

Essential Formulary

2019 Preferred Drug List | Effective 01/01/2019

This Preferred Drug List (PDL) is a guide to common cost-effective medications covered on the QualChoice Essential Formulary. This list is not all-inclusive. Coverage depends on your benefit plan. Check QualChoice.com for the most up-to-date information.

Print this PDL and take it with you when you see a doctor or other medical provider. We encourage doctors to prescribe drugs on this list when they are medically right for you. In all cases, choices about your healthcare and treatment are between you and your doctor.

How We Select Preferred Drugs

The drugs on this list are chosen for safety, effectiveness, and cost, based on the guidance of the QualChoice Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee. This group is made up of practicing doctors and pharmacists. They look at drugs regulated by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) — both newly approved and those that have been on the market for some time.

Reading the Drug List

Column 1 lists major drug categories such as antibiotics and sub-categories such as penicillins. Any restrictions on the drug are noted as:

PA (Pre-Authorization)

Covered only if pre-authorized (pre-approved). You or your doctor must have approval before filling the prescription. If you don't get approval, your medication may not be covered. Call **Catamaran**, an OptumRx company, at 877.629.3118 for a pre-authorization form. Your doctor must fill it out and send to Catamaran.

QL (Quantity Limits)

Covered only for a limited number of doses over a certain amount of time. To learn more about QL on a certain drug, call **Catamaran** at 877.629.3118.

ST (Step Therapy)

Requires use of some other drug first before it is covered. Starts with the most cost-effective and safest drugs and moves on to other more costly ones only if needed. Examples are muscle relaxants and some specialty drugs.

Columns 2, 3, 4 list the drug's tier level. Each drug is listed in one of three payment tiers, each with a different costshare.

Tier 1 – Lowest Copayment

Most (but not all) generic drugs are in Tier 1. For the lowest out-of-pocket cost, always ask your doctor if a Tier 1 drug would work for you.

Tier 2 – Middle Copayment

If your drug is in Tier 2, ask your doctor if a Tier 1 drug might work for you.

Tier 3 – Highest Copayment

If your drug is in Tier 3, ask your doctor if a Tier 1 or Tier 2 drug might work for you.

Specialty Drugs

These drugs may have a higher co-payment or deductible and coinsurance, based on your plan. They can be filled by our preferred specialty pharmacy, BriovaRx. For help, call **BriovaRx at 866.791.8679**. Check your *Benefit Summary* about specialty drug coverage under your plan. For a list of common specialty drugs, go to *QualChoice.com*; select *Already a Member?*, *Pharmacy and Drug Formularies*, then select *Commonly Used Specialty Drugs*. To see what you will pay for a specialty drug, check your *Benefit Summary*.

For more on your specific drug coverage, check your *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)* or *Certificate of Coverage (COC)*. If you do not have a copy of these or your *Benefit Summary*, log at **QualChoice.com** and select *Your Benefit Booklet*. Or call us at 800.235.7111 or 501.228.7111 to ask for a copy to be mailed to you.

Medication Not Listed

If your drug is not listed here, sign in to *My Account* at *QualChoice.com* and select *Your Drug Formulary*. On the *OptumRx Dashboard*, select *Drug Lookup*.

Generic Drugs

Generics are FDA-approved and have the same active ingredients as the brand-name drug. They are most often less costly than brand-name drugs. On the drug list, (*) means that a generic version is available.

Appeal Process

You have the right to appeal any decision by QualChoice to not provide or pay for a medication. You may file an appeal by filling out the *Member Appeal Request Form* at *QualChoice.com*. You may also call us at 501.228.7111 or 800.235.7111 and ask for a copy to be mailed to you.

*Generic version available

Drug Category	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Anti-Infectives			
Antibiotics – Cephalosporins	cefaclor, cefadroxil, cefdinir, cefixime, cefprozil, ceftibuten, cefuroxime, cephalexin, cefpodoxime		cefditoren, Suprax tab
Antibiotics – Fluoroquinolones	ciprofloxacin, ciprofloxacin ER, levofloxacin, moxifloxacin, ofloxacin 400mg		
Antibiotics – Macrolides	azithromycin, clarithromycin, clarithromycin ER, erythromycin		Dificid (PA), Ery-Tab, PCE, Zmax
Antibiotics – Penicillins	amoxicillin, amoxicillin w/ pot clavulanate, ampicillin, dicloxacillin, penicillin		Amoxicillin 775mg, Moxatag ER
Antibiotics – Other	doxycycline hyclate IR, doxycycline monohydrate IR, minocycline IR	tetracycline	Ketek, Sivextro
Antifungals	fluconazole(QL), itraconazole, ketoconazole (PA), terbinafine, voriconazole		
Antivirals – Flu	amantadine, rimantadine, oseltamivir		Relenza
Antivirals – Herpes	acyclovir, famciclovir, valacyclovir		
Antivirals – HIV	All generics	Atripla, Intelence, Kaletra tabs, Norvir cap/sol, Prezista, Truvada, Viread	Complera, Crixivan, Descovy, Isentress, Edurant, Evotaz, Genvoya, Lexiva susp, Odefsey, Prezcobix, Selzentry, Stribild, Tivicay, Triumeq, Vitekta
Cardiovascular			
ACE Inhibitors and ACE inhibitor combinations (QL)	benazepril, benazepril hctz, captopril, captopril hctz, enalapril, enalapril hctz, fosinopril, fosinopril hctz, lisinopril, lisinopril hctz, moexipril, moexipril hctz, perindopril, quinapril, quinapril hctz, ramipril, trandolapril		

Drug Category	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Angiotensin II Receptor Antagonists (ARB's) and combinations (QL)	candesartan, candesartan hctz, irbesartan, irbesartan hctz, eprosartan 600mg, losartan, losartan hctz, olmesartan, olmesartan/hctz, telmisartan, telmisartan hctz, valsartan, valsartan hctz		Edarbi (PA), Edarbyclor (PA)
Antihyperlipidemics (statins)	atorvastatin, fluvastatin, lovastatin, pravastatin, simvastatin	rosuvastatin	Livalo (PA)
Other Antihyperlipidemic Agents	amlodipine/atorvastatin, cholestyramine, colestipol, ezetimibe, ezetimibe/simvastatin (PA), fenofibrate, gemfibrozil, niacin extrel, niacin/lovastatin	fenofibric acid cap 45mg DR, fenofibric acid cap 135mg DR, fenofibrate cap 130mg	
Antihypertensive combinations (QL)	amlodipine/atorvastatin, amlodipine/benazepril, amlodipine/olmesartan, amlodipine/telmisartan, amlodipine/valsartan, amlodipine/valsartan/hctz		
Antihypertensive – Other (QL)	eplerenone, spironolactone		Bidil, Tekturna, Tekturna HCT
Antiplatelet/Anticoagulant Agents	Aspirin/dipyridamole, cilostazol, clopidogrel, dipyridamole, prasugrel, ticlopidine, warfarin	Eliquis, Xarelto	Brilinta, Pradaxa, Zontivity
Beta Blockers	acebutolol, atenolol, bisoprolol, carvedilol, carvedilol ER, metoprolol, metoprolol XL, propranolol, propranolol ER		Bystolic, Dutoprol
Calcium Channel Blockers	amlodipine, diltiazem, felodipine, isradipine, nicardipine, nifedipine, nimodipine, verapamil		
Central Nervous System			
ADHD Medications (QL)	amphetamine salts, dextroamphetamine, dextroamphetamine SR, dexamethylphenidate, guanfacine ER (PA), methylphenidate, modafanil (PA), armodafinil (PA), atomoxetine	amphetamine-dextroamphetamine SR, dextroamphetamine ER, dexamethylphenidate ER, methylphenidate ER	Daytrana (PA), Quillivant XR, Vyvanse (PA)

Drug Category	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Analgesics – Narcotic (All brands with a generic equivalent available are not covered) QL apply; All long-acting products require PA	codeine-apap, fentanyl, hydrocodone combinations, hydromorphone, meperidine, morphine sulfate, oxycodone combinations, oxycodone CR	Oxycodone ER, OxyContin	Fentora (PA)
Analgesics – NSAIDs	diclofenac, diclofenac-misoprostol, etodolac, ibuprofen, indomethacin, meloxicam, naproxen, piroxicam, sulindac	celecoxib	Flector (PA)
Alzheimers	donepezil, galantamine, memantine, memantine ER, rivastigmine		
Antianxiety	alprazolam, diazepam, lorazepam		
Anticonvulsants	carbamazepine, clonazepam, divalproex sodium, gabapentin, lamotrigine, lamotrigine ER, levetiracetam, levetiracetam ER, oxcarbazepine, phenytoin, tiagabine, topiramate, topiramate ER, zonisamide		Briviact (PA), Dilantin*, Lyrica(PA), Onfi tabs (PA), Oxtellar XR, Vimpat
Antidepressants – SNRIs (QL)	venlafaxine, venlafaxine ER caps	duloxetine	Desvenlafaxine ER
Antidepressants – SSRIs (QL)	citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine caps, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, paroxetine ER, sertraline		
Antidepressants – Other (QL)	amitriptyline, bupropion immediate-release, bupropion SR, bupropion XL, desipramine, imipramine, mirtazapine, nortriptyline		Viibryd
Anti-Parkinson's Agents	carbidopa/levodopa, entacapone, pramipexole, rasagiline, rivastigmine, ropinirole ropinirole SR, tolcapone		Neupro patch (PA)
Antipsychotic Agents (QL)	Aripiprazole, clozapine, olanzapine, olanzapine/fluoxetine, quetiapine, risperidone, ziprasidone		Equetro, Latuda, Rexulti (PA), Saphris (PA), Vraylar (PA)

Drug Category	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Migraine Products (QL = ALL)	eletriptan (PA), naratriptan, rizatriptan, rizatriptan MLT, sumatriptan, zolmitriptan, zolmitriptan ODT	almotriptan (PA), frovatriptan (PA)	Zomig Nasal Spray 5mg
Sedative – Hypnotics (QL)	flurazepam, temazepam, triazolam, zaleplon (QL), zolpidem (QL)	eszopiclone (QL), zolpidem ER (QL)	Rozerem (QL)
Skeletal Muscle Relaxants	carisoprodol, chlorzoxazone, cyclobenzaprine, tizanidine tabs	metaxalone 800mg(ST)	
Endocrine			
Diabetes – Combinations	glyburide/metformin, pioglitazone/glimepiride, pioglitazone/metformin		ActoplusMet XR
Diabetes – Insulin		Lantus, Levemir, Novolin, NovoLog, Toujeo, Tresiba	Apidra, Humalog, Humulin
Diabetes – Insulin Secreting Agents	chlorpropamide, glimepiride, glipizide, glyburide, nateglinide, repaglinide, tolazamide		
Diabetes – Insulin Sensitizing Agents	metformin, metformin ER (some forms excluded), pioglitazone		
Diabetes – Non–Insulin injectable antihyperglycemic agents		Victoza (PA)	Byetta (PA), Bydureon (PA), Ozempic (PA), Symlin
Diabetes – Other Medications	acarbose	Janumet (PA), Janumet XR (PA), Januvia(PA), Jardiance (PA), Jentaduet (PA), Glyxambi, Invokana (PA), Invokamet (PA), Invokamet XR (PA), Syndardy (PA), Synjardy XR (PA), Tradjenta (PA)	
Diabetic Supplies		Accu–Chek, OneTouch	
Thyroid Agents	levothyroxine, Levoxyl		Armour Thyroid
Gastrointestinal/Urinary			
Digestive Aids		Creon, Zenpep	
Gallstone Solubilizing Agents	ursodiol		
Genitourinary Medications	Darifenacin (PA), oxybutynin, oxybutynin ER, tolterodine, tolterodine ER, trospium, trospium ER		Myrbetriq (PA), Vesicare (PA)
H–2 Antagonists**	cimetidine, famotidine, ranitidine tabs/syrup	nizatidine	

Drug Category	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Hyperparathyroid Agents	calcitriol, doxercalciferol, paracalcitol		
Inflammatory/Irritable Bowel/Opioid Induced Constipation	balsalazide, mesalamine, sulfasalazine	Apriso, Canasa, Linzess (PA), Movantik (PA), Symproic (PA)	Amitiza (PA), Pentasa
Proton Pump Inhibitors	omeprazole, pantoprazole	lansoprazole, rabeprazole	
Men's Health			
Erectile Dysfunction Agents	Sildenafil (PA/QL), tadalafil (PA/QL)		Caverject (PA)
Hormone Replacement	Testosterone gel 1.62% (PA/QL)	testosterone inj (PA)	
Prostate Health	alfuzosin, doxazosin, dutasteride, tamsulosin, terazosin		
Respiratory			
Antihistamines	Cetirizine oral soln, loratadine	desloratadine, levocetirizine	
Asthma – Beta Agonists Long Acting		Serevent	Brovana, Perforomist, Striverdi
Asthma – Beta Agonists Short Acting	albuterol sulfate, metaproterenol	ProAir HFA, Ventolin HFA	
Asthma–Leukotriene Modulators	montelukast, zafirlukast		Zyflo (PA)
Asthma – Steroid Inhalants	budesonide	Arnuity Ellipta, Flovent, Pulmicort flexhaler	
Asthma – Other	ipratropium/albuterol	Advair (PA), Anoro Ellipta, Breo Ellipta (PA) Spiriva, Incruse Ellipta, Stiolto, Symbicort (PA)	Atrovent HFA, Combivent Respimat, Daliresp (PA)
Nasal Products	azelastine, budesonide, flunisolide, fluticasone, mometasone, triamcinolone		Beconase AQ
Topical			
Ears	antipyrine/benzocaine, ofloxacin	Ciprodex	Cipro HC
Eye – Allergy	cromolyn, diclofenac, epinastine, ketotifen fumarate	FML Forte, FML oint, Pazeo, PredMild	Alocril, Alomide, Bepreve, Emadine
Eye – Glaucoma	acetazolamide, brimonidine, dorzolamide, dorzolamide/timolol, latanoprost, levobunolol, timolol	Alphagan P 0.1%, Azopt, Betoptic S, Combigan, Lumigan, Simbrinza, Travatan Z	Betimol

Drug Category	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Eye – Miscellaneous	ciprofloxacin, erythromycin, gatifloxacin, gentamicin, moxifloxacin	Moxeza	Alrex, Azasite, Besivance, Ciloxan oint., Durezol, Lotemax, Maxidex, Moxeza, Natacyn, Tobrex oint., Vexol, Zirgan
Eye -- Diagnosis	tropicamide		
Skin – Acne	benzoyl peroxide, benzoyl peroxide/erythromycin, clindamycin, clindamycin phosphate-benzoyl peroxide		Aczone gel 7.5%, Azelex
Skin – All	betamethasone, imiquimod, mometasone, mupirocin, tacrolimus	Elidel, Denavir cream 1%	Altabax, Desonate Gel, Ertaczo, Eurax, Finacea gel, Mentax, Picato, Pramoxone lotion, Rectiv, Tazorac, Ulesfia, Vectical, Veregen, Zovirax crm
Women's Health			
Contraceptives	All Generics	Natazia, Nuvaring, Xulane	Lo Loestrin
Combination HRT	estradiol/norethindron,	Climara Pro, Premphase, Prempro	Combipatch, Duavee (PA), Prefest
Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT)	estradiol, progesterone	Premarin	Estring Vaginal, Estrogel Pump, Femring, Menest
Osteoporosis – Calcium Regulators	alendronate, risedronate calcitonin spray		ibandronate (ST)
Osteoporosis – Hormone Receptor Modulators	raloxifene		
Vaginal Products	clindamycin, metronidazole, terconazole		AVC, Gynazole-1, Osphena (PA)
Miscellaneous			
Antiemetics	Aprepitant (QL), granisetron (QL), ondansetron (QL)		Anzemet (QL), Varubi (QL)
Gout	allopurinol		Colcrys, Duzallo (PA), Uloric, Zurampic (PA)
Immunosuppressive Agents	cyclosporine, mycophenolate mofetil, tacrolimus		Azasan, Myfortic*, Zortress
Smoking Cessation	bupropion		Chantix (PA)

Brand-names are the property of their respective manufacturers.

For information on drugs not listed, call OptumRx at 877.629.3118.
For information on your prescription benefit program, visit QualChoice.com.