



An Information Service of the Division of Health Benefits

North Carolina Medicaid Pharmacy Newsletter

Number 354

May 2023

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Sofobuvir-Velpatasvir, generic for Epclusa, Preferred on the NC Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

Sofobuvir-Velpatasvir (authorized generic for Epclusa) is a preferred drug on the NC Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL).

Sofobuvir-Velpatasvir is manufactured by Asegua therapeutics, a subsidiary of Gilead (the manufacturer of Epclusa) and is classified as an “authorized generic” by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). As a reminder, the pharmacy can substitute the generic for the brand Epclusa without prescriber approval or obtaining a new prescription.

Per NC Medicaid Pharmacy Policy 9, a prescription for a drug written under its brand or trade name must be filled with a generic version of the drug when one is available unless the net cost to the State of the brand-name drug has been determined to be less than the cost of the generic equivalent OR the prescriber has indicated that the brand name drug is medically necessary for the beneficiary to receive. The prescriber shall indicate this by writing “medically necessary” on the prescription order for the drug.

Notice of Lantus Transition to Non-Preferred on the NC Medicaid Preferred Drug List

Lantus® SoloStar® / Vial will become Non-Preferred on the NC Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL), effective Aug. 4, 2023. The authorized biologic for Lantus, insulin glargine vial/Solostar®, will remain a preferred long-acting insulin product on the PDL.

The authorized biologic product continues to be the most cost-effective option for NC Medicaid. DHB Pharmacy is working to ensure [previous reports of access issues](#) with the authorized biologic are adequately resolved for pharmacies.

As a reminder, [insulin glargine vial/Solostar®](#) is manufactured by Winthrop, a subsidiary of Sanofi (the manufacturer of Lantus®) and is classified as an “unbranded biologic” by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). It is considered by the FDA to be equivalent to Lantus because it is the same product as Lantus under the same Biologics Licensing Application (BLA). As such, pharmacies are allowed to substitute the generic without prescriber approval or obtaining a new prescription. More information from the FDA on this equivalency can be found in the [FDA Purple Book](#).

Makena End of Coverage and Removal from NC Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

On April 6, 2023, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced that Makena® (hydroxyprogesterone caproate injection) and generics for Makena® are no longer FDA-approved.

Per the FDA, approvals of these drugs were withdrawn because the drugs are no longer shown to be effective and the benefits do not outweigh the risks for the indication for which they were approved. The full press release from the FDA can be found [here](#).

Makena and its generics as well as Compounded 17P are no longer covered at point-of-sale **or in the Physician Administered Drug Program**, effective 4/7/2023. The latest revision of the [PDL](#) reflects this removal.

Patients who have questions are encouraged to speak with their healthcare provider for further guidance.

Preferred Brands with Non-Preferred Generics on the Preferred Drug List (PDL) Current as of May 1, 2023

Brand Name	Generic Name
Actiq 1200 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 1200 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 1600 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 1600 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 200 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 200 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 400 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 400 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 600 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 600 mcg Lozenges
Actiq 800 mcg Lozenges	Fentanyl Citrate 800 mcg Lozenges
Advair 100-50 Diskus	Fluticasone-Salmeterol 100-50
Advair 250-50 Diskus	Fluticasone-Salmeterol 250-50
Advair 500-50 Diskus	Fluticasone-Salmeterol 500-50
Advair HFA 45-21 mcg Inhaler	Fluticasone-Salmeterol 45-21 HFA Inhaler
Advair HFA 115-21 mcg Inhaler	Fluticasone-Salmeterol 115-21 HFA Inhaler
Advair HFA 230-21 mcg Inhaler	Fluticasone-Salmeterol 230-21 HFA Inhaler
Alphagan P 0.15% Drops	Brimonidine P 0.15% Drops
Amitiza 24 mcg Capsule	Lubiprostone 24 mcg Capsule
Amitiza 8 mcg Capsule	Lubiprostone 8 mcg Capsule
Apriso ER 0.375 Gram Capsule	Mesalamine 0.375 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 10mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 10 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 15mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 15 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 20mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 20 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 30mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 30 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 40mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 40 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 50mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 50 mg Capsule
Aptensio XR 60mg Capsule	Methylphenidate ER 60 mg Capsule
Banzel 200 mg Tablet	Rufinamide 200 mg Tablet
Banzel 40 mg/ml Suspension	Rufinamide 40 mg/ml Suspension
Banzel 400 mg Tablet	Rufinamide 400 mg Tablet
Bethkis 300 mg/4 ml Ampule	Tobramycin Solution 300 mg/4 ml Ampule
BiDil 20mg-37.5mg Tablet	Isosorbide DN 20mg/Hydralazine 37.5mg
Butrans 10 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 10 mcg/hr Patch
Butrans 15 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 15 mcg/hr Patch
Butrans 20 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 20 mcg/hr Patch
Butrans 5 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 5 mcg/hr Patch
Butrans 7.5 mcg/hr Patch	Buprenorphine 7.5 mcg/hr Patch
Canasa 1,000 mg Suppository	Mesalamine 1,000 mg Suppository
Cipro 10% Suspension	Ciprofloxacin 500 mg/5 ml Suspension
Cipro 5% Suspension	Ciprofloxacin 250 mg/5 ml Suspension

Ciprodex Otic Suspension	Ciprofloxacin/Dexamethasone Suspension
Combigan 0.2%-0.5% Eye Drops	Brimonidine-Timolol 0.2%-0.5%
Copaxone 20 mg/ml Syr	Glatiramer 20 mg/ml Syr
Copaxone 40 mg/ml Syr	Glatiramer 40 mg/ml Syr
Daytrana 10 mg/9 hr Patch	Methylphenidate 10 mg/9 hr Patch
Daytrana 15 mg/9 hr Patch	Methylphenidate 15 mg/9 hr Patch
Daytrana 20 mg/9 hr Patch	Methylphenidate 20 mg/9 hr Patch
Daytrana 30 mg/9 hr Patch	Methylphenidate 30 mg/9 hr Patch
Derma-Smoothe-FS Body Oil	Fluocinolone 0.01% Body Oil
Derma-Smoothe-FS Scalp Oil	Fluocinolone 0.01% Scalp Oil
Dermotic Otic Drops	Fluocinolone 0.01% Otic Drops
Diclegis 10-10 DR	Doxylamine Succinate/Pyridoxine HCL 10-10 DR
Durezol 0.05% Eye Drops	Difluprednate 0.05% Eye Drops
E.E.S 200 mg/5 ml	Erythromycin Ethyl Succinate 200 mg/5 ml
Elidel 1% Cream	Pimecrolimus 1% Cream
EpiPen 0.3 mg Auto-Injector	Epinephrine 0.3 mg Auto-Inject
EpiPen Jr 0.15 mg Auto-Injector	Epinephrine 0.15 mg Auto-Inject
EryPed 200 mg/5 ml Suspension	Erythromycin Ethyl Succinate 200 mg/5 ml
EryPed 400 mg/5 ml Suspension	Erythromycin Ethyl Succinate 400 mg/5 ml
Exelon 13.3 mg/24 hr Patch	Rivastigmine 13.3 mg/24 hr Patch
Exelon 4.6 mg/24 hr Patch	Rivastigmine 4.6 mg/24 hr Patch
Exelon 9.5 mg/24 hr Patch	Rivastigmine 9.5 mg/24 hr Patch
Flovent HFA 110 mcg Inhaler	Fluticasone Prop HFA 110 mcg Inhaler
Flovent HFA 220 mcg Inhaler	Fluticasone Prop HFA 200 mcg Inhaler
Flovent HFA 44 mcg Inhaler	Fluticasone Prop HFA 44 mcg Inhaler
Focalin 10 mg	Dexmethylphenidate 10 mg
Focalin 2.5 mg	Dexmethylphenidate 2.5 mg
Focalin 5 mg	Dexmethylphenidate 5 mg
Focalin XR 10 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 10 mg
Focalin XR 15 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 15 mg
Focalin XR 20 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 20 mg
Focalin XR 25 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 25 mg
Focalin XR 30 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 30 mg
Focalin XR 35 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 35 mg
Focalin XR 40 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 40 mg
Focalin XR 5 mg	Dexmethylphenidate ER 5 mg
Gabitril 12 mg	Tiagabine 12 mg
Gabitril 16 mg	Tiagabine 16 mg
Gabitril 2 mg	Tiagabine 2 mg
Gabitril 4 mg	Tiagabine 4 mg
Gilenya 0.5 mg Capsule	Fingolimod 0.5 mg Capsule

Humalog Kwikpen Mix 75-25	Insulin Lispro Mix 75-25
Invega ER 1.5 mg tablet	Paliperidone ER 1.5 mg tablet
Invega ER 3 mg tablet	Paliperidone ER 3 mg tablet
Invega ER 6 mg tablet	Paliperidone ER 6 mg tablet
Invega ER 9 mg tablet	Paliperidone ER 9 mg tablet
Kitabis Pak 300 mg/5 ml	Tobramycin Pak 300 mg/5 ml
Latuda 40 mg tablet	Lurasidone 40 mg tablet
Latuda 80 mg tablet	Lurasidone 80 mg tablet
Latuda 20 mg tablet	Lurasidone 20 mg tablet
Latuda 120 mg tablet	Lurasidone 120 mg tablet
Latuda 60 mg tablet	Lurasidone 60 mg tablet
Letairis 10 mg Tablet	Ambrisentan 10 mg Tablet
Letairis 5 mg Tablet	Ambrisentan 5 mg Tablet
Lialda 1.2 gm Tablet	Mesalamine 1.2 gm Tablet
Lotemax 0.5% Eye Drops	Loteprednol 0.5% Eye Drops
Methylin 10 mg/5 ml Solution	Methylphenidate 10 mg/5 ml Solution
Methylin 5 mg/5 ml Solution	Methylphenidate 5 mg/5 ml Solution
Natroba 0.9% Topical Susp	Spinosad 0.9% Topical Susp
Nexium DR 10 mg Packet	Esomeprazole DR 10 mg Packet
Nexium DR 20 mg Packet	Esomeprazole DR 20 mg Packet
Nexium DR 40 mg Packet	Esomeprazole DR 40 mg Packet
Novolog 100 U Vial	Insulin Aspart 100 U Vial
Novolog 100 U/ml Cartridge	Insulin Aspart 100 U/ml Cartridge
Novolog 100 U/ml FlexPen	Insulin Aspart 100 U/ml Pen
Nuvigil 150 MG Tabs	Armodafinil 150 mg tabs
Nuvigil 200 MG Tabs	Armodafinil 200 mg tabs
Nuvigil 250 MG Tabs	Armodafinil 250 mg tabs
Nuvigil 50 MG Tabs	Armodafinil 50 mg tabs
OxyContin ER 10mg Tablet	Oxycodone ER 10mg Tablet
OxyContin ER 20mg Tablet	Oxycodone ER 20mg Tablet
OxyContin ER 40mg Tablet	Oxycodone ER 40mg Tablet
OxyContin ER 80mg Tablet	Oxycodone ER 80mg Tablet
Pradaxa 150 mg	Dabigatran 150 mg
Pradaxa 75 mg	Dabigatran 75mg
ProAir HFA Inhaler	Albuterol HFA Inhaler
Protonix 40 mg Suspension	Pantoprazole 40 mg Suspension
Provigil 100 mg	Modafinil 100 mg
Provigil 200 mg	Modafinil 200 mg
Pylera Capsules	Bismuth-Metro-Tetr 140-125-125
Renvela 800 mg Tablet	Sevelamer Carbonate 800 mg Tablet
Restasis 0.05% Eye Emulsion	Cyclosporine 0.05% Eye Emulsion
Retin-A 0.025% Cream	Tretinoin 0.025% Cream

Retin-A 0.05% Cream	Tretinoin 0.05% Cream
Retin-A 0.1% Cream	Tretinoin 0.1% Cream
Retin-A Gel 0.01%	Tretinoin Gel 0.01%
Retin-A Gel 0.025%	Tretinoin Gel 0.025%
Retin-A Micro 0.04% Gel	Tretinoin Micro 0.04% Gel
Retin-A Micro 0.1% Gel	Tretinoin Micro 0.1% Gel
Retin-A Micro Pump 0.04% Gel	Tretinoin Micro Pump 0.04% Gel
Retin-A Micro Pump 0.1% Gel	Tretinoin Micro Pump 0.1% Gel
Sabril 500 mg Powder Packet	Vigabatrin 500 mg Powder Packet
Sabril 500 mg Tablet	Vigabatrin 500 mg Tablet
Saphris 10 mg Tab Sublingual	Asenapine 10 mg Tablet SL
Saphris 2.5 mg Tab Sublingual	Asenapine 2.5 mg Tablet SL
Saphris 5 mg Tab Sublingual	Asenapine 5 mg Tablet SL
Suboxone 12-3 mg Film	Buprenorphine/Naloxone 12-3 mg Film
Suboxone 2-0.5 mg Film	Buprenorphine/Naloxone 2-0.5 mg Film
Suboxone 4-1 mg Film	Buprenorphine/Naloxone 4-1 mg Film
Suboxone 8 mg-2 mg Film	Buprenorphine/Naloxone 8mg-2mg Film
Symbicort 160-4.5 mcg Inhaler	Budesonide-Formoterol 160-4.5 mcg Inhaler
Symbicort 80-4.5 mcg Inhaler	Budesonide-Formoterol 80-4.5 mcg Inhaler
Symbyax 3-25	Olanzapine-fluoxetine 3-25
Symbyax 6-25	Olanzapine-fluoxetine 6-25
Tegretol 100 mg/5 ml Susp	Carbamazepine 100 mg/5 ml Susp
Tegretol 200 mg Tab	Carbamazepine 200 mg Tab
Tegretol XR 100 mg Tab	Carbamazepine ER 100 mg Tab
Tegretol XR 200 mg Tab	Carbamazepine ER 200 mg Tab
Tegretol XR 400 mg Tab	Carbamazepine ER 400 mg Tab
Tekturna 150 mg Tablet	Aliskiren 150 mg Tablet
Tekturna 300 mg Tablet	Aliskiren 300 mg Tablet
TobraDex Eye Drops	Tobramycin-Dexamethasone Drops
Toviaz ER 4 mg Tablet	Fesoterodine 4 mg Tablet
Toviaz ER 8 mg Tablet	Fesoterodine 8 mg Tablet
Tracleer 125 mg Tablet	Bosentan 125 mg tablet
Tracleer 62.5 mg Tablet	Bosentan 62.5 mg tablet
Transderm-Scop 1.5 mg/3 day	Scopolamine 1 mg/3 Day Patch
Travatan Z 0.004% Eye Drop	Travoprost 0.004% Eye Drop
Vagifem 10 mcg Vaginal Tab	Estradiol 10 mcg Vaginal Insert
Zovirax 5% Cream	Acyclovir 5% Cream

As a reminder, if a brand is preferred with a non-preferred generic equivalent, “medically necessary” is NOT needed on the face of the prescription in order for the brand product to be covered.

When a PDL class has a preferred brand with a non-preferred generic, providers requesting prior approval for the non-preferred generic should give a clinical reason why the beneficiary cannot use the brand.

72-Hour Emergency Supply Available for Pharmacy Prior Authorization Drugs

Pharmacy providers are encouraged to use the 72-hour emergency supply allowed for drugs requiring prior approval. **Federal law requires that this emergency supply be available to Medicaid beneficiaries for drugs requiring prior approval** (Social Security Act, Section 1927, [42 U.S.C. 1396r-8\(d\)\(5\)\(B\)](#)). Use of this emergency supply will ensure access to medically necessary medications.

The system will bypass the prior approval requirement if an emergency supply is indicated. **Use a “3” in the Level of Service field (418-DI) to indicate that the transaction is an emergency fill.**

Note: Copayments will apply. There is no limit to the number of times the emergency supply can be used.

Checkwrite Schedule for June 2023

Electronic Cutoff Schedule

June 1, 2023
June 8, 2023
June 15, 2023

Checkwrite Date

June 6, 2023
June 13, 2023
June 21, 2023

***No Checkwrite Final Week of
June-
End of the Fiscal Year***

POS claims must be transmitted and completed by 11:59 p.m. on the day of the electronic cutoff date to be included in the next checkwrite.

The 2023 checkwrite schedules for both NC Medicaid and DMH/DPH/ORH can be found under the Quick Links on the right side of the [NCTracks Provider Portal](#) home page.

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