



Medicare Part B step therapy requirement for Medicare Advantage plans

Effective date: 01/01/2026

Revision date: 04/01/2026

Important note: The designation of preferred status does not mean a prescription drug is always exempt from a step therapy requirement. Please refer to the specific criteria contained in our coverage criteria policies, which is posted on [Humana's Medical and Pharmacy Coverage Policies website](#). Affected prescription drugs are noted with a step therapy indicator on the [provider prior authorization notification lists website](#).

Some step therapy strategies may require a trial of preferred products that cross benefits (e.g., Medicare Part B and Part D). These cross-benefit strategies are summarized in the tables below. Please refer to Humana's coverage policies, which can be found on [Humana's Medical and Pharmacy Coverage Policies website](#), for any additional requirements.

If prescribers do not stock Humana's preferred prescription drug in their office, they may be able to obtain the preferred drug from a pharmacy (i.e., pharmacy can ship prescription drugs to the office). Please visit our list of specialty and mail-order pharmacies at [Humana's mail-order webpage](#) to select a pharmacy that can provide the prescription drug. You can access a full list of pharmacies with the [pharmacy finder tool](#) or by calling 800-457-4708 (TTY: 711). During Annual Election Period (Oct. 15–Dec. 7) and Open Enrollment Period (Jan. 1–March 31), our hours of operation are daily, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., Eastern time. Normal hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., Eastern time.

This step therapy requirement will not apply to patients who are already actively receiving treatment with a nonpreferred drug and have a paid prescription drug claim within the past year.

Medicare Advantage (MA)-covered patients subject to the step therapy requirement can:

- Request expedited exception reviews for step therapy prior authorization requests
- Appeal a denied request for a nonpreferred prescription drug because of step therapy requirements

As of Jan. 1, 2020, Humana no longer offers a Drug Management Care Coordination Program for patients subject to step therapy or who take a preferred prescription drug on the Medicare Part B Step Therapy Drug List.

If you have questions, please call 800-457-4708.

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Medicare Part B step therapy requirement for MA plans:

Drug Class	Status	Drug Name	Billing Code
Alpha-1s	Preferred	Zemaira	J0256
	Nonpreferred	Aralast	J0256
		Glassia	J0257
		Prolastin-C	J0256
Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (aHUS)	Preferred	Ultomiris	J1303
	Nonpreferred	Bkemv IV	Q5139; Q5152
		Epysqli IV	Q5151
		Soliris	J1300, J1299
Bevacizumab (oncology)	Preferred	Mvasi	Q5107
		Zirabev	Q5118
	Nonpreferred	Alymsys	Q5126
		Avastin	J9035
		Jobevne	Q5160
		Vegzelma	Q5129
Bone resorption inhibitors	Preferred	Wyost	Q5136
		Xgeva	J0897
		zoledronic acid	J3489
	Nonpreferred	Aukelso	Q5161
		Bilprevda	C9399, J3490, J3590, J9999
		Bomynta	C9399, J3490, J3590, J9999
		Osenvelt	C9399, J3490, J3590, J9999
		Xtrenbo	C9399, J3490, J3590, J9999
Cervical cancer	Preferred	Keytruda	J9271
	Nonpreferred	Tivdak	J9273
CGRPs - applies to MAPD plans only	Preferred	Emgality	Part D benefit
		Qulipta	Part D benefit
	Nonpreferred	Vyepti	J3032
Colony Stimulating Factors - Leukocyte Growth Factors (long-acting)	Preferred	Fulphila	Q5108
		Neulasta / Neulasta	J2506
		Onpro	

Colony Stimulating Factors - Leukocyte Growth Factors (long-acting)	Preferred	Udenyca	Q5111
		Udenyca Autoinjector	Q5111
		Udenyca Onbody	Q5111
	Nonpreferred	Fylnetra	Q5130
		Nyvepria	Q5122
		Rolvedon	J1449
		Ryzneuta	C9399, J3490, J3590, J9999
Stimufend		Q5127	
Ziextenzo	Q5120		
Colony-stimulating factors – leukocyte growth factors (short-acting)	Preferred	Zarxio	Q5101
	Nonpreferred	Granix	J1447
		Neupogen	J1442
		Nivestym	Q5110
		Nypozi	Q5148
Releuko	Q5125		
Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents	Preferred	Procrit	J0885
		Retacrit	Q5106
	Nonpreferred	Aranesp	J0881
Epogen		J0885	
Gaucher's disease	Preferred	Elelyso	J3060
	Nonpreferred	Cerezyme	J1786
		Vpriv	J3385
Hemophilia A without inhibitors	Preferred	Advate	J7192
		Adynovate	J7207
		Afstyla	J7210
		Altuviiio	C9399, J3490, J3590, J7199
		Eloctate	J7205
		Esperoct	J7204
		Hemofil-M	J7190
		Jivi	J7208
		Koate-DVI	J7190
		Kogenate FS	J7192
Kovaltry	J7211		

Hemophilia A without inhibitors	Preferred	NovoEight	J7182
		Nuwiq	J7209
		Recombinate	J7192
		Xyntha	J7185
	Nonpreferred	Alhemo	J7173
		Hemlibra	J7170
		Hypavzi	C9304, J3490, J3590
Qfitlia		J3490, J3590, J7199	
Hereditary angioedema – acute use	Preferred	icatibant	J1744
	Nonpreferred	Berinert	J0597
		Firazyr	J1744
		Kalbitor	J1290
	Ruconest	J0596	
Hereditary angioedema – prophylaxis	Preferred	Haegarda	J0599
	Nonpreferred	Cinryze	J0598
		Dawnzera	C9399, J3490
	Takhzyro	J0593	
Homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH)	Preferred	Repatha	Part D
	Nonpreferred	Evkeeza	J1305
Immune globulin	Preferred	Flebogamma DIF	J1572
		Gammagard	J1569
		Gammagard ERC	J1566, J1569
		Gammagard S/D	J1566
		Gammaked	J1561
		Gamunex-C	J1561
		Hizentra	J1559
		Octagam	J1568
		Privigen	J1459
		Xembify	J1558
	Nonpreferred	Alyglo	J1599, C9399
		Asceniv	J1554
		Bivigam	J1556
		Cutaquig	C9399, J3490, J3590

Immune globulin	Nonpreferred	Cuvitru	J1555
		Gammaplex	J1557
		Hyqvia	J1575
		Panzyga	J1599
		Qivigy	C9399, J3490, J3590
		Yimmugo	J1553
Immunologic drugs – autoimmune disorders (arthritis, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease)	Preferred	Inflectra	Q5103
		Infliximab (unbranded)	J1745
		Otulfu IV	Q9999
		Remicade	J1745
		Simponi Aria	J1602
		Stelara	J3358
		Tremfya IV	J1628
		Yesintek IV	Q5100
	Nonpreferred	Actemra IV	J3262
		Avsola	Q5121
		Avtozma IV	Q5156
		Cimzia	J0717
		Cosentyx IV	J3247
		Entyvio	J3380
		Ilumya	J3245
		Imuldosa IV	Q5098
		OmvoH IV	J2267
		Orencia IV	J0129
		Pyzchiva IV	Q9997
		Renflexis	Q5104
		Riabni	Q5123
		Rituxan IV	J9312
		Ruxience	Q5119
		Selarsdi IV	Q9998
		Starjemza IV	C9399, J3490, J3590
		Steqeyma IV	C9399, J3490, J3590
		Tofidence	Q5133

Immunologic drugs – autoimmune disorders (arthritis, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease)	Nonpreferred	Truxima	Q5115
		Tyenne	C9399, J3490, J3590
		Tysabri	J2323
		Ustekinumab IV	J3358
		Wezlana IV	Q5138
IV Iron	Preferred	Infed	J1750
		Venofer	J1756
	Nonpreferred	Feraheme	Q0138
		Injectafer	J1439
		Monoferric	J1437
Multiple sclerosis	Preferred	Ocrevus	J2350
		Ocrevus Zunovo	J2350
		Tyruko	Q5134
	Nonpreferred	Briumvi	J2329
		Lemtrada	J0202
		Tysabri	J2323
Myasthenia gravis	Preferred	Soliris	J1300, J1299
		Ultomiris	J1303
		Vyvgart	J9332
		Vyvgart Hytrulo	C9399, J3490, J3590
	Nonpreferred	Bkemv IV	Q5139; Q5152
		Epysqli IV	Q5151
		Imaavy	J9256
		Rystiggo	C9399, J3490, J3590
		Uplizna	J1823
Neoplasms (excluding pancreatic)	Preferred	docetaxel	J9171
		paclitaxel	J9267
	Nonpreferred	Abraxane	J9264
		Paclitaxel protein-bound	J9264, J9259
Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder (NMOSD)	Preferred	Ultomiris	J1303
	Nonpreferred	Bkemv IV	Q5139; Q5152
		Epysqli IV	Q5151
		Soliris	J1300, J1299

Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder (NMOSD)	Nonpreferred	Uplizna	J1823
Ophthalmic disorders - VEGF inhibitors	Preferred	Avastin	C9257, J9035
		Byooviz	Q5124
		Eylea	J0178
		Eylea HD	J0177
		Lucentis	J2778
		Pavblu	Q5147
		Vabysmo	J2777
	Nonpreferred	Beovu	J0179
	Susvimo	C9093, J3490	
Osteoarthritis of the knee (intra-articular steroids)	Preferred	betamethasone	J0702
		dexamethasone	J1094, J1100
		methylprednisolone	J1020, J1030, J1040, J2920, J2930
		triamcinolone	J3301, J3302, J3303
	Nonpreferred	Zilretta	J3304
Osteoporosis	Preferred	Jubbonti	Q5136
		Prolia	J0897
		zoledronic acid	J3489
	Nonpreferred	Bildyos	Q5162
		Bosaya	Q5161
		Conexence	C9399, J3490, J3590, J9999
		Enoby	C9399, J3490, J3590, J9999
		Evenity	J3111
		Ospomyv	Q5159
		Stoboclo	C9399, J3490, J3590, J9999
Paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH)	Preferred	Ultomiris	J1303
	Nonpreferred	Bkemv IV	Q5139; Q5152
		Epysqli IV	Q5151
		PiaSky	C9399, J3490, J3590
		Soliris	J1300, J1299
PCSK9s - applies to MAPD plans only	Preferred	Repatha	Part D benefit
	Nonpreferred	Leqvio	J1306

PD-1/PD-L1 NSCLC	Preferred	Libtayo	J9119
	Nonpreferred	Imfinzi	J9173
		Imjudo	J9347
		Keytruda	J9271
		Keytruda Qlex	J9277
		Opdivo	J9299
		Tecentriq Hybreza SQ	J9024
		Tecentriq IV	J9022
Yervoy	J9228		
Reblozyl	Preferred	Procrit	J0885
		Retacrit	Q5106
Nonpreferred	Reblozyl	J0896	
	Preferred	Riabni	Q5123
		Ruxience	Q5119
Nonpreferred	Rituxan Hycela	J9311	
	Rituxan IV	J9312	
	Truxima	Q5115	
Severe asthma, IL-5 Inhibitors	Preferred	Fasenra	J0517
		Nucala	J2182
	Nonpreferred	Exdensur	C9399, J3490, J3590
Trastuzumab and hyaluronidase-oysk	Preferred	Kanjinti	Q5117
		Trazimera	Q5116
	Nonpreferred	Herceptin (IV)	J9355
		Herceptin Hylecta	J9356
		Hercessi IV	C9399, J3490, J3590, J9999
		Herzuma	Q5113
		Ogivri	Q5114
Ontruzant	Q5112		
Viscosupplements	Preferred	Durolane	J7318
		Monovisc	J7327
		Orthovisc	J7324
		Supartz FX	J7321
		Synvisc One	J7325



Viscosupplements	Nonpreferred	Euflexxa	J7323
		Gel-One	J7326
		Gelsyn-3	J7328
		GenVisc 850	J7320
		Hyalgan	J7321
		Hymovis	J7322
		Hymovis ONE	C9399, J3490
		SynoJoynt	J7321
		Synvisc	J7325
		Triluron	J7332
		TriVisc	J7329
		Visco-3	J7333



For the following drug classes, preferred products may be covered under the Medicare Part D (pharmacy) benefit:

Drug Class	Status	Drug Name	Drug Class
CGRPs - applies to MAPD plans only	Preferred	Emgality	Part D benefit
		Qulipta	Part D benefit
	Nonpreferred	Vyepti	J3032
PCSK9s - applies to MAPD plans only	Preferred	Repatha	Part D benefit
	Nonpreferred	Leqvio	J1306