

North Carolina Division of Health Benefits
North Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

Effective Date April 1, 2026

Revised 02.19.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Added Eliquis® Sprinkle and Suspension to preferred status in the Oral Anticoagulants category due to fiscal impact, effective 01.01.2026.

Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Novolog® U-100 PenFill® FlexPen® / Vial to preferred status in the Hypoglycemic Injectable: Rapid acting Insulin category, due to patient access, effective 03.20.2026

Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Talzo® Auto-Injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (biosimilar to Stelara®), and Tysabri® (natalizumab) Auto-Injector / Syringe / Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Secukinumab Pen / Syringe, Steeglys® (betriximab) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-adac Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest), and Hamira® Cohn's Starter Pack / Pen / DoseSis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Strytra® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghyso™ (efbiriximab) bka) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

Trial and failure (T/F) of two Preferred drugs are required unless only one Preferred option is listed or a T/F criteria exemption is otherwise indicated.

Not all therapeutic drug classes are included on the PDL. All drugs in the classes not included are considered Preferred. In addition to

T/F criteria, clinical criteria (indicated in RED) may also apply. **New to market products typically default to Non-Preferred status until reviewed by the PDL Panel. These drugs are listed as TO BE REVIEWED.** For drugs requiring prior authorization, clinical criteria and prior authorization request forms can be found at: <https://imes.ncdhhs.gov/submit> or by clicking on the Pharmacy Benefit Administrator tile.

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NSAIDS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
celecoxib capsule (generic for Celebrex®)	Arthrosc® Tablet
diclofenac sodium tablet (generic for Voltaren®)	Celebrex® Capsule
ibuprofen suspension / tablet (generic for Motrin®)	Davvos® Caplet
indomethacin capsule (generic for Indocin®)	diclofenac potassium capsule (generic for Zipsor®)
ketorolac tablet (generic for Toradol®)	diclofenac potassium tablet (generic for Carafam®)
meloxicam tablet (generic for Mobic®)	diclofenac sodium ER tablet (generic for Voltaren® XR)
naproxen EC / DR tablet (generic for Naproxen® EC)	diclofenac sodium-misoprostol tablet (generic for Arthrosc®)
naproxen sodium tablet (generic for Anaprox®)	difluminal tablet (generic for Dolobid®)
naproxen tablet (generic for Naproxen®)	Dolobid tablet
salindac tablet (generic for Clinoril®)	etodolac capsule / tablet / ER tablet (generic for Lodine® / XL)
	Feldene® Capsule
	fenoprofen capsule / tablet (generic for Nalfon®)
	flurbiprofen tablet (generic for Anafat®)
	ibuprofen / famotidine tablet (generic for Daexis®) - T/F of only celecoxib required
	indomethacin ER capsule (generic for Indocin SR®)
	indomethacin suppository
	ketoprofen capsule (generic for Orudis®)
	ketoprofen ER capsule (generic for Oruvail®)
	Kiprofen® (ketoprofen) Capsule (branded generic for Orudis®)
	Loferm® Tablet
	Lidurin® Tablet
	meclizemate capsule (generic for Meclomen®)
	meferamic acid capsule (generic for Ponstel®)
	meloxicam capsule (generic for Vivlodex®)
	nabumetone tablet (generic for Relafen®)
	Nalfon® Capsule / Tablet
	Naprelan® Tablet
	Naproxen® Suspension
	naproxen sodium ER tablet (generic for Naprelan®)
	naproxen suspension (generic for Naproxen®)
	naproxen-esomeprazole tablet (generic for Vimovo®) - T/F of only celecoxib required
	oxaprozin tablet (generic for DayPro®)
	piroxicam capsule (generic for Feldene®)
	Relafen® DS Tablet
	Tolectin® (tolmetin) Tablet
	tolmetin tablet / capsule (generic for Tolectin® / DS)
	Vimovo® Tablet - T/F of only celecoxib required
NEUROPATHIC PAIN	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
duloxetine capsule (generic for Cymbalta®)	Cymbalta® Capsule
gabapentin capsule / solution / tablet (generic for Neurontin®)	DermacinRx™ Lidocaine Patch - Clinical criteria apply
lidocaine patch (generic for Lidoderm®) - Clinical criteria apply	Drizalma® Sprinkle
pregabalin capsule / solution (generic for Lyrica®)	duloxetine capsule (generic for Irenka®)
	gabapentin ER tablet (generic for Gonalise®)
	Gabapens™ Tablet
	Gralise® Tablet
	Horizant® Tablet
	Lidocain® Patch - Clinical criteria apply
	Lidoderm® Patch - Clinical criteria apply
	Lyrica® Capsule / Solution / CR Tablet
	Neurontin® Capsule / Solution / Tablet
	pregabalin ER tablet (generic for Lyrica® CR)
	Quenza® Kit
	Savella® Tablet / Titrations Pack
	Tridocaine™ Patch
	ZT Lid® Patch - Clinical criteria apply
ANTICONVULSANTS	
CARBAMAZEPINE DERIVATIVES	
Patients may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category.	
Patients with a diagnosis of seizure disorder are exempt from T/F criteria and may use any carbamazepine product.	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
carbamazepine tablet / suspension / chewable tablet / XR tablet (generic for Teqento® / XR)	Antiom® Tablet
Eonstro® Capsule	carbamazepine ER capsule (generic for Carbatrol®)
ethicarbamazepine acetate Tablet (generic for Aptiom®)	Carbatrol® Capsule
oxcarbazepine suspension / tablet (generic for Trileptal®)	Enitol® Tablet
Oxtellar® XR Tablet	Oxcarbazepine ER (generic for Oxtellar® XR)
Teqento® Suspension / Tablet / XR Tablet	Trileptal® Tablet
Trileptal® Suspension	
FIRST GENERATION	
Patients with a diagnosis of seizure disorder are exempt from T/F criteria and may use any first generation product.	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Celontin® Capsule	Depakote® ER Tablet / Sprinkle Capsule
Dilantin® Capsule / Infatab / Suspension	Depakote® Tablet
divalproex sprinkle capsule / ER tablet / tablet (generic for Depakote® ER / Sprinkle)	felbamate tablet (generic for Felbatol®)
ethosuximide capsule / solution (generic for Zarontin®)	methsuximide capsule (generic for Celontin®)
felbamate suspension (generic for Felbatol®)	Sezab® Vial
Felbatol® Suspension / Tablet	Zarontin® Capsule / Solution
phenobarbital tablet / elixir / solution	
Phenylek® Capsule	
phenytoin chewable / extended capsules / infatab / suspension (generic for Dilantin®)	
phenytoin extended capsules (generic for Phenylek®)	
primidone Tablet (generic for Mysoline®)	
valproic acid capsule / solution (generic for Depakene®)	

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Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Taltz® Auto-Injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (bismimlar to Stelarz®), and Tyvaso® (melimimols-sarg) Auto-Injector / Syringe / Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Secoradylin® Pen / (Ustekinumab) Pen / Syringe, Stegyma® (ostokinumab-etha) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-adac Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest), and Humira® (Cohn's) Starter Pack / Pod, Cohn's Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skystro® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Elygis™ (febricitamab- bba) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamra® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

Trial and failure (T/F) of two Preferred drugs are required unless only one Preferred option is listed or a T/F criteria exemption is otherwise indicated.

Not all therapeutic drug classes are included on the PDL. All drugs in the classes not included are considered Preferred. In addition to T/F criteria, clinical criteria (indicated in RED) may also apply. New to market products typically default to Non-Preferred status until reviewed by the PDL Panel. These drugs are listed as TO BE REVIEWED. For drugs requiring prior authorization, clinical criteria and prior authorization request forms can be found at: <https://imes.medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/> then click on the Pharmacy Benefit Administrator tile.

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SECOND GENERATION

Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category.
Patients with a diagnosis of seizure disorder are exempt from T/F criteria and may use any second generation product.

Preferred	Non-Preferred
Briviact® Tablet / Solution	Banzel® Suspension
clonazepam suspension / tablet (generic for Onfi®)	Banzel® Tablet
clonazepam tablet (generic for Klonopin®)	clonazepam ODT (generic for Klonopin® Wafer)
Diaconit® Capsule / Powder Pack	Eliquis® XR Tablet
diazepam rectal / system (generic for Diastat® Accudial® / Pedi System)	Epidiolex® Solution - Clinical criteria apply.
Eprex® Solution	Gabarene™ Tablet
Finlepla® Solution	Keppra® Tablet / Solution / XR Tablet
Fvcomex® Tablet / Suspension	Klonopin® Tablet
gabapentin capsule / solution / tablet (generic for Neurontin®)	lacosamide solution (generic for Vimpat®)
lacosamide suspension (generic for Vimpat®)	Lamictal® Chewable / ODT / ODT Starter Kit / Starter Kit / Tablet / XR / XR Starter Kit
lamotrigine tablet (generic for Lamictal®)	lamotrigine ODT dose pack/tablet dose pack (generic for Lamictal®)
lamotrigine chewable / tablet / ODT (generic for Lamictal®)	levetiracetam tablet (generic for Spritam®)
lamotrigine ER tablet (generic for Lamictal® XR)	Libervant® (diazepam) Buccal Film
levetiracetam tablet / ER tablet / solution (generic for Keppra® / XR)	Livrica® Capsule / Solution
Navizim® Nasal Spray	Motopovl XR™ (lacosamide extended release) Capsule
Quavev® XR Capsule	Neurontin® Capsule / Solution / Tablet
Roxcepra® Tablet	Onfi® Suspension / Tablet
gabapentin suspension (generic for Banzel®)	increased Tablet (generic for Fvcomex®)
gabapentin tablet (generic for Banzel®)	Spritam® Tablet
Sabril® Tablet / Powder Packet	Symvanz® Film
Subvenite® Tablet / Tab Start Kit	Tonamax® Sprinkle Capsule / Tablet
gabapentin tablet (generic for Gabitril®)	tonitrimate ER capsule (generic for Trokendi XR®) - T/F of Trokendi® XR Capsule required for coverage
gabapentin tablet (generic for Gabitril®)	tonitrimate ER sprinkle capsule (generic for Quavev®)
gabapentin sprinkle capsule / tablet (generic for Topamax®)	Tonitrimate Solution
Valtoco® Nasal Spray	Trokendi® XR Capsule
gabapentin powder packet (generic for Sabril®)	gabapentin tablet (generic for Sabril®)
Xcopri® Tablet / Titration Pack	Vioform® Powder Packet / Tablet
zonisamide capsule (generic for Zonegran®)	Vigaflyde™ Solution
	Viamra® Powder Packet
	Vimpat® Solution / Starter Kit / Tablet
	Zoniside® Oral Suspension
	Zlatim® Oral Suspension

ANTI-INFECTIVES - SYSTEMIC

ANTIBIOTICS

Penicillins, Cephalosporins and Related

Preferred	Non-Preferred
amoxicillin capsule / chewable / suspension / tablet (generic for Amoxil®, Trimox®)	amoxicillin-clavulanate chewable tablet (generic for Augmentin®)
amoxicillin-clavulanate suspension / tablet (generic for Augmentin®)	amoxicillin-clavulanate XR tablet (generic for Augmentin® XR)
ampicillin capsule / injection / vial	Augmentin® Suspension / ES-600 / XR Tablet
ampicillin-sulbactam injection / vial	cefactor capsule / suspension / ER tablet (generic for Ceclor® / CD)
Bicillin® C-R injection	cefadroxil tablet (generic for Duricef®)
cefadroxil capsule / suspension (generic for Duricef®)	cefixime suspension (generic for Suprax®) T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age
cefclim capsule / suspension (generic for Omnicef®)	cefprozil suspension / tablet (generic for Ceftin®)
cefclim capsule (generic for Suprax®)	cefprozil suspension / tablet (generic for Ceftin®)
cefprozil suspension / tablet (generic for Ceftin®)	cefuroxime tablet (generic for Cefin®)
cefuroxime tablet (generic for Cefin®)	cephalexin capsule / suspension (generic for Keflex®)
cephalexin capsule / suspension (generic for Keflex®)	dicloxacillin capsule
dicloxacillin capsule	merckin injection / vial
merckin injection / vial	oxacillin injection / vial
oxacillin injection / vial	penicillin G injection / vial
penicillin G injection / vial	penicillin V suspension / tablet
penicillin V suspension / tablet	Pfizerpen® injection / vial
Pfizerpen® injection / vial	penicillin - benzathine injection (vial)
penicillin - benzathine injection (vial)	Unasyn® injection / vial
Unasyn® injection / vial	Zosyn® injection / vial
Zosyn® injection / vial	

Lincomides and Oxazolidinones

Preferred	Non-Preferred
clindamycin capsules / solution (generic for Cleocin®)	Cleocin® Capsules / Vial
linezolid suspension (oral) / tablet (generic for Zovvox®)	Cleocin® Pediatric Solution
	clindamycin injection (generic for Cleocin®)
	Lincomin® Vial
	lincomycin vial (generic for Lincomin®)
	linezolid IV solution (generic for Zovvox®)
	Sivextro® Tablet / Vial
	Zovvox® Tablet / IV Solution / Suspension

Macrolides and Ketolides

Preferred	Non-Preferred
azithromycin powder packet / suspension / tablet (generic for Zithromax®)	clarithromycin ER tablet (generic for Biaxin XL®)
clarithromycin suspension / tablet (generic for Biaxin®)	Eryped® 200/400 Suspension
E.E.S.® Filintab / Suspension	Ery-Tab® Tablet
Erythrocin® Filintab	Zithromax® Powder Packet / Suspension / Tablet / Tri-Pak / Z-Pak
erythromycin ES 200 mg and 400 mg suspension (generic for E.E.S.® Suspension, Eryped®)	
erythromycin EC capsule (generic for Eryc®)	
erythromycin filintab	
erythromycin ES tablet (generic for E.E.S.® Filintab)	

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Antivirals (Hepatitis C Agents)		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Pegasis® Syringe / Vial sofosbuvir capsule / tablet (generic for Copegus® Rebetol®)		
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs listed below		
Prior Approval Not Required for Mavyret® Tablet / Pellet Pack and sofosbuvir-velpatasvir tablet (generic for Epclusa®)		
All genotypes without cirrhosis		
Mavyret® Tablet (8 weeks of therapy) Mavyret® Pellet Pack sofosbuvir-velpatasvir tablet (generic for Epclusa®)	Epclusa® Pellet Pack/Tablet Harvoni® Pellet Pack / Tablet ledipasvir-sofosbuvir tablet (generic for Harvoni®) Sovaldi® Pellet Pack / Tablet Zepatier® Tablet	
All genotypes with compensated cirrhosis (Child Pugh-A)		
Mavyret® Tablet (Up to 12 weeks of therapy) Mavyret® Pellet Pack sofosbuvir-velpatasvir tablet (generic for Epclusa®)		
All genotypes previously treated with an HCV regimen containing an NS5A inhibitor or genotype 1a or 3 infection and have previously been treated with an HCV regimen containing sofosbuvir without an NS5A inhibitor.		
Vosevi® Tablet		
All genotypes with decompensated cirrhosis		
sofosbuvir-velpatasvir tablet (generic for Epclusa®)		
Antivirals (Herpes Treatments)		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
acyclovir capsule / tablet / suspension (generic for Zovirax®) famciclovir tablet (generic for Famvir®) valacyclovir tablet (generic for Valtrex®)	Valtrex® Canlet	
Antivirals (Influenza)		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
oseltamivir phosphate capsule / suspension (generic for Tamiflu®) rimantadine tablet (generic for Flumadine®)	amantadine tablet (generic for Symmetrel®) Flumadine® Tablet Relenza® Diskhaler Tamiflu® Capsule / Suspension Xofluza® Tablet - T/F of only one preferred drug required	
Antibiotics, Inhaled		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
T/F of only one preferred drug required		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Kitabis™ Pak Bethkis® Ampule tobramycin inhalation solution (generic for Tobin™)	Arikacev® Vial Cayston® Solution tobramycin inhalation pak (generic for Kitabis™) Tobi™ Podhaler™ / Solution tobramycin Ampule (generic for Bethkis)	
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH		
ANTIDEPRESSANTS		
Other		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
bupropion tablet / SR tablet / XL tablet (generic for Wellbutrin® Tablet / SR / XL) desvenlafaxine ER tablet (generic for Pristiq®) duloxetine capsule (generic for Cymbalta®) Effexor® XR Capsule mirtazapine ODT / tablet (generic for Remeron®) trazodone tablet (generic for Desryn®) venlafaxine tablet / ER capsules (generic for Effexor®, Effexor® XR) vilazodone tablet (generic for Viibryd®)	Anxeltiq® Tablet Bupropion XL tablet (generic for Forfivo® XL) Cymbalta® Capsule desvenlafaxine ER tablet (generic for Khedozla®) duloxetine capsule (generic for Irenka®) Emsam® Patch Exxun® ER Tablet / ER Titration Pack Fezzim® Capsule / Titration Pak Forfivo® XL Tablet Meriant® Tablet Nardil® Tablet nefazodone tablet (generic for Serzone®) phenelzine tablet (generic for Nardil®) Pristiq® ER Tablet Raldeso™ solution Remeron® Solrah™ / Tablet trazodone tablet (generic for Pamate®) Trinella® Tablet venlafaxine besylate ER tablet venlafaxine ER tablet Viibryd® Tablet Wellbutrin® SR Zurupac® Capsule T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of most-martium depression	
Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI)		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
citalopram solution / tablet (generic for Celexa®) escitalopram tablet (generic for Lexapro®) fluoxetine capsule / solution (generic for Prozac®) fluvoxamine tablet (generic for Luvox®) paroxetine tablet (generic for Paxil®) Paxil® Suspension sertraline concentrated solution / tablet (generic for Zoloft®)	Celexa® Tablet citalopram capsule escitalopram solution / Capsule (generic for Lexapro®) fluoxetine DR capsules (generic for Prozac® Weekly) fluoxetine tablet (generic for Prozac®); T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 18 years of age fluvoxamine ER capsule (generic for Luvox CR®) Lexapro® Tablet paroxetine capsule (generic for Brisdelle®) paroxetine suspension / CR tablet (generic for Paxil® / CR) Paxil® Tablet / CR Tablet Prozac® Pulvule sertraline capsule Zoloft® Solution / Tablet	

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ANTHYPERKINESIS / ADHD		
Preferred	Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	Non-Preferred
Adderall® Tablet (Generic Product Per FDA)		Adzenso® XR ODT
Adderall® XR Capsule		Amphetamine ER ODT (generic for Adzenso® XR ODT)- T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age
amphetamine salt combo tablet (generic for Adderall®)		amphetamine salt combo ER capsule (generic for Mydavis®)
amphetamine salt combo XR capsule (generic for Adderall® XR)		amphetamine sulfate tablet (generic for Evekeo®)
atomoxetine capsule (generic for Strattera®)		Antesio® XR Capsule
clonidine ER tablet (generic for Kapvay®)		Azstarvo® Capsule
Concerta® Tablet		Cotempla® XR-ODT
Davtram® Patch		Dexedrine® Spansule®
dexamethylphenidate tablet / ER capsule (generic for Focalin® / XR)		dextroamphetamine ER capsule (generic for Dexedrine® Spansule®)
dextroamphetamine tablet (generic for Dexedrine®)		dextroamphetamine solution (generic for ProCentra®)
guanfacine ER tablet (generic for Intuniv®)		Dyanava® XR Suspension - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age
lisdexamfetamine chewable tablet (generic for Vyvanse®)		Dyanava® XR Tablet
Methylin® Solution		Evekeo® Tablet / Evekeo® ODT Tablet
methylphenidate CD capsule (generic for Metadate® CD)		Focalin® Tablet
methylphenidate ER tablet (generic for Concerta®)		Focalin® XR Capsule
methylphenidate tablet / solution (generic for Methylin®, Ritalin®)		Intuniv® Tablet
Vyvanse® Capsule		Jornay PM® Capsule
Vyvanse® Chewable Tablet		lisdexamfetamine capsule (generic for Vyvanse®)
		methamphetamine tablet (generic for Desoxyn®)
		methylphenidate chewable (generic for Methylin®)
		methylphenidate ER capsule (generic for Antesio® XR)
		methylphenidate ER tablet (45 mg and 63 mg) (Branded Product Per FDA)
		methylphenidate LA capsule (generic for Ritalin® LA)
		methylphenidate patch (generic for Davtram®)
		Mylaviv® ER Capsule
		Ovada XR Suspension - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age
		ProCentra® Solution
		Qelbree® Capsule
		Quillichew® ER Tablet - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age
		Quilivant® XR Suspension - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age
		Relexxiv® ER Tablet
		Ritalin® LA Capsule
		Ritalin® Tablet
		Strattera® Capsule
		Xelstrym® Patch
		Zenzedi® Tablet
INJECTABLE ANTIPSYCHOTICS		
Preferred	Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	Non-Preferred
Ablifiv Asintufin® Syringe Kit		
Ablifiv Mairtena® Syringe / Vial		
Aristada® Imilio® Syringe		
Eranofit® (paliperidone palmitate) extended-release injectable suspension		
fluphenazine decanoate vial (generic for Prolixin decanoate®)		
Haldol® decanoate Ampule		
haloperidol decanoate ampule / vial (generic for Haldol decanoate®)		
Invega® Harvera Prefilled Syringe Kit		
Invega® Sustenna Prefilled Syringe		
Invega® Trinzta Syringe		
Pasenra® Syringe		
Risperdal® Consta Vial		
risperidone ER vial (generic for Risperdal® Consta)		
Rykindo® Vial / Vial Kit		
Uzesh® Syringe Kit		
Zyprexa® Relprevv® Vial Kit		
ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTICS		
Oral / Transdermal		
Preferred	Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	Non-Preferred
aripiprazole Tablet / Solution (generic for Abilif®)		Abilif® Tablet / Abilif® Mx-Cite® Tablet
asapirine SL tablet (generic for Saphris® SL)		aripiprazole ODT (generic for Abilif® Disemelt®)
clozapine tablet (generic for Clozaril®)		Caplyta® Capsule
lurasidone tablet (generic for Latuda®)		clozapine ODT (generic for FazaClo®)
olanzapine ODT / tablet (generic for Zyprexa®)		Clozaril® Tablet
paliperidone ER tablet (generic for Invega®)		Cobenly
quetiapine tablet / ER tablet (generic for Seroquel® / XR)		Cobenly Starter Pack
risperidone ODT / solution / tablet (generic for Risperdal®)		Famur® Tablet / Titration Pack
Vraylar® Capsule		Geodon® Capsule
ziprasidone capsule (generic for Geodon®)		Invega® Tablet
		Latuda® Tablet
		Lyxalvi® Tablet
		Nuplazid® Tablet / Capsule
		olanzapine-fluoxetine capsule (generic for Symbyax®)
		Onipuzol (aripiprazole) Oral Film
		Reyvain® Tablet / 7-Day Pack / 14-Day Pack
		Risperdal® Solution / Tablet
		Saphris® SL Tablet
		Secundo® Patch
		Seroquel® Tablet / XR Tablet / XR Sample Kit
		Versacloz® Suspension
		Zyprexa® Tablet / Zovdis® Tablet

North Carolina Division of Health Benefits
North Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

Effective Date April 1, 2026

Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Talz® Auto-Injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (bisimilars to Stellar®), and Tyensa® (metilimumab-sarg) Auto-Injector / Syringe Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Secorady® Pen / (UnitDose®) Pen / Syringe, Stegyma® (ostiximab-ohu) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-adac Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest), and Hamira® Craha's Starter Pack / Pod, Craha's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM antagonists category; moved Skytra® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghys™ (efbirikizumab-bkz) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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BETA BLOCKERS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
atenolol tablet (generic for Tenormin®)	acebutolol capsule (generic for Sectral™)
bisoprolol tablet (generic for Zebeta™)	Betmax® Tablet / AF Tablet
carvedilol tablet (generic for Coreg®)	bisoprolol tablet (generic for Kerlone®)
Hemangeol® Solution	Bystolic® Tablet
labetalol tablet (generic for Trandate®)	carvedilol ER capsule (generic for Coreg® CR Capsule)
metoprolol succinate XL tablet (generic for Toprol XL®)	Coreg® Tablet / CR Capsule
metoprolol tartrate tablet (generic for Lopressor®)	Inderal® LA Capsule / XL Capsule
nadolol tablet (generic for Corcard®)	Innovator® XL Capsule
nichivolol tablet (generic for Bystolic®)	Kapspuro® Sprinkle - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age
propranolol solution / tablet / ER capsule (generic for Inderal®)	Lopressor® Tablet / Solution
atenolol tablet / AF tablet (generic for Betapace® / AF, Sorine™)	nebivolol tablet (generic for Viskon®)
	Novelge® Solution
	Tenormin® Tablet
	timolol tablet (generic for Blocadren®)
	Toprol XL® Tablet
BETA BLOCKER DIURETIC COMBINATIONS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
atenolol-chlorthalidone tablet (generic for Tenoretic®)	metoprolol-HCTZ tablet (generic for Lopressor® HCT)
bisoprolol-HCTZ tablet (generic for Ziac®)	propranolol-HCTZ tablet (generic for Inderide®)
	Tenoretic® Tablet
BILE ACID SEQUESTRANTS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
cholestyramine packet / powder / light packet / light powder (generic for Questran® / Questran® Light)	colessevelam packet / tablet (generic for Welchol®)
colesevelam tablet (generic for Colestid® Tablet)	Colestid® Granules / Tablet
	colestipol granules (generic for Colestid®)
	Prevacid® Packet / Powder
	Questran® Light Powder / Packet / Powder
	Welchol® Packet / Tablet
CARDIOVASCULAR, OTHER	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Canzvon® Capsule - Clinical criteria apply	Lodoco®
CHOLESTEROL LOWERING AGENTS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
atorvastatin tablet (generic for Lipitor®)	Altorven® Tablet
ezetimibe (generic for Zetia®)	amlodipine-atorvastatin tablet (generic for Caduet®)
lovastatin tablet (generic for Mevacor®)	Atonaluc® Suspension
pravastatin tablet (generic for Pravachol™)	Caduet® Tablet
rosuvastatin tablet (generic for Crestor®)	Crestor®
simvastatin tablet (generic for Zocor®)	Ezallor™ Capsule
	ezetimibe-simvastatin (generic for Vytorin®)
	fluvastatin capsule / ER tablet (generic for Lescol® / XL)
	Intensol® Capsule - Clinical criteria apply
	Lescol® XL Tablet
	Lipitor® Tablet
	Livalo® Tablet - T/F of preferred agents not required with concomitant antiretroviral therapy in patients diagnosed with HIV
	Nextelto® Tablet - Clinical criteria apply
	Nexlizet® Tablet - Clinical criteria apply
	pitavastatin tablet (generic for Livalo®) - T/F of preferred agents not required with concomitant antiretroviral therapy in patients diagnosed with HIV
	Vytorin® Tablet
	Zetia® Tablet
	Zocor® Tablet
	Zypitamag® Tablet
CORONARY VASODILATORS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
isosorbide dinitrate tablet (generic for Isordil® Titradose®, IsoDitrac®, et al.)	Gemtro® Sublingual Powder
isosorbide mononitrate tablet / ER tablet (generic for Ismo®, Monoket®, Imdur®)	Nitro-Bid® Ointment
nitroglycerin patch / spray / SL tablet (generic for Nitro-Dur®, Minitran®, Nitrostat®, et al)	Nitro-Dur® Patch
Nitrostat® SL Tablet	nitroglycerin ointment (generic for Nitro-Bid®)
	Nitrolingual® Spray
	Venauvo® Tablet
DIHYDROPYRIDINE CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
amlodipine tablet (generic for Norvasc®)	felodipine ER tablet (generic for Plendil®)
isradipine capsule (generic for Procardia®)	isradipine capsule (generic for Domoxic®)
nifedipine ER tablet (generic for Adalat CC® / Procardia XL®)	Katerzia® Suspension - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age
Novelica® Solution	levamlodipine tablet (generic for Conijunr®)
	nicardipine capsule (generic for Cardene®)
	nimodipine capsule (generic for Nimotop®)
	nimodipine solution
	nisoldipine ER tablet (generic for Sular®)
	Norvasc® Tablet
	Novmalta® Solution / oral syringe
	Procardia® XL Tablet
	Sular® Tablet

North Carolina Division of Health Benefits
North Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

Effective Date April 1, 2026

Revised 02.19.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Added Eliquis® Sprinkle and Suspension to preferred status in the Oral Anticoagulants category due to fiscal impact, effective 01.01.2026.
Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved NovoLog® U-100 PenFill FlexPen® Vial to preferred status in the Hypoglycemic-Injectable: Rapid acting insulin category, due to patient access, effective 03.20.2026.
Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Talzo® Auto-Injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (bioequivalent to Starjema®), and Tyenest (metformin/saxagliptin) Auto-Injector / Syringe Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Seasonal Influenza Vaccine (Manufacturer: Qualitest) and Hamira® Cohn's Starter Pack / Ped. Cohn's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skystrofa® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghyso™ (efbirikizumab-bkz) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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DIRECT RENIN INHIBITOR	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Tektura® Tablet	aliskiren tablet (generic for Tektura® Tablet)
Tektura® HCT Tablet	
ENDOTHELIN RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS	
Covered for diagnosis of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension only	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
ambisentan tablet (generic for Letairis® Tablet)	bosentan tablet /tablet for suspension (generic for Tracleer®)
Tracleer® Tablet	Letairis® Tablet
	Opsumit® Tablet
	Opsumit® Tablet
	Tracleer® Suspension
INHALED PROSTACYCLIN ANALOGS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Tyvaso® Refill Kit / Solution / Starter Kit	Tyvaso® DPI
Ventavis® Solution	Yutopia® DPI
NACIN DERIVATIVES	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
niacin tablet (generic for Niaspan®)	
NITRATE COMBINATION	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Bidil® Tablet	isosorbide dinitr/hydralazine tablet (generic for Bidil®)
NON-DIHYDROPYRIDINE CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Cartia XT® Capsule (branded generic for Cardizem CD®)	diltiazem LA tablet (generic for Cardizem LA®)
Dilt XR® Capsule (branded generic for Dilacor XR®)	Motzim® LA Tablet (generic for Cardizem LA®)
diltiazem ER 24 hour capsule (generic for Dilacor XR®, Tiazac®)	Verapamil Capsule SR (generic for Verelan®)
diltiazem tablet / CD capsule / ER 12 hour capsule (generic for Cardizem® / CD / SR)	verapamil ER capsule / PM capsule (generic for Verelan® / Verelan® PM)
Tiazac XT® Capsule (branded generic for Tiazac®)	Verelan® PM Capsule
Tiadivil® ER Capsule	
verapamil tablet / ER tablet (generic for Calan® / SR)	
ORAL PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	
Covered for diagnosis of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (all) and Chronic Thromboembolic Pulmonary Hypertension- Adempas® only	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Aloxi® Tablet (branded generic for tadalafl)	Adecira® Tablet
sildenafil tablet (generic for Revatio®)	Adempas® Tablet
tadalafl tablet (generic for Adecira®)	Orenitram® ER Tablet / Titration Kit
	Revatio® Suspension / Tablet - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age for Suspension ONLY
	sildenafil suspension (generic for Revatio®) - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age
	Tadlin® Suspension
	Uptravi® Tablet / Titration Pack
PCSK9	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Repatha® Syringe / Pushtronix / Sureclick	Leqvio® Injection
Praluent® Pen	
PLATELET INHIBITORS	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Brilinta® Tablet	aspirin/dipyridamol ER capsule (generic for Aggrenox®)
clopidogrel tablet (generic for Plavix®)	Efficent® Tablet
dipyridamol tablet (generic for Persantine®)	Plavix® Tablet
prasugrel tablet (generic for Effient® Tablet)	Tracleer® Tablet (generic for Brilinta®)
SYMPATHOLYTICS AND COMBINATIONS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
clonidine tablet / patch (generic for Catapres® / TTS)	clonidine ER tablet (generic for Nexiclon™ XR)
guanfacine tablet (generic for Tenex®)	methyldopa-HCTZ tablet (generic for Aldomet®)
methyldopa tablet (generic for Aldomet®)	methyldopa vial (generic for Aldomet®)
	Nexiclon™ XR Tablet
TRIGLYCERIDE LOWERING AGENTS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
fenofibrate tablet (generic for Tricor®)	fenofibrate capsule / tablet (generic for Antara®, Lofibra®, Fenofibrate®, et. al)
gemfibrozil tablet (generic for Lopid®)	fenofibrate acid tablet (generic for Fibricor®, Trilix®)
icosapent ethyl capsule (generic for Vascepa®)	Fibricor® Tablet
omega-3 acid ethyl esters capsule (generic for Lovaza®)	Lipofen® Capsule
	Lopid® Tablet
	Tricor® Tablet
	Trilix™ Capsule

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North Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

Effective Date April 1, 2026

Revised 02.19.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Added Eliquis® Sprinkle and Suspension to preferred status in the Oral Anticoagulants category due to fiscal impact, effective 01.01.2026.
Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved NovoLog® Auto-Injector / Syringe, StarJet™ Vial / Syringe (biosimilar to StarJet®), and Tysabri® (natalizumab) Auto-Injector / Syringe / Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Seasonal Pen / (Unit-Dose) Pen / Syringe, Stegynin® (betriximab) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-adac Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest) and Humira® Crata's Starter Pack / Pod, Crata's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skyrizo® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Elyxys™ (efalizumab) (bka) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamra® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

ANTIMIGRAINE AGENTS

Quantity limits apply to all triptans

Preferred	Non-Preferred
rizatriptan tablet / ODT (generic for Maxalt®)	almotriptan tablet (generic for Axert®)
sumatriptan nasal spray / tablet / vial (generic for Imitrex®)	diclofenac potassium powder packet (generic for Cambia®) - T/F of 2 preferred NSAIDs, in addition to T/F of 2 preferred triptans in the Antimigraine Agents class required for coverage
	eletriptan tablet (generic for Releax®)
	Elyxys™ Solution - T/F of 2 preferred NSAIDs, in addition to T/F of 2 preferred triptans in the Antimigraine Agents class required for coverage
	Frova® Tablet
	frovatriptan tablet (generic for Frova®)
	Imitrex® Cartridge / Nasal Spray / Pen / Tablet
	Maxalt® Tablet / MLT Tablet
	naratriptan tablet (generic for Amegax®)
	Releax® Tablet
	Revvow® Tablet
	sumatriptan / naproxen tablet (generic for Treximet®)
	sumatriptan injection kit / refill / syringe (generic for Imitrex®)
	Symbravo® Tablet
	Tazvium® Nasal Spray
	Zomig® Stimu-Loach®
	zolmitriptan nasal spray / ODT / tablet (generic for Zomig®)
	Zomie® Nasal Spray / Tablet

ANTI-BIGRAINE AGENTS

CGRP Blockers/Modulators PREVENTATIVE

Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category

Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class

Preferred	Non-Preferred
Aimovig® Autoinjector	Etmality® Syringe 100 MG
Ajoovy® Autoinjector / Syringe	Avogel® Vial
Engaltys® Pen / Syringe	
Nurtec® ODT	
Qulipta® Tablet	

ANTIMIGRAINE AGENTS

CGRP Blockers/Modulators ACUTE TREATMENT

Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category

Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class

Preferred	Non-Preferred
Nurtec® ODT	Zavzret™ Nasal Spray
Ubrelvy® Tablet	

ANTINARCOLEPSY

Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category

Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class

Preferred	Non-Preferred
Provigal® Tablet	armodafinil tablet (generic for Nuvigal®)
	modafinil tablet (generic for Provigal®)
	Nuvigal® Tablet
	Nuvax™ Tablet
	Wakix® Tablet

ANTI-PARKINSON AND RESTLESS LEG SYNDROME AGENTS

Preferred	Non-Preferred
amantadine capsule / solution (generic for Symmetrel®)	Apokyn® Cartridge
benzotropine tablet (generic for Cogentin®)	apomorphine cartridge (generic for Apokyn®)
bromocriptine capsule / tablet (generic for Parlodel®)	Aricept® Tablet
carbidopa-levodopa ODT (generic for Parcopa®)	carbidopa tablet (generic for Lodovon®)
carbidopa-levodopa tablet / ER tablet (generic for Sinemet® / CR)	carbidopa-levodopa-entacapone tablet (generic for Stalevo®)
pramipexole tablet (generic for Mirapex®)	Crexont Capsule ER
ropinirole tablet (generic for Requip®)	Dhivy Tablet™
selegiline capsule / tablet (generic for Emsam®)	Duora® Suspension
trihexyphenidyl elixir / tablet (generic for Artane®)	entacapone tablet (generic for Comtan®)
	Gocovri® Capsule - Clinical criteria apply
	Horizant® Tablet
	Inbrija® Inhalation - Clinical criteria apply
	Neupro® Patch
	Nouriant™ Tablet
	Onango™ Cartridge
	Oncentys® Capsule - Clinical criteria apply
	Osmolex ER™ Tablet - Clinical criteria apply
	pramipexole ER tablet (generic for Mirapex ER®)
	rasagiline tablet (generic for Azilect®)
	ropinirole ER tablet (generic for Requin XL®)
	Rytary® ER Capsule
	Sinemet® Tablet
	Stalevo® Tablet
	tolcapone tablet (generic for Tasmar®)
	Vivaldo Vial
	Xeludo® Tablet

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

Injectable

Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category

Preferred	Non-Preferred
Avonex® Pack / Pen / Syringe	Briumvi™ Vial
Betasone® Kit / Vial	Copaxone® 40 MG/ML Syringe
Copaxone® Syringe 20 MG/ML	glatiramer syringe 20 MG/ML (generic for Copaxone® Syringe)
glatiramer syringe 40 MG/ML (generic for Copaxone® Syringe)	Glatopa® Syringe
Kesimpta® Pen	Lemtrada® Vial
Rebif® Rebidose® / Titration Pack / Syringe	Ocrevus® Vial - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of Primary Progressive MS (PPMS)
	Ocrevus® Zanosu Vial T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of Primary Progressive MS (PPMS)
	Plegridy® Pen / Pen Starter Pack / Syringe / Syringe Starter Pack
	Tysabri® Vial

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Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved NovoLog® U-100 PenFill FlexPen™ / Vial to preferred status in the Hypoglycemics-Injectable: Rapid Acting Insulin category, due to patient access, effective 03.20.2026.
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Oral	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
dalfampridine ER tablet (generic for Ampyra [®])	Ampyra [®] Tablet
dimethyl fumarate DR capsule / starter pack (generic for Tecfidera [®] Capsule / Starter Pack)	Aubagio [®] Tablet
finasolmod capsule (generic for Gilenya [®])	Bafertam [®] Capsule
teriflunomide tablet (generic for Aubagio [®])	Gilenya [®] Capsule
	Mayzent [®] Tablet
	Maxzoran [®] Starter Pack / Tablet
	Powvory [®] Starter Pack / Tablet
	Tasemso ODT [™]
	Tecfidera [®] Capsule / Starter Pack
	Vumerity [®] Capsule
	Zenosa [®] Starter Pack / Capsule
AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS (ALS) AGENTS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
rhizole tablet (generic for Rilutek®)	edaravone infusion bag (generic for Radicava [®])
	edaravone Vial (generic for Radicava [®])
	Qalsody [®] Vial / T/F of preferred agents not required for SOD1 gene mutation
	Radicava [®] ORS [®] Suspension / ORS [®] Starter Kit Suspension / Infusion Bag
	Tofacit [®] Suspension
SEDATIVE HYPNOTICS	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Quantity limits apply to all sedative hypnotics	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
eszopiclone tablet (generic for Lunesta [®])	Ambien [®] Tablet / CR Tablet
flurazepam capsule (generic for Dalmane [®])	Belcontin [™] Tablet
gabapentin tablet (generic for Rozerem [®] Tablet)	Daveylin [™] Tablet
temazepam 15mg, 30mg capsule (generic for Restoril [®])	Doral [®] Tablet
zaleplon capsule (generic for Sonata [®])	doxepin tablet (generic for Silenox [®])
zolpidem tablet (generic for Ambien [®])	Eduhr [®] SL Tablet
zolpidem ER tablet (generic for Ambien [®] CR)	eszazolam tablet (generic for Prosom [®])
	Halcion [®] Tablet
	Helioz [®] Capsule / LO Suspension - Clinical criteria apply
	Lunesta [®] Tablet
	lunazepam tablet (generic for Doral [®])
	Quexia [™] Tablet
	Restoril [®] Capsule
	Rozerem [®] Tablet
	tasimcton capsule (generic for Helioz [®]) - Clinical criteria apply, T/F of Helioz [®] Capsule required for coverage
	temazepam 7.5, 22.5 mg capsule (generic for Restoril [®])
	triazolam tablet (generic for Halcion [®])
	zolpidem capsule
	zolpidem SL tablet (generic for Intenzezz [®])
TOBACCO CESSATION	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
bupropion SR tablet (generic for Zyban [®])	Nicotrol [®] Inhaler / NS Nasal Spray
Chantix [®] Tablet / Starting Box / Continuation Month Box	
nicothine gum / lozenge (buccal) / patch	
varenicline tablet / starting month box (generic for Chantix [®])	
varenicline continuation month box (generic for Chantix [®])	
ENDOCRINOLOGY	
GROWTH HORMONE	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class	
Prior Approval Not Required for Use of Serostin [®] in AIDS Wasting Syndrome	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Genotropin [®] Cartridge / MiniQuick [®]	Humatrope [®] Cartridge
Norditropin [®] Flexpro [®]	Ngeela [®] Pen
Skivtroin [®] Cartridge	Nutropin [®] AQ, Nutropin [®]
	Ornatropin [®] Cartridge / Vial
	Serostin [®] Vial
	Sorostin [®] Pen
	Zomecton [®] Vial
HYPOGLYCEMICS - INJECTABLE	
Rapid Acting Insulin	
T/F of only one preferred drug required; Prior authorization is required for NP insulins. Prior authorizations may be valid for up to 3 years for beneficiaries with Type 1 Diabetes.	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
insulin aspart U-100 PenFill FlexPen [®] / vial (generic for Novolog [®]) (generic for Novolog [®])	Admelog [®] SoloStar [®] / Vial
insulin lispro U-100 Junior KwikPen [®] (generic for Humalog [®] Junior)	Afrezza [®] Inhalation Powder
insulin lispro U-100 KwikPen [®] / vial (generic for Humalog [®])	Anidra [®] SoloStar [®] / Vial
Novolog [®] U-100 PenFill FlexPen [®] / Vial	Fiasp [®] FlexTouch [®] / PenFill [®] / PumpCart [®] / Vial
Relion Novolog [®] U-100 FlexPen [®] / Vial	Humalog [®] U-100 Cartridge/Junior KwikPen [®] /KwikPen [®] / Vial
	Humalog [®] U-100 Tempo Pen [™]
	Humalog [®] U-200 KwikPen [®]
	Kisady Vial / Pen (bismimetic to Novolog [®])
	Lyumjev [™] U-100 KwikPen [®] / U-200 KwikPen [®] / Vial
	Merilox SoloStar [®] Pen
	Merilox [®] Vial
Short Acting Insulin	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Humalin [®] R Vial	Mvexredin [™] Injection
Humalin [®] R U-500 KwikPen [®] / U500 Vial	Novolin [®] R Vial / ReliOn [®] R Vial
	Novolin R FlexPen [®] / ReliOn [®] R FlexPen
Intermediate Acting Insulin	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Humalin [®] N Vial	Humulin [®] N KwikPen [®]
	Novolin [®] N FlexPen [®] / ReliOn [®] N FlexPen [®]
	Novolin [®] N Vial / ReliOn [®] N Vial
Long Acting Insulin	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
T/F of only one preferred drug required; Prior authorization is required for NP insulins. Prior authorizations may be valid for up to 3 years for beneficiaries with Type 1 Diabetes.	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
insulin glargine vial / SoloStar [®] (authorized biologic for Lantus)	Basaglar [®] U-100 KwikPen [®]
Lantus [®] SoloStar [®] / Vial	Basaglar [®] U-100 Tempo Pen [™]
	insulin dequidex pen / vial (generic for Tresiba [®])
	insulin glargine SoloStar [®] / Max SoloStar [®] (generic for Toujeo [®])
	insulin elarime-vfm pen / vial (generic for Semglee [™] vfm)
	Levemir [™] / FlexPen [®] / FlexTouch [®] / Vial
	Ryzodeg [™] / KwikPen [®]
	Semglee [™] vfm Pen / Vial
	Toujeo [®] SoloStar [®] / Max SoloStar [®]
	Tresiba [®] FlexTouch [®] / Vial
Premixed	
Rapid Combination Insulin	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
insulin lispro protamine 75/25 KwikPen [®] (generic for Humalog [®] 75/25 Mix)	Humalog [®] 75/25 Mix KwikPen [®]
	Humalog [®] 50/50 Mix KwikPen [®]
	Humalog [®] 75/25 Vial
Premixed	
70/30 Combination Insulin	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
insulin aspart protamine-aspart 70/30 U-100 FlexPen [®] (generic for Novolog [®] Mix 70/30)	Novolin [®] 70/30 FlexPen [®] / Vial
Humalin [®] 70/30 KwikPen [®] / Vial	Novolog [®] Mix 70/30 Vial / FlexPen [®]
	Relion Novolin [®] (human insulin NPH / human insulin) 70/30 FlexPen [®]
	Relion Novolin [®] 70/30 Vial

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Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved NovoLog® U-100 PenFill FlexPen® / Vial to preferred status in the Hypoglycemic-Injectable: Rapid acting Insulin category, due to patient access, effective 03.20.2026.
Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Talzo® Auto-Injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (bioequivalent to Starjema®), and Tysabri® (natalizumab-sarg) Autoinjector / Syringe/ Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Securox® Pen (Unifactory® Pen / Syringe, Steegmans® (natalizumab-sarg) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-adac Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest) and Humira® Crohn's Starter Pack / Ped. Crohn's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skyrzo® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghyso™ (efalizumab-bbi) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

Trial and failure (T/F) of two Preferred drugs are required unless only one Preferred option is listed or a T/F criteria exemption is otherwise indicated.
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T/F criteria, clinical criteria (indicated in RED) may also apply. **New to market products typically default to Non-Preferred status until reviewed by the PDL Panel. These drugs are listed as TO BE REVIEWED.** For drugs requiring prior authorization, clinical criteria and prior authorization request forms can be found at <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/providers/programs-services/prescription-drugs/outpatient-pharmacy-services>

Preferred	Non-Preferred
Relion NovoLog® 70/30 Vial / FlexPen®	
Amylin Analogs	
Requires T/F or insufficient response to metformin containing product unless contraindicated or documented adverse event when using either a preferred or non-preferred Amylin Analog	
Synlin® Pen Injector	
GLP-1 Receptor Agonists and Combinations indicated for the treatment of Diabetes	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class	
Bvetta® Pen	Bydureon® BCise™
Traficity® Pen	exenatide Pen (generic for Bvetta®)
Victoza® Pen	liraglutide pen (generic for Victoza®)
Ozempic® Pen	Mouniario® Pen
	Rybelsus® Tablet
	Soliqva® Pen
	Xultophy® Pen
HYPOGLYCEMICS-ORAL	
2nd Generation Sulfonylureas	
afimepride tablet (generic for Amaryl®)	
afimizide tablet / ER tablet (generic for Glucotrol® / XL)	
Glucostrol® XL Tablet	
glyburide micronized tablet (generic for Micronase®, Glybasac®)	
glyburide tablet (generic for Diabeta®)	
Alpha-Glucosidase Inhibitors	
acarbose tablet (generic for Precose®)	miglitol tablet (generic for Glysset®)
	Precose® Tablet
Biguanides and Combinations	
afimizide-metformin tablet (generic for Metadip®)	metformin ER tablet (generic for Fortamet®)
glyburide-metformin tablet (generic for Glucovance®)	metformin ER tablet (generic for Glimeztra®)
metformin tablet / ER tablet (generic for Glucophage®, ER)	metformin solution (generic for Diemox®). T/R of non-preferred agents not included for children < 13 years of age.
	metformin tablet (625 mg)
	Riomet® Solution

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Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Talzo® Auto-Injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (bismuthin to Stelara®), and Tysabri® (metilimumab-sarg) Autoinjector / Syringe Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Secoronyldiphenyl Pen (Ustekinumab) Pen / Syringe, Stegyma® (botulinum-abto) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-adac Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest), and Hamira® Cohn's Starter Pack / Pod, Cohn's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skyrtra® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghyso™ (efbirikizumab-bkz) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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BILE ACID SALTS		
T/F of only one preferred drug required		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
ursodiol capsule (generic for Actiunil™)	Bilvay™ Capsule / Pellet - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of PFIC	
ursodiol tablet (generic for Ursol™)	Chenodal™ Tablet	
	Choban™ Capsule	
	Crestil™ Tablet	
	Jalryo® (elaflibanor) Tablet	
	Livdelzi Capsule	
	Livmaril® Oral Solution Tablet	
	Ocaliva® Tablet	
	Relions® Capsule	
	Ursol Fortis® Tablet	
H. PYLORI COMBINATIONS		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Pylera® Capsule	bismuth / metronidazole / tetracycline capsule (generic for Pylera®)	
	lanoprazole-esomeprazole-clarithromycin pack (generic for Prevacid™)	
	Orbisclimax Pak™ Combo Pack	
	Talicia® Capsule	
	Voquezna® Tablet / Dual Pak / Triple Pak	
HISTAMINE-2 RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
famotidine tablet / suspension (generic for Pepcid®)	cimetidine tablet (generic for Tagamet®)	
	cimetidine solution (generic for Tagamet®)	
	nizatidine capsule (generic for Axid®)	
PANCREATIC ENZYMES		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Cyren® Capsule	Pertze® Capsule	
Viokase® Tablet		
Zenpep® Capsule		
PROGESTINS USED FOR CACHEXIA		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
megestrol suspension / tablet (generic for Megace®)	megestrol ES suspension (generic for Megace® ES)	
PROTON PUMP INHIBITORS		
T/F of preferred agents not required for children <12 years of age		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
esomeprazole magnesium capsule (generic for Nexium® Rx)	Devilant® Capsule	
lanoprazole capsule (generic for Prevacid® Rx)	dexlansoprazole capsules (generic for Dexlansoprazole)	
Nexium® Rx Packet	esomeprazole magnesium OTC capsule / tablet (generic for Nexium® OTC)	
esomeprazole Rx capsule (generic for Prilosec® Rx)	esomeprazole magnesium rabeprazole (generic for Nexium® Rx Packet)	
esomeprazole tablet (generic for Protonix®)	Konvomen® Suspension	
Protonix® Suspension	lanoprazole capsule (generic for Prevacid® OTC)	
	lanoprazole ODT (generic for Prevacid® SoluTab™)	
	Nexium® Rx Capsule	
	omeprazole OTC capsule / ODT / tablet (generic for Prilosec® OTC)	
	omeprazole-sodium bicarbonate capsule / packet (generic for Zeaserid® Rx / OTC)	
	omeprazole suspension (generic for Protonix®)	
	Prevacid® Rx / OTC Capsule / SoluTab	
	Prilosec® Rx Suspension	
	Protonix® Tablet	
	rabeprazole tablet (generic for Aciprex®)	
SELECTIVE CONSTIPATION AGENTS		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Linzess® Capsule	alocetron tablet (generic for Lotronex®)	
lubiprostone capsule (generic for Amitiza®)	Amitiza® Capsule	
	Ibsela® Tablet	
	Lotronex® Tablet	
	Motegrity® Tablet	
	Moxantik® Tablet	
	neocalmide tablet (generic for Motegrity®)	
	Symproic® Tablet	
	Viberzi® Tablet - T/F of preferred agents not required for Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Diarrhea (IBS-D)	
ULCERATIVE COLITIS		
Oral		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
balsalazide capsule (generic for Colazal™)	Azulfidine® Entab / Tablet	
Pentasa® Capsule	budesonide ER tablet (generic for Uceris®)	
sulfasalazine IR / DR tablet (generic for Azulfidine® / Entab)	Dipentum® Capsule	
	Lialda® Tablet	
	mesalamine DR capsule / tablet (generic for Delzicol®, Asuco® HD, Lialda®)	
	mesalamine ER capsule (generic for Atrio®, Pentasa®)	
ULCERATIVE COLITIS		
Rectal		
Preferred	T/F of only one preferred drug required	Non-Preferred
mesalamine enema (generic for Rowasa®)	budesonide rectal foam	
mesalamine suppository (generic for Canasa®)	Canasa® Suppository	
SF Rowasa® Enema	mesalamine enema (generic for SF Rowasa®)	
	mesalamine kit (generic for Rowasa®)	
	Rowasa® Kit	

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Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Talzo® Auto-Injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (biosimilar to Stelara®), and Tyensa® (melittomab-sarg) Autoinjector / Syringe / Vial to preferred status in the Biosimilar/ Biosimilars / Pen / (Insulin) / Pen / Syringe, Stegryn® (estradiol-methoxy) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-ada Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest), and Hamra® Craha's Starter Pack / Pod, Craha's Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Strydab® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghyso™ (efalizumab, Bkz) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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GENITOURINARY / RENAL		
ELECTROLYTE DEPLETERS (KIDNEY DISEASE)		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
calcium acetate capsule (generic for Phoslo®)	Aurvia® Tablet	
calcium acetate tablet (generic for Eliphos®)	feric citrate Tablet (generic for Aurvia®)	
sevelamer carbonate powder pack / tablet (generic for Renvelo®)	Fosrenol® Chewable Tablet / Powder Pack	
	lanthanum carbonate chewable tablet (generic for Fosrenol®)	
	MaaneBind® 400 Rx Tablet	
	Renvelo® Powder Pack / Tablet	
	sevelamer hydrochloride tablet (generic for Renaseal®)	
	Velphoro® Chewable	
	Xelchoz® Tablet	
BENIGN PROSTATIC HYPERPLASIA TREATMENTS		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
alfuzosin ER tablet (generic for Uroxatral®)	Cardura® Tablet / XL Tablet	
doxazosin tablet (generic for Cardura®)	Cialis® Tablet 5 mg - Clinical criteria apply	
dutasteride capsule (generic Avodart®)	dutasteride / tamsulosin capsule (generic for Jalyn®)	
finasteride tablet (generic for Proscar®)	Flomax® Capsule	
tamsulosin capsule (generic for Flomax®)	Proscar® Tablet	
terazosin capsule (generic for Hytrin®)	Rapaflo® Capsule	
	sildenafil capsule (generic for Rapaflo®)	
	sildenafil tablet (2.5 mg / 5 mg) (generic for Cialis®) - Clinical criteria apply	
	Tadalafil® Oral Solution	
URINARY ANTISPASMODICS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
feoterodine ER tablet (generic for Toviaz®)	darifenacin ER tablet (generic for Enablex®)	
oxybutynin solution / syrup / tablet / ER tablet (generic for Ditropan® XL)	Detrol® Tablet / LA Capsule	
solifenacin tablet (generic for Vesicare®)	flavoxate tablet (generic for Urivast®)	
tolterodine tablet / ER capsule (generic for Detrol® / LA)	Generic® Tablet - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of dementia or mild cognitive impairment and for patients age >65 years	
Mylrbetris® ER Tablet	mirabegron ER Tablet (generic for Myrbetris®) - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of dementia or mild cognitive impairment and for patients age >65 years	
	Myrbetris® Granules - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of dementia or mild cognitive impairment and for patients age >65 years	
	oxybutynin tablet (2.5 mg)	
	Oxytrol® Patch	
	Toviaz® Tablet	
	trospium tablet / ER capsule (generic for Sanctura® / XR)	
	Vesicare® LS Suspension / Tablet	
GOUT		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
allopurinol tablet (generic for Zylomin®)	allopurinol tablet (200 mg)	
colchicine tablet (generic for Colorex®)	colchicine capsules (generic for Mitigare®)	
febuxostat tablet (generic for Benemid®)	Colexyl® Tablet	
febuxostat-colchicine tablet (generic for Col-Benemid®)	febuxostat tablet (generic for Uloric® Tablet)	
	Glonerba® Solution	
	Krvatexa® Vial	
	Mitigare® (branded colchicine 0.6mg) Capsules	
	Uloric® Tablet	
	Zylorim® Tablet	
HEMATOLOGIC		
ANTICOAGULANTS		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
enoxaparin syringe / vial (generic for Lovenox®)	injectable	
Fragmin® Vial	Arixtra® Syringe	
	fondaparinux syringe (generic for Arixtra®)	
	Fragmin® Syringe	
	Lovenox® Syringe / Vial	
	Oral	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
dabigatran capsule (generic for Pradaxa® Capsule)	Pradaxa® Capsule	
Eliquis® Tablet / Starter Dose Pack / Sprinkle / Suspension	Pradaxa® Pellet Pack	
Jantoven® (branded generic for Coumadin®)	Rivaroxaban tablet / Suspension (generic for Xarelto®)	
warfarin tablet (generic for Coumadin®)	Savaysa® Tablet	
Xarelto® Starter Pack / Tablet	Xarelto® Suspension	
COLONY STIMULATING FACTORS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Fulphila® Syringe	Granix® Safe Syringe / Syringe / Vial	
Fylmsta® Syringe	Leukine® Vial	
Neupogen® Vial / Syringe	Neulasta® Syringe / Kit	
	Nivestyn® Syringe / Vial	
	Novopena® Syringe	
	Relestat® Syringe / Vial	
	Rebvedon® Syringe	
	Ryzacta® Syringe	
	Stimufund® Syringe	
	Udenyo® On-Body / Autoinjector / Syringe	
	Zarzio® Syringe	
	Zovotazo® Syringe	
	Oral	
HEMATOPROLIFERATIVE AGENTS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Aranesp® Syringe / Vial	Mircera® Syringe	
Eprex® Vial	Poasit® Vial	
Retacrit® Vial	Rebzo® Vial	
	Vafeso® (vadadastat) Tablet	
THROMBOPOIESIS STIMULATING AGENTS		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Nplate® Vial	Alvaz® Tablet	
Promacta® Suspension / Tablet	Doptelet Tablet / Sprinkle	
	eltrombopag olamine Suspension / Tablet (generic for Promacta®)	
	Mulpleta	
	Tavalisse® Tablet	
	Wazvitan® Tablet	
OPHTHALMIC		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
azelastine drops (generic for Optivar®)	Alomide® Drops	
croscarmellose sodium drops (generic for Croton®)	Alexx® Drops	
olopatadine drops (generic for Pataday®, Patanol®)	bepotastine drops (generic for Bepreve®)	
olopatadine drops (generic for Pataday®, Patanol®) (OTC)	Bepreve® Drops	
	epinastine drops (generic for Elestat®)	
	loteprednol drops (generic for Alexx®)	
	Zerviate® Drops	
ANTIBIOTICS		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
bacitracin-polymyxin ointment (generic for Polysporin®)	Azastel® Drops	
ceftriaxone solution drops (generic for Ceforan®)	bacitracin ointment (generic for AK-Tracin®)	
erythromycin ointment (generic for Ilotycin®)	Besivance® Suspension	
gentamicin drops (generic for Garimycin®)	Ciloxan® Ointment	
moxifloxacin ophthalmic solution (generic for Vigamox®)	gatifloxacin drops (generic for Zymar®)	
ofloxacin drops (generic for Ocuflax®)	Levofloxacin Drops (Generic for Levaquin®)	
Polycin® Ointment (branded generic for Polysporin®)	moxifloxacin ophthalmic solution (generic for Moxeza®)	
polymyxin-trimethoprim drops (generic for Polyttrim®)	Natacyn® Drops	
sulfacetamide drops (generic for Bleph-10®)	neomycin-bacitracin-polymyxin ointment (generic for Neosporin® Ophthalmic Ointment)	
tobramycin drops (generic for Tobrex®)	neomycin-polymyxin-gramicidin drops (generic for Neosporin® Ophthalmic Drops)	
	Neo-Polycin® Ointment (branded generic for Neosporin® Ophthalmic Ointment)	
	OcuBox® Drops	
	sulfacetamide ointment (generic for Cetamide®)	
	Tobrex® Ointment	
	Vigamox® Drops	
ANTIBIOTIC-STEROID COMBINATIONS		

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 Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved NovoLog® Auto-Injector / Syringe, StarJet™ Vial / Syringe (insulin lispro), and Tysabri® (metformin-extended release) to preferred status in the Hypoglycemic-Injectable: Rapid acting insulin category, due to patient access, effective 03.20.2026.
 Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved NovoLog® U-100 PenFill / FlexPen® / Vial to preferred status in the Hypoglycemic-Injectable: Rapid acting insulin category, due to patient access, effective 03.20.2026.
 Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved NovoLog® U-100 PenFill / FlexPen® / Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® SensorReady® Pen / (Insulin) / Pen / Syringe, Stegynax® (metformin-extended release) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-actemra Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-actemra Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest), and Humira® Crohn's Starter Pack / Ped. Crohn's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skyriza® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghys™ (febricitans) (bka) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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Preferred	Non-Preferred
neomycin-polymyxin-dexamethasone drops / ointment (generic for Maxitrol®)	Maxitrol® Drops / Ointment
Tobradex® Ointment	Neo-Polyclin® HC (branded generic for Cortisporin®)
tobramycin-dexamethasone suspension (generic for Tobradex®)	neomycin-bacitracin-polymyxin-HC ointment (generic for Cortisporin®)
	neomycin-polymyxin-HC drops (generic for Ocutricin®)
	sulfacetamide-prednisolone drops (generic for Vasocidin®)
	Tobradex® ST Drops
	Zymar® Drops
ANTI-INFLAMMATORY	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
dexamethasone drops (generic for Decadron®)	Acular® Drops / LS Solution
diclofenac drops (generic for Voltaren®)	Acular® Solution
difluprednate drops (generic for Durezol®)	neomycin drops (generic for Preloxin®, Xibrom®, BronSite®)
Flarex® Drops	BronSite® Solution
fluorometholone drops (generic for FML®)	Dextenza® Insert
flurbiprofen drops (generic for Ocufen®)	Durezol® Drops
Lotemax® Drops	FML® Forte Drops / Liquifilm® Drops
Nevanac® Droptainer	Ilevyo® Drops
Pred Mild® Drops	Iluvien® Implant
prednisolone acetate drops (generic for Pred Forte®)	Irivilyn® Drops
	ketorolac solution (generic for Acular® / LS)
	Lotemax® Gel / SM Gel / Ointment
	loteprednol drops / gel (generic for Lotemax®)
	Maxidex® Drops
	Ozurdex® Implant
	Pred Forte® Drops
	prednisolone sodium phosphate drops (generic for Inflammase Forte®)
	Preloxin® Drops
	Retisert® Implant
	Trisence® Vial
	Xipere™ (Intraocular)
	Yutiq® Implant
ANTI-INFLAMMATORY / IMMUNOMODULATOR	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Restasis® Drops	Ceeam™ Drops
Xiidra® Drops	cyclosporine emulsion (generic for Restasis®)
	Eysavis® Drops
	Micha™ Drops
	Restasis® Multidose™ Drops
	Tryptyr® Drops
	Turvava® Nasal Spray
	Verkazia® Eye Emulsion - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of vernal keratoconjunctivitis (VKC)
	Neve® Drops
ALPHA 2 ADRENERGIC AGENTS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Alhagan® P Drops	apraclonidine drops (generic for Iopidine®)
brimonidine drops (generic for Alhagan®)	brimonidine P drops (generic for Alhagan® P)
	Iopidine® Drops

North Carolina Division of Health Benefits
North Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

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Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved NovoLog® U-100 PenFill FlexPen® Vial to preferred status in the Hypoglycemic-Injectable: Rapid acting insulin category, due to patient access, effective 03.20.2026.
Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Talzo® Auto-Injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (biosimilar to Stelara®), and Tysabri® (metilimumab-sarg) Auto-Injector / Syringe / Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Seasonal/Day 1 Pen (Usakodyl® Pen / Syringe, Stegyma® (botulinumab-toxo) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-ada Pw / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest) and Hamtra® Craha's Starter Pack / Pod, Craha's Starter Pack / Pen / Portiaxis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM antagonists category; moved Strytra® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghyso™ (efbirikizumab-bkz) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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BETA BLOCKER AGENTS / COMBINATIONS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Combigan® Drops timolol drops / GFS gel-solution (generic for Timoptic® / Timoptic XE®)	betaxolol drops (generic for Betoptic®) Betimol® Drops Betoptic® S Drops brimonidine tartrate / timolol drops (generic for Combigan®) cartiloid drops (generic for Ocuvess®) Istalol® Drops levobunolol drops (generic for Betagan®) timolol hemihydrate (generic for Betimol® drops) timolol drop (generic for Istalol® Drops) timolol maleate drop (generic for Timoptic® Ocudose® Drops) Ocudose® Drops
CARBONIC ANHYDRASE INHIBITORS / COMBINATIONS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
dorzolamide drops (generic for Trusopt®) dorzolamide-timolol drops (generic for Cosopt®) Simbrinza® Drops	Azopt® Drops brinzolamide drops (generic for Azopt® Drops) Cosopt® Drops / PF Drops dorzolamide-timolol PF drops (generic for Cosopt® PF)
PROSTAGLANDIN AGONISTS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
latanoprost drops (generic for Xalatan®) Travatan® Z Drops	bimatoprost drops (generic for Lumigan® Drops) Duresta® Implant iDose® TR Implant Iouze® Drops Lumigan® Drops raflumetol drops (generic for Zioctan®) travoprost drops (generic for Travatan® Z) Vyzulta® Drops Xalatan® Drops Xelance® Drops Zioctan® Drops
RHO KINASE MODIFIERS / COMBINATIONS	
	Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Rhoressa® Drops Rocklatan® Drops	
OSTEOPOROSIS	
BONE RESORPTION SUPPRESSION AND RELATED AGENTS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
alendronate tablet (generic for Fosamax®) Biphos® Syringe (Prolia® Biosimilar) Forteo® Pen raloxifene tablet (generic for Evista®)	Actonel® Tablet alendronate solution (generic for Fosamax® Solution) Atelvia® Tablet Bimonix® Effervescent Tablet Bonisty Pen Injector calcitonin salmon nasal spray (generic for Miacalcin®) Conexence® Syringe (Prolia® Biosimilar) Eventiv® Syringe Evista® Tablet Fosamax® Tablet / Plus D Tablet ibandronate tablet (generic for Boniva®) Jubbont® Syringe (Prolia® Biosimilar) Onomiv® Syringe (Prolia® Biosimilar) Prolia® Syringe risedronate DR tablet (generic for Atelvia®) risedronate tablet (generic for Actonel®) Stoboclo® Syringe (Prolia® Biosimilar) teriparatide pen (generic for Forteo®) Tyndis® Pen
OTIC	
ANTIBIOTICS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
ciprofloxacin-dexamethasone suspension (generic for Ciprodex®) ciprofloxacin-tobramycin-hydrocortisone solution / suspension (generic for Cortisporin®) ofloxacin drops (generic for Floxin®)	Cipro® HC Suspension ciprofloxacin solution (generic for Cetraxal®) ciprofloxacin-fluocinolone drops (generic for Otovel®) Cortisporin-TC® Suspension Otovel® Drops
ANTI-INFECTIVES AND ANESTHETICS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
acetic acid solution (generic for VooSol®)	acetic acid-hydrocortisone solution (generic for VooSol® HC)
ANTI-INFLAMMATORY	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
fluocinolone 0.01% oil (generic for Dermotic®)	Flac® Otic Oil Dermotic® Oil
RESPIRATORY	
BETA-ADRENERGIC HANDHELD, LONG ACTING	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Serevent® Diskus®	Striverdi® Resimat® Inhalation Strav
BETA-ADRENERGIC HANDHELD, SHORT ACTING	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
albuterol HFA inhaler (generic for Proair® HFA Inhaler / Proventil® HFA Inhaler / Ventolin® HFA Inhaler) Ventolin® HFA Inhaler Xopenex® HFA Inhaler	levalbuterol HFA inhaler (generic for Xopenex® HFA Inhaler) Proair® DuoInhaler® Proair® RespClick®

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BETA-ADRENERGIC, NEBULIZERS		
T/F of only one preferred drug required		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
albuterol 0.63mg / 3ml solution (generic for Accuneb®)	arformoterol solution (generic for Brovana®)	
albuterol 1.25mg / 3ml solution (generic for Accuneb®)	Brovana® Solution	
albuterol sulfate 2.5mg / 0.5ml solution	formoterol solution (generic for Perforomist®)	
albuterol sulfate 2.5mg / 3ml solution	levosalbuterol solution / concentrate solution (generic for Xopenex® / Concentrate)	
	Perforomist® Solution	
BETA-ADRENERGIC, ORAL		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
albuterol tablets (generic for Proventil® / Resp tabs)	albuterol ER tablets (generic for VoSpire® ER)	
albuterol xerap (generic for Ventolin® / Syrup)		
terbutaline tablet (generic for Bredine®)		
ORALLY INHALED ANTIChOLINERGICS / COPD AGENTS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Anoro® Ellipta® Inhaler	Bevesni® Aerosphere®	
Atrovent® HFA Inhaler	Daliresp® Tablet	
Combivent® Respiromat® Inhalation Spray	Duaklir® Pressair®	
Incruse® Ellipta® Inhaler	Omnivave® Inhalation suspension	
ipratropium nebulizer solution (generic for Atrovent®)	ipratropium inhaler (generic for Spiriva® Handihaler®)	
ipratropium / albuterol solution (generic for Duoneb®)	Tudorza® Pressair® Inhaler	
roflumilast tablet (generic for Daliresp®)	Umeclidinium-Vilanterol Inhaler (generic for Anoro®)	
Spiriva® Handihaler® / Respiromat® Inhalation Spray	Yupelri® Solution	
Stiolto® Respiromat® Inhalation Spray		
INHALED CORTICOSTEROIDS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Alvesco® Inhaler	ArmonAir™ Diazhaler™	
Armair® Ellipta® Inhaler	fluticasone furoate DPI (generic for Armair® Ellipta™)	
Asmanex® HFA Inhaler / Twisthaler®	fluticasone monomaleate diskus (generic for Flovent® Diskus)	
budesonide suspension 0.25mg, 0.5mg, 1mg (generic for Pulmicort® Respules)	Pulmicort® Respules 0.25mg, 0.5mg, 1mg	
fluticasone propionate HFA (generic for Flovent® HFA)		
Pulmicort® Flexhaler		
QVAR® RediHaler™		
INHALED CORTICOSTEROID COMBINATIONS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Advair® Diskus®	AirDuo® Diazhaler™ / RespClick®	
Advair® HFA Inhaler	AirSura™ Inhaler	
Dulera® Inhaler	Breo® Ellipta®	
Symbicort® Inhaler	Brevin® Inhaler	
	Breo™ Aerosphere™	
	budesonide / formoterol inhalation (generic for Symbicort®)	
	fluticasone / salmeterol HFA inhaler (generic for Advair® HFA)	
	fluticasone / salmeterol inhalation (generic for Advair® Diskus®)	
	fluticasone / salmeterol inhalation (generic for AirDuo®)	
	fluticasone / vilanterol inhalation (generic for Breo® Ellipta®)	
	Treleair® Ellipta®	
	Wixela® Inhub™	
INTRANASAL RHINITIS AGENTS		
Preferred	T/F of preferred agents not required in children < 4 years of age for steroid-containing products	Non-Preferred
azelastine spray (generic for Astelin®)	azelastine nasal spray (generic for Astero™)	
Dymista® Nasal Spray	azelastine-fluticasone nasal spray (generic for Dymista®)	
fluticasone spray (generic for Flonase®)	flumolside nasal spray (generic for Nasalide®)	
ipratropium spray (generic for Atrovent® Nasal)	mometasone nasal spray (generic for Nasonex®)	
olopatadine nasal spray (generic for Patanas®)	Omnaris® Nasal Spray	
	Patanas® Nasal Spray	
	ONas® Nasal Spray / Children's Spray	
	RxVitrin® Nasal Spray	
	Sinosa® Inhaler	
	Xhance™ Nasal Spray	
	Zetonna® Nasal Spray	
LEUKOTRIENE MODIFIERS		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
montelukast chewable / tablet (generic for Singulair®)	Accolate® Tablet	
	montelukast granules (generic for Singulair®)	
	Sinulair® Chewable / Granules / Tablet	
	zafirlukast tablet (generic for Accolate®)	
	zileuton tablet (generic for Zylflo®)	
	Zyflo® Filmtab	
LOW SEDATING ANTIHISTAMINES		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
cetirizine OTC syrup 1mg/1ml (generic for Zyrtec® OTC Syrup)	cetirizine chewable tablet OTC (generic for Zyrtec® OTC Tablet)	
cetirizine Rx syrup (generic for Zyrtec® Syrup)	cetirizine OTC syrup 5mg/5ml (generic for Zyrtec® OTC Syrup)	
cetirizine tablets OTC (generic for Zyrtec® OTC Tablet)	cetirizine OTC softgel	
levocetirizine OTC tablet (generic for Xyzal® OTC Tablet)	Clarinet® Tablet - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 2 years of age	
levocetirizine Rx tablet (generic for Xyzal® Rx Tablet)	desloratadine ODT / Tablet (generic for Clarinet®) - T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 2 years of age	
loratadine tablet OTC (generic for Claritin® OTC)	fexofenadine OTC suspension / OTC tablet (generic for Allegra® OTC)	
	levocetirizine Rx solution (generic for Xyzal® Rx Solution)	
	loratadine OTC chewable ODT / solution (generic for Claritin® OTC)	

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ANTIBIOTICS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
gentamicin cream / ointment (generic for Garavance [®])	Centany [®] AT Ointment Kit / Ointment
neurocin ointment (generic for Bactroban [®])	mupirocin cream (generic for Bactroban [®])
	Xepi [™] Cream
ANTIBIOTICS - VAGINAL	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Cleocin [®] Vaginal Ovules	Cleocin [®] Vaginal Cream
clindamycin vaginal cream (generic for Cleocin [®] Vaginal Cream)	metronidazole vaginal gel (generic for Nuvaess [®] Vaginal Gel)
Clindosec [®] Vaginal Cream	Vandazole [®] Vaginal Gel
metronidazole vaginal gel (generic for MetroGel [®] Vaginal Gel)	Xaciato [®] Vaginal Gel
Nuvaess [®] Vaginal Gel	
ANTIFUNGALS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
clotrimox cream / solution (generic for Loprox [®] , Penlac [®])	Cicloclan [®] Cream / Cream Kit / Kit / Solution
clotrimazole Rx cream (generic for Lotrimin [®] Rx)	clotrimox gel / shampoo / suspension (generic for Loprox [®])
clotrimazole-betamethasone cream (generic for Lotrisone [®])	clotrimox treatment kit (generic for Cicloclan [®])
ketocoazole cream / shampoo (generic for Nizoral [®])	clotrimazole Rx solution (generic for Lotrimin [®] Rx)
Klaryasis [®] Powder (branded generic for Nystan [®])	clotrimazole-betamethasone lotion (generic for Lotrisone [®])
Nystan [®] Powder (branded generic for Nystan [®])	isconazole cream (generic for Spectazole [®])
nystatin cream / ointment / powder (generic for Mycostatin [®] , Nystop [®])	isconazole foam (generic for Ecozax [®])
Nystop [®] Powder	Ertaczo [®] Cream
nystatin-triamcinolone cream / ointment (generic for Mycozol II [®])	Extina [®] Foam
	ketocoazole foam (generic for Extina [®])
	Ketodan [®] Foam / Foam Kit
	Lorox [®] Suspension / Cream / Kit
	luliconazole cream (generic for Luzax [®])
	micozazole / zinc oxide / petrolatum ointment (generic for Vusion [®]) - Clinical criteria apply
	naftifine cream / gel (generic for Naftin [®])
	Naftin [®] Gel
	oxiconazole cream (generic for Oxista [®])
	Oxista [®] Lotion
	salicylic acid ointment (generic for Bensal HP [®])
	tavaborole topical solution (generic for Kerydin [®])
	Vusion [®] Ointment - Clinical criteria apply
ANTIPARASITICS	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
T/F of only one preferred drug required	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Natroba [®] Topical Suspension	Crotan [™] Lotion
permethrin cream (generic for Elimite [®])	Elimite [®] Cream
	Euras [®] Cream / Lotion
	malathion lotion (generic for Oxide [®])
	Ovide [®] Lotion
	Prunadik [™] Lotion
	Sklice [®] Lotion
	spinosad topical suspension (generic for Natroba [®])
ANTIVIRAL	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
acyclovir Cream / Ointment (generic for Zovirax [®])	peniclovir cream (generic for Denavir [®])
Denavir [®] Cream	
Imidazoquinolinamines	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
imiquimod cream packet (generic for Aldara [®])	Condylax [®] Gel
	Hylfor [™] Gel
	imiquimod cream / cream pump (generic for Zyclara [®])
	nedofoxil gel / solution (generic for Condylax [®])
	Verecan [®] Ointment
PSORIASIS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
calcipotriene cream / solution (generic for Dovonex [®])	calcipotriene ointment / foam (generic for Dovonex [®] , Sorilux [®])
calcipotriene-betamethasone suspension / ointment (generic for Talcoonex [®])	calcitriol ointment (generic for Vectical [®])
Vtama [®] Cream	Enstilar [®] Foam
	Sorilux [®] Foam
	Talcoonex [®] Ointment / Suspension
	Vectical Ointment
	Zorve [®] 0.3% Cream / Foam
ROSACEA AGENTS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
azelaic acid gel (generic for Finacea [®])	brimonidine gel pump (generic for Mirvaso [®])
Finacea [®] Gel	Ensolax [®] (benzoyl peroxide)
metronidazole cream (generic for MetroCream [®])	Finacea [®] Foam
metronidazole gel / pump (generic for MetroGel [®])	ivermectin cream (generic for Soolantra [®])
Rosudan [®] Cream / Gel	Metrocream [®]
	MetroGel [®]
	metronidazole lotion (generic for MetroLotion [®])
	Mirvaso [®] (brimonidine)
	Rhofide [®] Cream
	Rosudan [®] Kit
	Soolantra [™] Cream

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Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Taltz® Auto-injector / Syringe, Startrima Vial / Syringe (bupimazine), and Tymanol (metilomomom-sarg) auto-injector / Syringe / Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Senescently® Pen (Turoctan)® Pen / Syringe, Stegyma® (betriximab-aha) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-ada Pw / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest) , and Humira® Crata's Starter Pack / Pod, Crata's Starter Pack / Pen / Paortiasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skytra® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghys™ (efirizumab-bka) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamra® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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T/F criteria, clinical criteria (indicated in RED) may also apply. **New to market products typically default to Non-Preferred status until reviewed by the PDL Panel. These drugs are listed as TO BE REVIEWED.** For drugs requiring prior authorization, clinical criteria and prior authorization request forms can be found at <https://imes.medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/> then click on the Pharmacy Benefit Administrator tile.

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STEROIDS	
Low Potency	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
desonids cream / ointment (generic for DesOwen®)	alclometasone dipropionate cream / ointment (generic for Aclovate®)
DermaSmooth® FS Scalp and Body Oil	Canex®
hydrocortisone cream / lotion / ointment (generic for Hytone®)	desonide lotion (generic for DesOwen® Lotion)
	fluocinolone body / scalp oil (generic for DermaSmooth® FS Scalp / Body Oil)
	Hydrocortisone Solution
	Hydroxym™ Gel
	Texasol™ Solution
Medium Potency	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
fluticasone cream / ointment (generic for Cutivate®)	Beyaz™ Lotion / Kit
mometasone cream / ointment / solution (generic for Elocon®)	clocortolone cream (generic for Cloderm®)
	fluocinolone cream / ointment / solution (generic for Synalar®)
	flurandemide Lotion / Ointment
	fluticasone lotion (generic for Cutivate™ Lotion)
	hydrocortisone butyrate cream / lipid cream / lotion / ointment / solution (generic for Lecoid®)
	hydrocortisone valerate cream / ointment (generic for Westcort™)
	Panaski™ Cream
	prednicarbate cream / ointment (generic for Dermaton®)
	Synalar® Cream / Ointment / Kit / Solution / TS Kit
High Potency	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
betamethasone valerate cream / ointment (generic for Valisone®)	amcinonide cream (generic for Cyclocort®)
fluocinonide cream / oel / ointment / solution (generic for Lidex®)	betamethasone dimethylolamine augmented cream / oel / lotion / ointment (generic for Dierolene®)
triamcinolone acetonide cream / lotion / ointment (generic for Kenalog®)	betamethasone dimethylolamine augmented cream / lotion / ointment (generic for Dimerone®)
	betamethasone valerate foam / lotion (generic for Valisone™)
	desoximetasone cream / oel / ointment / spray (generic for Tonicort®)
	diflorasone cream / ointment (generic for Florone®)
	Diprolene® Ointment
	fluocinonide emollient cream (generic for Lidex® E)
	halcinonide cream (generic for Halos®)
	halcinonide solution (generic for Halos®)
	Halogel™ Cream
	Kenalog® Spray
	Tonicort® Cream / Gel / Ointment / Spray
	triamcinolone spray (generic for Kenalog®)
Very High Potency	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
clobetasol cream / emollient cream / gel / ointment (generic for Temovate®)	ApexiCon™ E Cream
clobetasol shampoo (generic for Clobetex®)	clobetasol foam / emollient foam / emulsion foam (generic for Olux® / Olux-E®)
clobetasol solution (generic for Cormax®)	clobetasol lotion / spray (generic for Clobetex®)
halobetasol propionate cream / ointment (generic for Ultravate®)	Clobex™ Shampoo / Spray
	Clodlan™ Kit / Shampoo
	halobetasol propionate foam (generic for Lexette®)
	Lexette® Foam
	Olux® Foam
	Tovet™ Foam / Foam Kit
	Ultravate™ Lotion
MISCELLANEOUS	
Uterine Disorder Treatments	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Orilissa® Capsule	
Orilissa® Tablet	
Mvembex® Tablet	
Urea Cycle Disorder: Treatments, Oral	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
T/F of only one Preferred drug required	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Duphen® Tablet/Powder	carlglutamic acid Tablet for oral suspension (generic for Carbasalu®)
Carbasalu® Tablet for oral suspension	glycerol phenylbutyrate oral liquid (generic for Ravicti®) T/F of preferred drug is not required for Urea cycle disorder
	Oltrava™ Suspension
	Phiburasan® Oral Pellets
	Ravicti™ Liquid T/F of preferred drug is not required for Urea cycle disorder
	sodium phenylbutyrate Tablet/Powder (generic for Burbenyl®)
WEIGHT MANAGEMENT AGENTS	
GLP-1 Receptor Agonists indicated for the treatment of obesity (Incretin Mimetics)	
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Wegovy® Pen/Tablet	Saxenda® (liraglutide) Pen
	Zenpebid® (tirzepatide) Pen
Weight Management (Non-Incretin Mimetics)	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
diethylpropion tablet / ER tablet	benzphetamine tablet
phendimetrazine tablet / ER capsule	orlistat capsule (generic for Xenical®)
phentermine tablet / capsule	phentermine/Toripramate Capsule (generic for Qsymia®)
	Xenical® (orlistat) Capsule

North Carolina Division of Health Benefits
North Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

Effective Date April 1, 2026

Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Talz® Auto-injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (biosimilar to Stelara®), and Tyensa® (metilimumab-sarg) Autoinjector / Syringe / Vial to preferred status; moved Cosenty® Seasonal® Pen / (Un)ready® Pen / Syringe, Stegyma® (botulinumab-toxo) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-adac Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest), and Hamira® Crohn's Starter Pack / Ped. Crohn's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skytra® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghys™ (febricitamab-
bkb) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamra® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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IMMUNOMODULATORS, ASTHMA	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Fasenra® Pen / Syringe Xolair® (omalizumab) Autoinjector/Syringe	Cinair® Vial Nucala® Syringe / Vial / Autoinjector Tezapir® Pen / Syringe - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of non-allergic, non-eosinophilic severe asthma Xolair® Vial
IMMUNOMODULATORS, Atopic Dermatitis	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Advera® Syringe / Autoinjector Dianzom® Pen / Syringe Eghys™ (febricitamab-bkb) Syringe/Pen Fucris® 2% Ointment otincrolimus cream (generic for Elidel®) tacrolimus ointment (generic for Protopic®)	Anzupox® Cream Cibinqo® Tablet Nemhaxio® Pen Onzclura™ Cream Zorvev® (roflumilast) 0.05% Cream Zorvev® (roflumilast) 0.15% Cream
ANTI-PSORIATICS, ORAL	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
acitretin (generic for Soriatane®)	methoxsalen rapid (generic for Oxsoresol-Ultra®)
EPINEPHRINE, SELF ADMINISTERED	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Quantity limits apply to all drugs in this class	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Axcel-Q® Auto Injector epinephrine auto injector (generic for Epi-Pen® / Epi-Pen® Jr Adremcick®) Epi-Pen® Auto Injector / 2-Pak / Jr. Auto Injector / Jr. 2-Pak neffy® nasal spray	
ESTROGEN AGENTS, COMBINATIONS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Activella® Tablet Amabelz® Tablet estradiol/norethindrone tablet (generic for Activella®) Fvavolv® Tablet Jinteli® (branded generic for FemHRT®) Mimvey® / Lo (branded generic for Activella®) norethindrone-ethinyl estradiol (generic for FemHRT®) Pramphas® Tablet Premeo® Tablet	Abigale™ Lo Tablet Bijuva® Capsule
ESTROGEN AGENTS, ORAL / TRANSDERMAL	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Climara® Pcu Patch Combipatch® Patch estradiol patch (generic for Climara®, Menostar®, Vivelle-Dot®) estradiol tablet (generic for Estrace®) Evamist® Spray Menes® Tablet Premarin® Tablet	Climara® Patch Divigel® Gel Packet Dotti® Patch Duvave® Tablet Elestrin® Gel Estrace® Tablet Estradiol Gel Pump estradiol gel packet (generic for Divigel®) Lyllium® Patch Menostar® Patch Minivelle® Patch Osobena® Tablet Veezoh® Tablet Vivelle-Dot® Patch
ESTROGEN AGENTS, VAGINAL PREPARATIONS	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
estradiol vaginal cream (generic for Estrace®) Estrine® Vaginal Ring Premarin® Vaginal Cream Vagifem® Vaginal Tablet	Estrace® Cream estradiol tablet (generic for Vagifem®) Femring® Vaginal Ring Imvexxy® Vaginal Inserts Yuvafem® Vaginal Tablet
GLUCOCORTICOID STEROIDS, ORAL	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
budesonide EC capsule (generic for Entocort® EC) dexamethasone elixir / tablet (generic for Decadron®) dexamethasone solution (generic for Concedix®) Emflaza® Tablet / Suspension - Clinical criteria apply hydrocortisone tablet methylprednisolone 4mg dosepack / tablet (generic for Medrol®) prednisolone sodium phosphate solution (generic for PrediaPred®, OraPred®, Vericep®) prednisolone solution (generic for Predone®, Millimed®) prednisone dose pack (generic for Sterapred®) prednisone solution / tablet (generic for Deltasone®)	Alkand® Sprinkle Capsule Anamore® Suspension Cortel® Tablet cortisone tablet (generic for Patison®) deflazacort suspension (generic for Emflaza®) - Clinical criteria apply. T/F of preferred agents not required for children < 12 years of age. deflazacort tablet (generic for Emflaza®) - Clinical criteria apply dexamethasone tablet dosepack / Intensol® Drono Eubihlar® Suspension - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of eosinophilic esophagitis Hemady® Tablet Jaydhar Tablet (generic for Emflaza®) Khindiy® Solution Medrol® Dose Pack / Tablet methylprednisolone 4mg / 16mg / 32mg tablet (generic for Medrol®) Millimed® Dose Pack / Tablet prednisone ODT (generic for Orapred® ODT) prednisone tablet Prednisone Intensol® Concentrated Solution Ravox® Tablet Tapendex® Tablet Tapveo® Capsule - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of IgA nephropathy Paxgvi® Suspension

North Carolina Division of Health Benefits
North Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

Effective Date April 1, 2026

Revised 02.19.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Added Eliquis® Sprinkle and Suspension to preferred status in the Oral Anticoagulants category due to fiscal impact, effective 01.01.2026.

Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved NovoLog® E-100 PenFill FlexPen® / Vial to preferred status in the Hypoglycemic Injectable; Rapid acting insulin category, due to patient access, effective 03.20.2026

Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Talz® Auto-injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (biosimilar to Stelara®), and Tyenest® (ustekinumab-uzwz) Autoinjector / Syringe / Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® Secoroadly® Pen / Usolady® Pen / Syringe, Steegyma® (ustekinumab-etho) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-adac Pen / Syringe, adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest) and Humira® Crohn's Starter Pack / Ped. Crohn's Starter Pack / Ped. Crohn's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skyrta® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghys™ (efalizumab-bkz) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

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CYTOKINE AND CAM ANTAGONISTS

Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category

Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class

T/F of only one Preferred drug required

Preferred	Non-Preferred
adalimumab-adbm Pen/Psoriasis-UV Pen/Crohn's Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Boehringer-Ingelheim)	Abrilada™ Pen / Syringe (biosimilar to Humira®)
Enbrel™ Mini Cartridge / Suneclick® Syringe / Syringe / Vial	Actemra® ACTPen™ / Syringe / Vial
Hadlima™ Syringe / PushTouch (biosimilar to Humira®)	adalimumab-aact Pen / Psoriasis-UV Pen / Crohn's Pen / Syringe
infliximab vial (generic for Remicade®)	adalimumab-aatv Autoinjector / Syringe
Orezia™ Starter Pack / Tablet	adalimumab-adaz Pen / Syringe
Psychiso® (ustekinumab-twe) Syringe/Vial	adalimumab-adbm Pen/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest)
Starjema Vial / Syringe (biosimilar to Stelara®)	adalimumab-bkio Pen / Syringe
Talz® Auto-injector / Syringe	adalimumab-rvck Autoinjector / Syringe
Tyenne® (tocilizumab-azsz) Autoinjector / Syringe/ Vial	Amievia™ Syringe / Autoinjector (biosimilar to Humira®)
Xeljanz® Tablet	Arcalyst® SQ Syringe
	Avastin® Vial
	Avtozma® Vial
	Bimzelx® Autoinjector / Syringe
	Cimzia® Starter Kit / Syringe Kit / Vial Kit
	Cosentyx® Secoroadly® Pen / Usolady® Pen / Syringe/ Vial
	Cyltezo™ (adalimumab-adbm) Psoriasis-UV Pen (biosimilar to Humira®)
	Cyltezo™ Syringe / Crohn's-UC-HS Pen / Psoriasis Pen / Pen (biosimilar to Humira®)
	Enseprve™ Syringe
	Entvio® Pen / Vial
	Hulio™ Pen / Syringe (biosimilar to Humira®)
	Humira® Crohn's Starter Pack / Ped. Crohn's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe T/F of preferred adalimumab product is required
	Hyviro™ Pen / Crohn's-UC Pen / Ped. Crohn's Pen / Syringe / Psoriasis Pen (biosimilar to Humira®)
	Ileceq® Pen / Psoriasis Pen / Crohn's-UC Pen / Syringe (biosimilar to Humira®)
	Ilaris® Vial
	Ilumya® Syringe
	Imaldosa™ Syringe/Vial
	Inflectra™ Vial
	Kezvara™ Syringe / Pen
	Kineret® Syringe - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of Neonatal Onset Multi-System Inflammatory Disease
	Obimoz® Tablet
	Orvoch™ (mirikizumab-mekz) Syringe / Pen / Vial
	Orencia® Clicklet™ / Syringe/ Vial
	Orezia™ XR Initiation Pack / Tablet
	Outfit® Syringe/Vial
	Remicade® Vial
	Renflexis™ Vial
	Rinvase® (upadacitinib) LQ Solution
	Rimso® ER Tablet
	Sclarsol™ Vial / Syringe
	Simlandi® Autoinjector/kit (biosimilar to Humira®)
	Simponi® Pen / Syringe / Aria™ Vial
	Skvrizi™ On-Body / Vial / Pen / Syringe
	Sorvktu™ Tablet
	Specvio® Vial / Syringe
	Stelara™ Syringe / Vial T/F of preferred ustekinumab product is required
	Stegyma® (ustekinumab-etho) Vial Syringe
	Tofdenex™ (tocilizumab-bkz) Vial
	Tremfya® Syringe / Iniector / Vial / Pen Induction PK-Crohn
	Uplizna® Vial
	ustekinumab Vial / Syringe (generic for Stelara®)
	ustekinumab-aekn syringe (generic for Stelara®/Sclarsol B™)
	Ustekinumab-twe Vial / Syringe (generic for Pzschiva®)
	Vekiron™ Tablet
	Xeljanz™ Solution / XR Tablet
	Yesintek™ Syringe/Vial
	Yufvma™ Syringe / Autoinjector / Crohn's-UC-HS Autoinjector (biosimilar to Humira®)
	Yusimry™ Pen (biosimilar to Humira®)
	Zynfentr™ Pen / Syringe

IMMUNOSUPPRESSANTS

Preferred	Non-Preferred
Astagraf® XL Capsule	
azathioprine tablet (generic for Imuran®)	
Cellcept® Capsule / Suspension / Tablet	
cyclosporine capsule (generic for Sandimmune®)	
cyclosporine modified capsule / solution (generic for Genagra®, Neoral®)	
Envarsus® XR Tablet	
everolimus tablet (generic for Zortess® Tablet)	
Genagra® Capsule / Solution	
Imuran® Tablet	
ivacorbendolate capsule / suspension / tablet (generic for Cellcept®)	
ivacorbendolate acid tablet (generic for Myfortic®)	
Myfortic® Tablet	
Mythibin™ (ivacorbendolate mofetil) Suspension	
Neoral® Capsule / Solution	
Progra® Capsule / Granule Packet	
Rasamune® Tablet	
Rezurock™ Tablet	
Sandimmune® Capsule / Solution	
sirolimus tablet / solution (generic for Rasamune®)	
tacrolimus capsule (generic for Heceoria®, Prograf™)	
Tazocin® Capsule	
Zortess® Tablet	

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MOVEMENT DISORDERS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Austedo® Tablet	Xenazine® Tablet	
Austedo® XR Tablet / Titration Kit		
Invezza® (valbenazine) Sprinkle Capsules		
Invezza® Capsule / Initiation Pack		
tetrabenazine tablet		
HEREDITARY ANGIOEDEMA (HAE) PROPHYLAXIS AGENTS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Haemra® Vial	Cinryze® Vial	
Orladevo® Capsule	Dawson® Auto syringe	
	Takhyvo® Vial / Syringe	
HEREDITARY ANGIOEDEMA (HAE) TREATMENT AGENTS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Clinical criteria apply to all drugs in this class		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Berinert® Vial / Kit	Ekterly® Tablet	
icatibant syringe (generic for Firazyr®)	Andemby® Auto Injector	
Kalbitor® Vial	Firazyr® Syringe	
Saiziri® Syringe (branded generic for icatibant)	Ruconest® Vial	
OPIOID ANTAGONISTS		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Kloxxado™ Nasal Spray		
LifEMS™ naloxone Syringe Kit		
naloxone nasal spray (OTC)		
naloxone syringe / spray / vial (generic for Narcan®)		
naltrexone tablet		
Narcan® Nasal Spray (OTC)		
Onvee® Nasal Spray		
Restony™ (naloxone) Nasal Spray		
Vivitrol® Vial / Diluent		
Zimle® Syringe		
Zumar® Injection		
OPIOID DEPENDENCE		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Prior Approval Not Required for Coverage of Preferred Agents		Clinical Criteria Apply to Non-Preferred Agents
Brixadi™ Weekly Syringe / Monthly Syringe	buprenorphine-naloxone SL film (generic for Suboxone®)	
buprenorphine-naloxone SL tablet (generic for Suboxone®)	Lofexidine Tablet T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of opioid withdrawal	
buprenorphine SL tablet (generic for Subutex®)	Lucemva® Tablet - T/F of preferred agents not required for diagnosis of opioid withdrawal	
Suboxone® SL Film	Zubsolv® Tablet SL	
Sublocade™ Syringe		
SKELETAL MUSCLE RELAXANTS		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
baclofen tablet (generic for Lioresal®)	Amrix® ER Capsule	
cyclobenzaprine tablet (generic for Flexeril®)	baclofen oral solution	
methocarbamol tablet (generic for Robaxin®)	baclofen suspension (generic for Flexon®)	
tramadol tablet (generic for Zanaflex®)	chlorzoxazone tablet (generic for Parafon Forte®)	
	cyclobenzaprine ER capsule (generic for Amrix®, ER)	
	Dantrium® Capsule / Vial	
	dantrolene sodium capsule (generic for Dantrium®)	
	Fexmid® Tablet	
	Fleasiv® Suspension	
	Lorzone® Tablet	
	L-vivash® Cream Packet	
	metaxalone tablet (generic for Skelaxin®)	
	Norgesic™ Tablet / Forte Tablet	
	orphenadrine / aspirin / caffeine tablet (generic for Norgesic™)	
	orphenadrine citrate tablet / vial (generic for Norflex®)	
	Orphenesic® Forte Tablet	
	Orobax DS/E Solution	
	Orobax® Solution	
	Robaxin® Vial	
	Tanlo® Tablet	
	tizanidine capsules (generic for Zanaflex®)	
	Zanaflex® Capsule / Tablet	
DISPOSABLE INSULIN DELIVERY DEVICES		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
CeQur Simplicity™		
CeQur Simplicity™ Inserter		
Hot Infusor Kit		
Hot Starter Kit		
OmniPod 5R: DexG7/G6 Intro Kit/Pods (GEN5), FS1-2 G6 Intro Kit/Pods		
OmniPod DASH® Pods (5-Pack) / Intro Kit		
OmniPod G6® Pods		
DIABETIC CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITOR SUPPLIES		
Continuous Glucose Monitor Transmitters / Receivers / Readers		
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category		
Clinical criteria apply to all items in this class		
Preferred		Non-Preferred
Dexcom G6™ Transmitter / Receiver	FreeStyle Libre™ 14 day Reader	
Dexcom G7™ Receiver		
FreeStyle Libre™ 2 Reader		
FreeStyle Libre™ 3 Reader		

North Carolina Division of Health Benefits
North Carolina Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)

Effective Date April 1, 2026

Revised 02.19.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Added Eliquis® Sprinkle and Suspension to preferred status in the Oral Anticoagulants category due to fiscal impact, effective 01.01.2026.
 Revised 03.18.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Novolog® E-100 PenFill FlexPen® / Vial to preferred status in the Hypoglycemic-Injectable: Rapid acting insulin category, due to patient access, effective 03.20.2026.
 Revised 03.31.2026 Off-Cycle Change: Moved Taltz® Auto-injector / Syringe, Starjema Vial / Syringe (bio-similar to Stelara®), and Tysabri® (natalizumab-sarg) Auto-injector / Syringe/ Vial to preferred status; moved Cosentyx® SensoReady® Pen / (auto-injector) Pen / Syringe, Steeglyna® (botulinum-abto) Vial / Syringe, adalimumab-ada Pcs / Syringe, adalimumab-abto Pcs/Syringe (Manufacturer: Qualitest), and Hamira® Crohn's Starter Pack / Ped. Crohn's Starter Pack / Pen / Psoriasis Starter Pack / Syringe to non-preferred in the Cytokine and CAM Antagonists category; moved Skystrofa® Cartridge to preferred and removed the red writing T/F (Trial/Failure) of preferred agents not being required for children <18 years of age in the Growth Hormone category; moved Eghyso™ (efalizumab-bka) Syringe / Pen to preferred in the immunomodulators, Atopic Dermatitis category; added Wegovy® Tablet as preferred in the GLP-1 weight management category, and moved Viamo® Cream to preferred in the Psoriasis category due to fiscal impact, effective 04.01.2026.

Trial and failure (T/F) of two Preferred drugs are required unless only one Preferred option is listed or a T/F criteria exemption is otherwise indicated.

Not all therapeutic drug classes are included on the PDL. All drugs in the classes not included are considered Preferred. In addition to

T/F criteria, clinical criteria (indicated in RED) may also apply. **New to market products typically default to Non-Preferred status until reviewed by the PDL Panel. These drugs are listed as TO BE REVIEWED.** For drugs requiring prior authorization, clinical criteria and prior authorization request forms can be found at <https://imes.medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/> then click on the Pharmacy Benefit Administrator tile.

More information on the PDL can be found at <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/providers/programs-services/prescription-drugs/outpatient-pharmacy-services>

Continuous Glucose Monitor Sensors	
Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category	
Clinical criteria apply to all items in this class	
Preferred	Non-Preferred
Freestyle Libre™ 2 Sensor	Freestyle Libre™ 14 day Sensor
Freestyle Libre™ 2 Plus Sensor	
Freestyle Libre™ 3 Sensor	
Freestyle Libre™ 3 Plus Sensor	
Dexcom G6™ Sensor	
Dexcom G7™ Sensor (10 day sensor and 15 day sensor)	

DIABETIC SUPPLIES
 Plans may not apply additional utilization management or prior authorization criteria to this category
 N.C. Medicaid only covers, at point of sale, the designated preferred products listed below for blood glucose meters, diabetic test strips, control solutions, lancets, and lancing devices for Medicaid-primary recipients (dually eligible and third-party recipients are not affected). These products are covered under the Outpatient Pharmacy Program and can be submitted to the pharmacy point-of-sale system with a prescription. Diabetic supplies, including other brands, can also be submitted under Durable Medical Equipment using the NDC and HCPCS code. Beneficiaries are allowed 1 covered meter every 2 years (730 days). For questions or assistance regarding diabetic supplies for Medicaid Direct members, please call the Prime Therapeutics call center at 1-844-626-6116. *All blood glucose meters are billed using the NC Medicaid Free BIN Meter program. BIN 610524, PCN 1016, Group 40026479, ID 066499643.*

Meters	Lancing Devices
ACCU-CHEK® Guide Retail care kit * (see above for billing)	ACCU-CHEK® Softelx lancing device kit (Black)
ACCU-CHEK® Guide Mc Retail care kit * (see above for billing)	ACCU-CHEK® Fastelx lancing device kit
Test Strips	Control Solutions
ACCU-CHEK® AVIVA PLUS 50 ct test strips	ACCU-CHEK® Aviva glucose control solution (2 levels)
ACCU-CHEK® SMARTVIEW 50 ct test strips	ACCU-CHEK® SmartView glucose control solution (1 level)
ACCU-CHEK® Guide 50 ct test strips	ACCU-CHEK® Guide 2-Level control solution (2-levels)
ACCU-CHEK® Guide 100 ct test strips	
Lancets	
ACCU-CHEK® Softelx 100 ct Lancets	
ACCU-CHEK® Fastelx 102 ct Lancets	