



## Group MedicareBlue<sup>SM</sup> Rx (PDP) 5-tier plans: 2020 to 2021 Notable formulary changes

Drugs were selected as notable using the following criteria:

1. Drug additions
2. Drug removals
  - a. Medication is used to treat a chronic condition (hypertension, high cholesterol, diabetes, respiratory)
  - b. Controlled substance sensitivity
3. Drugs changing tiers
  - a. Drugs are moving from one tier to another on the formulary
4. Prior authorization additions

Formulary alternatives were chosen with the following resources: Safer drug choices high risk medications, formulary look-up tool therapeutic alternatives, CVSC medical affairs year-over-year changes for existing formulary.

Call **1-877-838-3827** (TTY: **711**), 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., daily, Central and Mountain times, for more information.

Group MedicareBlue Rx (PDP) is a Medicare-approved Part D sponsor. Enrollment in Group MedicareBlue Rx depends on renewal of the plan sponsor's contract with Medicare. Coverage is available to members of an employer or union group and separately issued by one of the following plans: Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa\*, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota\*, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana\*, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska\*, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota\*, Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of South Dakota\*, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming\*.

\* Independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association



The tables below summarize some of the most significant changes from the 2020 to 2021 **Group MedicareBlue Rx 5-tier** plan formularies but does not include all changes.

**Drug additions:**

Drug name	Purpose	2021 Tier
Mesalamine 0.375gm caps	Bowel disease-ulcerative colitis	1
Solifenacin	Overactive bladder	1
Taltz	Biologic / anti-inflammatory	4
Xiidra	Dry eye	2

**Drug removals:**

Drug name	Purpose	Notes	Alternative
Amitiza	Irritable bowel syndrome	None	Linzess
Colcrys	Gout	None	Generic available
Emgality	Chronic migraine headaches	None	Aimovig
Glucagon (emergency injection)	Low blood sugar rescue	None	Gvoke
Loteprednol	Ophthalmic inflammation	None	Dexamethasone ophthalmic
Restasis	Dry eye	None	Xiidra
Travoprost ophthalmic suspension	Glaucoma	None	Latanoprost



**Drugs changing tiers:**

Drug name	2020 Tier	2021 Tier
Brilinta	3	4
Fluconazole 150mg tabs	1	2
Fluticasone nasal spray	1	2

**Prior authorization additions:**

Drug name	Purpose	2021 Impact
Amphetamine / dextroamphetamine ER caps	ADHD	Indication justification
Methylphenidate	ADHD	Indication justification
Tetracycline 500mg caps	Antibiotic	Indication justification