

Changes to preferred drug designations under the medical benefit for most members, starting Jan. 1

For dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2025, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are making changes to preferred drug designations for some products. In addition, providers will need to submit prior authorization requests through different systems for some preferred and nonpreferred drugs.

These changes will affect:

- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan commercial members — **Exception:** These changes don't apply to UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust non-Medicare members or Blue Cross and Blue Shield Federal Employee Program[®] members.
- Medicare Plus Blue members
- BCN commercial members
- BCN Advantage members

Changes to preferred drug designations

We're changing preferred drug designations as shown in the following table.

Changes are in **bold text**.

Product	Preferred drugs	
	Before Jan. 1, 2025	On or after Jan. 1, 2025
Bevacizumab	Mvasi [®] only	For commercial and Medicare Advantage members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mvasi • Zirabev[®] — For commercial members, we're also adding a site-of-care requirement.
Pegfilgrastim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neulasta[®], Neulasta OnPro[®] • Nyvepria[®] 	For commercial members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nyvepria • Fulphila[®] • Udenyca[®], Udenyca OnPro[™]
		For Medicare Advantage members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neulasta, Neulasta OnPro • Nyvepria • Fulphila

Product	Preferred drugs	
	Before Jan. 1, 2025	On or after Jan. 1, 2025
Rituximab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ruxience[®] Truxima[®] 	For commercial and Medicare Advantage members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ruxience Riabni[™]

How existing prior authorizations are affected by these changes

Existing prior authorizations are affected as follows:

- For commercial members with Neulasta or Neulasta OnPro authorizations, members can continue with therapy until their authorization expires. Upon renewal, providers will be directed to use a preferred product.
- For commercial and Medicare Advantage members receiving Truxima, we encourage providers to transition members to a preferred drug for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2025. Preferred rituximab products don't require authorization.

Changes to prior authorization processes

The following table outlines prior authorization requirements for the drugs listed above for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2025.

Note: To determine which Blue Cross and BCN commercial groups participate in the Oncology Value Management program through OncoHealth[®] for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2025, see the [medical oncology prior authorization program participation list for commercial self-funded groups](#). This list will be updated prior to Jan. 1, 2025.

Lines of business	Changes to requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue Cross commercial members BCN commercial members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferred drugs will require prior authorization. Submit requests to OncoHealth. Exception: Rituximab preferred drugs won't require prior authorization. Nonpreferred drugs will require prior authorization through the NovoLogix[®] online tool.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicare Plus Blue members BCN Advantage members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferred and nonpreferred drugs will require prior authorization. Submit requests to OncoHealth. Exception: Rituximab preferred drugs won't require prior authorization. (Rituximab nonpreferred drugs will continue to require prior authorization through NovoLogix.)



Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees
of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Provider alert

Blue Cross commercial, Medicare Plus BlueSM,
BCN commercial and BCN AdvantageSM

Categories: Authorizations/referrals, Pharmacy

Date posted: Sept. 24, 2024

Additional information

For additional information about drugs that will have requirements through the Oncology Value Management program managed by OncoHealth for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2025, see the provider alert [Medical benefit oncology drugs that will require authorization through OncoHealth starting Jan. 1.](#)

For additional information about medical benefit drugs, see the following pages of our ereferrals.bcbsm.com website:

- [Blue Cross Medical Benefit Drugs](#)
- [BCN Medical Benefit Drugs](#)

[Subscribe](#) to Provider Alerts Weekly, a weekly email with a list of links to the previous week's provider alerts.

OncoHealth is an independent company supporting Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network by providing cancer support services.