

For brokers and producers only

Date: April 28, 2022

Markets: All (except FEP, Medicare Advantage, and Medicare Supplement members)

Medications Added to Prior Authorization and Site of Care Management Lists – Effective June 1, 2022 - Updated

Effective June 1, 2022, the medications below will be added to the list of drugs subject to prior authorization and site of care management to better manage rising specialty drug costs. These medications are covered under the medical benefit and are administered in the outpatient hospital, home or office settings.

Impacted members will be notified via letter by May 1, 2022. Account-level impact will be distributed to CareFirst Account Management to support account notification of member impact by May 1, 2022. Providers will be notified in the April issue of BlueLink.

The [Specialty Drug List](#) includes all medications covered under the medical benefit subject to prior authorization and/or site of care management. This list is updated monthly.

Why the change?

CareFirst is continually working with healthcare delivery partners to optimize utilization management strategies to increase efficiencies and control costs while ensuring members receive affordable, quality care. Prior authorization helps balance access with appropriate and safe utilization of these high-cost medications.

Through prior authorization, site of care criteria is applied for selected medications as an opportunity to help reduce overall healthcare costs and members' out of pocket costs without compromising quality of care. The outpatient hospital setting is generally recognized as one of the most expensive options for specialty infusions with costs up to three times higher compared to non-hospital settings. Certain infused therapies can be safely and effectively administered in alternate, less costly settings, such as the home or a provider's office.

Prior authorization additions

Failure to obtain prior authorization for these medications may result in the denial of the claim payment.

Drug Name	Drug Class
Cortrophin	Seizure disorders
desmopressin	Hemophilia
Mozobil	Hematopoietics
Ryplazim	Enzyme deficiency

Drug Name	Drug Class
Carvykti Jelmyto Mylotarg Temozolomide (Temodar) Tivdak	Oncology

Site of care management additions

Coverage for these medications at an outpatient hospital setting are approved only if medical necessity criteria are met at the time of prior authorization. If medical necessity is not met, members will have the opportunity to receive their infusion at a more cost-effective and convenient alternate site including their home, an ambulatory infusion center or a physician’s office.

New to the site of care program for June 1 is the addition of oncology medications. The goal is to support members’ treatment plans and minimize disruption while steering them to a lower-cost infusion setting when appropriate. Members will only be identified for redirection after their first six months of therapy is completed. We understand the importance of continuity of care, so we will not require members to change oncologists.

Drug Name	Drug Class
Bavencio Imfinzi Jemperli Keytruda Libtayo Opdivo Tecentriq Yervoy	Oncology*
Krystexxa	Gout
Lemtrada Tysabri	Multiple Sclerosis

*Site of care management will not apply to members with pharmacy and medical benefits through CareFirst when requests are submitted electronically.

For more information

If you have any questions, please contact your broker account consultant.