- 4. Scroll down to *How to submit an electronic prior authorization, or ePA, request*

A complete list of included drugs and coverage requirements for all drug lists is available at **bcbsm.com/druglists**.