# Please Read: Changes to Your Drug Coverage

October, 2016

#### Dear Member:

Thank you for choosing us for your health and drug coverage. We at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana and HMO Louisiana, Inc. care about your health and want to help you get the care and medicines you need.

We explain three changes to your drug coverage this year in this letter.

#### RIGHT TO CONTINUATION UNTIL RENEWAL

The changes described in this letter take place on your renewal date. Until the renewal date, you may continue to use any prescription drug approved or covered under the plan at the contracted benefit level, regardless of whether the drug is being removed from the formulary. This does not prohibit a physician or authorized prescriber from prescribing an alternative drug if that drug is covered under the plan and is medically appropriate for you.

## These changes start Jan. 1, 2017, upon renewal:

## Your plan will have a new Covered Drug List.

# What does this change mean?

Your plan will no longer cover some drugs; however, thousands of generic and brand drugs will be on your new 2017 Covered Drug List (also called a formulary). You can be sure there will be drug options on the list that are appropriate for your covered care. The 2017 Covered Drug List helps you get the drugs you need to manage your health, keeps costs down and follows the guidance of the independent Louisiana doctors and pharmacists who help us make decisions about drug coverage.

# Why are we making these changes?

As drugs cost more, insurance premiums have to go up to cover them. To keep insurance premiums from rising even more, we have to be more selective in the drugs we cover.

#### What can you do?

**Find out if your drug is covered.** Taking covered drugs will save you money because, with your health plan, you won't have to pay the full cost.

- 1. Check the label on your prescription medicine for the name of your drug.
- 2. You can find out which drugs are covered by checking the **2017 Covered Drug List** at **bcbsla.com/covereddrugs**.
- For your convenience, we enclosed a list of Common Drugs Not Covered in 2017. You can check this list for drugs you take. If your drug is on the enclosed list, it won't be covered in 2017. Talk to your doctor about what to do next.

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# What if you can't take a covered drug?

Your doctor may also ask for a drug to be covered, if you have a medically necessary need for it. Coverage may not be possible for all drugs, but we may look into your case with your doctor. If you want to take a drug that is not covered, you may have to pay its full cost.

# More drugs will need prior authorization.

# What does this change mean?

In 2017, we will add to the list of drugs that require prior authorization. Your doctor must ask for prior authorization from us for some drugs. We need this when drugs have serious side effects, are harmful when taken with other drugs, should only be used for certain health problems, or when less expensive drugs may work.

## What can you do?

Please check the **Prior Authorization Additions** sheet we sent with this letter for drugs you take. If you take a drug on the list, talk to your doctor about asking for prior authorization, if needed.

# ■ Some drugs will have new limits on how much you can fill at one time.

# What does this change mean?

In 2017, we will add or change how much medicine you can get at one time for some drugs covered under your plan. This limit is called a quantity per dispensing limit or QPD.

# What can you do?

Check the **2017 Covered Drug List** at **bcbsla.com/covereddrugs** for drugs you take. If your drug has "QPD" beside it, you can get these drugs, but you can only get so much at a time covered under your plan.

**Talk to your doctor.** We want you and your doctor to make the best decisions about your health together. If you take a drug on the lists we sent with this letter, bring the letter and lists on your next visit with your doctor.

If you have any questions about your drug coverage, call Express Scripts\* Customer Service toll-free at 1-866-781-7533. For more about how your drug coverage works, go to **bcbsla.com/pharmacy**.

We are making these changes to help you get the care you need and hold down your costs. We thank you for being our member; and we thank you for your patience with these changes. We will be happy to help you through them.

Sincerely,

Milam Ford, B.S. Pharm, MBA, MPH Vice President, Pharmacy Services

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<sup>\*</sup>Express Scripts is an independent company that serves as the pharmacy benefit manager for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana and HMO Louisiana, Inc.



# **Common Drugs Not Covered in 2017**

Your plan will cover thousands of brand and generic drugs in 2017; however, some drugs will not be covered.

#### **About this list:**

- This is a list of the most common single-source brand (drugs that do not have a generic equivalent or exact copy) and generic drugs that will not be covered in 2017.
- Multi-source brand name drugs (drugs that have a generic equivalent or exact copy) are not included on this list, but most will
  not be covered as well.

# Find out if you take a common drug that will not be covered:

- 1. Check the label on your prescription medicine for the name of your drug.
- 2. Then check this list of Common Drugs Not Covered in 2017.

#### What to do next:

If your drug is on this list:

This means it won't be covered in 2017. Talk to your doctor about switching to a covered drug to treat your health problem. Your doctor may also ask for a drug to be covered if you have a medically necessary need for it. Coverage may not be possible for all drugs, but we may look into your case with your doctor. If you want to take a drug that is not covered, you may have to pay its full cost.

What you need to know:

You can see the **2017 Covered Drug List** at **bcbsla.com/covereddrugs**. Taking covered drugs will save you money because, with your health plan, you won't have to pay the full cost.

### **Common Drugs Not Covered in 2017**

Key: BRAND medications are listed in UPPER CASE and generics in lower case. \*Drugs with an asterisk are covered in selected strengths and/or dosage forms.

| ABSORICA                | BECONASE AQ             | CLINPRO 5000                    | DYMISTA                  |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACANYA                  | BELBUCA                 | CLOCORTOLONE PIVALATE           | EASY TOUCH TEST STRIPS   |
| ACCU-CHEK TEST STRIPS   | BELSOMRA                | CLODERM                         | ECOZA                    |
| ACTICLATE               | benzonatate 100 mg cap* | COLCRYS                         | EDARBI                   |
| ADVOCATE TEST STRIPS    | BETASERON               | CONDYLOX                        | EDARBYCLOR               |
| ADZENYS XR-ODT          | BRISDELLE               | CONZIP                          | EDLUAR                   |
| AFREZZA                 | BUNAVAIL                | CORDRAN CREAM/OINTMENT*         | ELIXOPHYLLIN             |
| ALOGLIPTIN-METFORMIN    | BUPHENYL                | CUPRIMINE                       | EPIDUO                   |
| ALOGLIPTIN-PIOGLITAZONE | buprenorphine           | CUVPOSA                         | EPIDUO FORTE             |
| ALORA                   | buprenorphine-naloxone  | cyclobenzaprine 7.5 mg*         | EPIFOAM                  |
| AMICAR                  | CAMBIA                  | CYCLOGYL                        | ESTROGEL                 |
| AMRIX                   | CAPCOF                  | DAKLINZA                        | EVEKEO                   |
| ANALPRAM HC             | CAPEX SHAMPOO           | DEPO-TESTOSTERONE               | EVZIO                    |
| ANDRODERM               | CARAC                   | desloratadine odt*              | FABIOR                   |
| ANGELIQ                 | CARDIZEM LA             | DESONATE                        | FARXIGA                  |
| ANTARA                  | carisoprodol 250 mg*    | DESVENLAFAXINE ER               | FENOFIBRATE*             |
| APLENZIN                | CITRANATAL 90 DHA       | DESVENLAFAXINE FUMARATE ER      | FENOPROFEN 400 MG*       |
| APRISO                  | CITRANATAL ASSURE       | DEXPAK                          | FENTORA                  |
| APTENSIO XR             | CITRANATAL B-CALM       | DIFFERIN                        | FLAREX                   |
| ASTAGRAF XL             | CITRANATAL DHA          | doxycyclate monohydrate 150 mg* | FLECTOR                  |
| AURYXIA                 | CITRANATAL HARMONY      | doxycycline dr*                 | FLUOROURACIL 0.5% CREAM* |
| AVAR*                   | CITRANATAL RX           | DOXYCYCLINE IR-DR*              | FLUOXETINE 60 MG TAB*    |
| AZASAN                  | CLARINEX SYRUP          | DUET DHA BALANCED               | FORADIL                  |
| AZELEX                  | CLARINEX-D 12 HOUR      | duloxetine 40 mg*               | FORFIVO XL               |
|                         |                         |                                 |                          |

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**FOSRENOL NESTABS PREVIDENT TIVORBEX** FREESTYLE TEST STRIPS **NESTABS DHA PROCENTRA TOBI PODHALER GELNIQUE** NITRO-DUR **PROCORT TOLAK GENOTROPIN** nitroglycerin spray (lingual only)\* PROCTOFOAM-HC **TOPICORT GMATE TEST STRIPS NORITATE** PRODIGY NO CODING TEST STRIPS **TOPIRAMATE ER\* GRALISE NUCYNTA ER** PRO-RED AC TRAMADOL CAPS\* **GRASTEK PROTONIX GRANULES OB COMPLETE TREXALL HALOG OB COMPLETE ONE** PROVIDA DHA **TRIBENZOR** OB COMPLETE PETITE PROVIDA OB **TRICARE HORIZANT HUMULIN N U-100 OB COMPLETE WITH DHA PURIXAN** TRICARE PRENATAL DHA ONE **HUMULIN R U-100 OBTREX DHA QUILLICHEW ER TRIGLIDE** INDERAL XL olanzapine-fluoxetine **RAGWITEK** TRISTART DHA **ULTIMA TEST STRIPS** INNOPRAN XL **OMNITROPE** ranitidine caps\* **ONETOUCH TEST STRIPS ISORDIL RASUVO URELLE JUBLIA ONEXTON RAYOS URIBEL** KARBINAL ER **RELION INSULINS VARUBI ONGLYZA RELION PRIME TEST STRIPS KAZANO** ONZETRA XSAIL **VASCEPA KERYDIN OPANA ER** RENAGEL venlafaxine er tabs\* **VERAMYST ORACEA RETIN-A MICRO PUMP KHEDEZLA** klor-con pkt (20 mEg only)\* **ORALAIR** RIOMET **VERDESO** KLOR-CON PKT (25 mEq only)\* OSENI RITALIN LA **VEREGEN** KOMBIGLYZE XR **OSMOPREP ROSULA VERIPRED 20 KRISTALOSE OTREXUP ROZEREM** VIEKIRA PAK K-TAB ER\* **OVACE PLUS** SAIZEN VIOKACE LAMICTAL STARTER PACK **OXAYDO SANCUSO** VITAFOL LIPOFEN **OXISTAT SARAFEM** VITAFOL NANO LOCOID **OXYCODONE HCL ER\* SELECT-OB** VITAFOL ULTRA LORTAB SOLUTION **PANCREAZE** SELECT-OB + DHA VITAFOL-OB+DHA **LORZONE** PANDEL **SEROSTIM** VITAFOL-ONE MAXIDEX PAXIL SUSPENSION SHOHL'S MODIFIED VIVLODEX **MEDROL PENNSAID** SILENOR WAVESENSE PRESTO TEST STRIPS megestrol acetate 625mg/5mL\* **PERTZYE** SITAVIG **XARTEMIS XR MEMANTINE TITRATION PACK\* PEXEVA SOLODYN** XIGDUO XR **MENOSTAR PLEXION SOOLANTRA XOLEGEL** POLY-TUSSIN AC **ZEMBRACE SYMTOUCH** metformin er (osmotic)\* **SORILUX** metformin er (gastric retention)\* **PRAMOSONE SPRITAM** ZENZEDI **MILLIPRED PREFEST SPRIX ZEPATIER** minocycline er\* PRENATAL 19 **SUBSYS ZIPSOR MITIGARE** PRFNATF AM SUMAVEL DOSEPRO **ZOHYDRO ER NALFON** PRENATE DHA **SUMAXIN** zolpidem sublingual\* **NAMZARIC** PRENATE ELITE SYMAX DUOTAB **ZONALON NAPRELAN** PRENATE ENHANCE **TACLONEX ZORVOLEX** naproxen sodium cr\* PRENATE ESSENTIAL **TANZEUM ZOVIRAX** naproxen sodium er\* PRENATE MINI TAZORAC **ZYCLARA NEO-SYNALAR** PRENATE PIXIE **TECHNIVIE** 

**PREVACID** 

**TEXACORT** 

**FOSAMAX PLUS D** 

**NEPHRO-VITE** 

**NESINA** 

Key: BRAND medications are listed in UPPER CASE and generics in lower case. \*Drugs with an asterisk are covered in selected strengths and/or dosage forms.

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# **Prior Authorization Additions**

Some drugs require prior authorization. This means your doctor must speak with us before your plan may cover them.

#### Drugs that usually need prior authorization:

- Drugs that a doctor orders when less expensive drugs might work
- Drugs that should be used only for certain health problems
- Drugs that have dangerous side effects
- Drugs that are harmful when combined with other drugs

About this list: As of Jan. 1, 2017, we will add the drugs listed on this sheet to the authorization

**program.** This is not a full list of drugs covered under your plan. To see the full list of drugs that need prior authorization, go to **bcbsla.com/pharmacy.** As benefits may vary by group and individual plans, the inclusion of a medication on this list does not imply prescription

drug coverage.

What can you do? Talk to your doctor about requesting prior authorization for your drugs, if needed. Your

doctor might switch you to another drug that doesn't need prior authorization. Or, he or

she can call or fax Express Scripts\* to start the approval process.

#### Drugs that must have prior authorization for NEW users:

If you are already taking any of the new drugs that will require prior authorization, your doctor does not have to get prior authorization for you to continue taking them.

Aerospan® Pulmicort Flexhaler®

Alvesco® Qudexy® XR
Arcapta™ Neohaler™ Restasis®
Asmanex® HFA Savaysa®

Asmanex ® Twisthaler®

Bethkis®

Brovana®

Cayston®

Dulera®

Perforomist®

Pradaxa®

Seebri™ Neohaler®

Stiolto™ Respimat®

TOBI® Podhaler™

Trokendi XR®

Tudorza® Pressair®

Utibron™ Neohaler®

Xopenex HFA®

Proventil® HFA

Key: BRAND medications are listed in UPPER CASE and generics in lower case.

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<sup>\*</sup>Express Scripts is an independent company that serves as the pharmacy benefit manager for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana and HMO Louisiana, Inc.

# Drugs that must have prior authorization for NEW and CURRENT users:

If you are already taking one of these drugs, or if your doctor orders a new prescription for one of these drugs, he or she must ask for prior authorization before your plan may cover the drug.

| Common Use or Conditions | Drugs That Treat Those Conditions                                     |  |  |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| Antifungal               | Ertaczo®, Exelderm®, Luzu®, Mentax®, Naftifine 1% Cream, Naftin® gel, |  |  |
|                          | Oravig <sup>®</sup>   |  |  |
| Anti-infective           | Daraprim®   |  |  |
| Asthma                   | Zyflo®, Zyflo CR®   |  |  |
| Cystic Fibrosis          | tobramycin inhalation   |  |  |
| High Cholesterol         | Livalo®   |  |  |
| Narcolepsy               | Xyrem <sup>®</sup>  |  |  |
| Skin Conditions          | acyclovir ointment, Denavir®, Elidel®, tacrolimus ointment            |  |  |

**Key:** BRAND medications are listed in UPPER CASE and generics in lower case.

Find out more: To learn more about your drug coverage, go to bcbsla.com/pharmacy.

Questions? If you have any questions about your prescription benefits, call the Express Scripts

Customer Service Department toll-free at 1-866-781-7533, or the Pharmacy number on

the back of your member ID card.