

Presbyterian Pharmacy Formulary FAQs



PRESBYTERIAN

Presbyterian Health Plan, Inc.
Presbyterian Insurance Company, Inc.

1 Where can providers find the formulary?

Providers can access the formulary at www.phs.org/providers/formularies.

2 How does Presbyterian ensure the formulary meets the needs of providers?

Presbyterian's Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee meets to discuss formulary recommendations. The P&T Committee is composed of a majority of practicing physicians, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals who are licensed to prescribe drugs. Committee members represent a wide range of specialties to meet member needs. A majority vote is required to approve formulary recommendations. Changes are communicated via the P&T newsletter.

3 Who can providers contact to discuss questions or comments?

Providers can email AskPHPPT@phs.org and/or AskRx@phs.org with questions or comments. Providers can also call the Presbyterian Health and Pharmacy Services department at (505) 923-5500 to discuss their questions or comments.

4 How does Presbyterian ensure the formulary is serving the needs of members?

The Presbyterian formulary serves the needs of members by ensuring that P&T Committee appointees represent a wide range of specialties including practicing physicians, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals who are licensed to prescribe drugs. This robust representation ensures the formulary is serving the needs of members. Drug utilization reviews are also performed by the P&T pharmacist to help ensure Presbyterian is meeting their members' needs.

5 Can providers impact the formulary?

Yes, providers may impact the formulary. To request any additions to the formulary, email AskPHPPT@phs.org. The Presbyterian Practitioner and Provider Manual includes additional information on how to use the formulary and how to request additions. Providers can access the provider manual at www.phs.org/providermanual.

6 What is the best way for providers to request approval for a medication that is not listed on the formulary?

To receive approval for a medication that is not listed on the formulary, providers should request a medical exception using the prior authorization process. The Formulary Addition Request Form may be found at phs.org/providers/formularies under Supplement Formulary Information.

7 What does Presbyterian do to ensure that the formulary is comparable to those of other health plans?

The Presbyterian formulary is compared to other health plans on a quarterly basis to ensure that changes to the formulary are fair and address the health needs of our members.

8 What is the difference between a medical exception and prior authorization?

Medical exception applies to drugs that are not on the formulary. Exceptions may be requested by a prescriber, member or appointed representative. Providers use the prior authorization process to request an exception.

Prior authorization applies to some formulary medications and is a clinical process to determine if the requested service is medically necessary, a covered benefit and if it is being delivered in the appropriate healthcare setting.