

For brokers, general producers and full-service producers

Not intended for distribution to groups or members

Date: November 14, 2018

Market: Consumer Direct

2019 Formulary Management Strategy

Together with CVS Caremark, our pharmacy benefit manager, we continuously monitor the marketplace and adjust our formularies to address rising drug trends. With these adjustments, drugs may move to a different tier or may no longer be covered. In addition, there may be changes to the prescription guideline requirements, including prior authorization, step therapy and quantity limits.

All Drug Lists for Consumer Direct (Exchange Formulary) are now available on www.carefirst.com/rx. Members should continue to use their current 2018 formularies until they renew in 2019.

Formulary reminders:

- The formularies cover drugs in every drug class to meet our members' therapeutic needs.
- An excluded drug always has a covered alternative option on the formulary.
- There is an exception process if a member needs an excluded drug to be covered for medical necessity reasons.

2019 Formulary Changes Overview:

- For the **Exchange Formulary**, there are more than 1,650 covered drugs in 2019 versus approximately 1,700 in 2018. Drugs are available in every category and class, per federal requirements.
 - 4 percent of members will be negatively impacted by a drug exclusion or by a drug moving to a higher drug tier.
- The majority of the negative disruption is due to the change in the preferred diabetic test strip. Accu-Chek will now be the preferred test strip and One Touch test strips will be excluded.
 - Impacted members will receive the attached letter; refer to the attached FAQs for more information about this change.

If you have any questions, please contact your broker sales representative.



Rebecca A. Calhoun
Senior Director, Consumer Direct Sales and Regional Offices

[DATE]

[PLAN MEMBER FULL NAME]

[STREET ADDRESS]

[CITY, STATE ZIP]

Dear [PLAN MEMBER FIRST NAME],

Effective [DATE], the blood glucose test strips you currently use, [test strip name], will no longer be covered under your prescription benefit plan. If you continue to use your current test strips, you will be responsible for the full cost of the test strips.

Accu-Chek® test strips will be the covered option under your prescription benefit plan.

What to do next:

1. **Order a new Accu-Chek® meter at no cost to you.** Choose one of the following:
 - Fill out and mail the enclosed Diabetes Supply Order Form, or
 - Call the CVS Caremark® Diabetes Meter Team at 1-877-418-4746.
2. **Get a new prescription for Accu-Chek® test strips to fill after [DATE].** Choose one of the following:
 - Log in to www.carefirst.com/myaccount and select “Drug and Pharmacy Resources” and “Request a New Mail Order Prescription” to start delivery by mail,
 - Fill out and mail the enclosed Diabetes Supply Order Form,
 - Call the CVS Caremark Diabetes Meter Team at 1-877-418-4746, or
 - Ask your doctor to send a new prescription to your pharmacy.

Please note: Prescriptions for Accu-Chek® test strips will be covered after [DATE].

To learn more about your prescription benefit, log in to *My Account* at www.carefirst.com/myaccount and click on Drug & Pharmacy Resources under Quick Links or call CareFirst Pharmacy Services at **800-241-3371**.

Sincerely,



Brian Pinto, PharmD, MBA
Director, Pharmacy Policy
CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield

Enclosure

Accu-Check meters and test strip starter supplies are provided by Roche Diabetes Care, Inc. Choice of meters is subject to change. Please consult your plan for further information. This information relates to prescription benefit plan coverage only and is not medical advice. Talk to your doctor or health care provider about this information. CVS Caremark assumes no liability whatsoever for treatment decisions made as a result of this information. This document contains references to brand-name prescription products that are trademarks or registered trademarks of pharmaceutical manufacturers not affiliated with CVS Caremark. Your privacy is important to us. Our employees are trained regarding the appropriate way to handle your private health information.

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2019 Blood Glucose (Diabetes) Test Strips Formulary Change

Together with CVS Caremark, our pharmacy benefit manager, CareFirst continuously monitors the marketplace and adjusts our formularies to address rising drug trends.

As of January 1, 2019, Accu-Chek blood glucose test strips will be the preferred test strips for Formularies 2, 3 and Exchange. OneTouch and all other test strips will be excluded. Both Accu-Chek and OneTouch will be included as preferred test strips on Formulary 1.

What action do your members need to take now?

Members should request a new Accu-Chek meter (at no cost to the member) **immediately** by doing one of the following options. The meter will take approximately two weeks to arrive.

- Call the CVS Caremark Diabetic Meter Team at 1-877-418-4746,
- Visit caremark.com/managingdiabetes and submit a request online, or
- Mail or email the Diabetic Supply Order Form enclosed with the letter impacted members will receive.

How do members receive a prescription for Accu-Chek test strips?

Members can receive a prescription for Accu-Chek test strips to fill after January 1, 2019 by doing one of the following options. Approximately 10 test strips and lancets will come with their new meter.

- Log in to <http://www.carefirst.com/myaccount> and select “Drug and Pharmacy Resources” and “Request a New Mail Order Prescription” to start delivery by mail,
- Mail or email the Diabetic Supply Order Form enclosed with the letter impacted members will receive,
- Call the CVS Caremark Diabetic Meter Team at 1-877-418-4746, or
- Ask their doctor to send a new prescription to their pharmacy.

How many members will be impacted?

Only about 2% (or 9,080) of members on Formularies 2, 3 and the Exchange will be negatively impacted by the exclusion of the OneTouch test strips.

How will impacted members be notified?

CVS Caremark will notify negatively impacted members via letter beginning November 19, 2018.

What if members do not want a meter mailed to their home?

Members have two voucher options if they do not want a meter mailed to their home:

- Call the Diabetic Meter team at 1-877-418-4746 and request a manufacturer coupon by mail which can be used at their pharmacy to receive a meter. This option does not require a prescription.
- Request a voucher from their retail pharmacy and the pharmacist will contact their doctor for a meter prescription. It will be processed as a prescription claim, but all costs will be paid by the manufacturer.

How will providers and pharmacists be notified?

- Impacted providers will be notified of this change via letter with a patient listing.
- All network pharmacies will receive a fax blast with voucher information in early December they can use to provide members a no-cost meter at their pharmacy.

Is there an exception process?

- Yes, a provider may submit an exception request for a test strip to be covered for medical necessity reasons.

Need more information?

- If you have any questions about the blood glucose test strips formulary change, please contact your account executive.
- Members can visit caremark.com/managingdiabetes for educational resources on the new meter options, including a summary of meter features, training videos, and an online order form.