

BlueInkSM

STAY CURRENT WITH THE LATEST NEWS FROM WELLMARK® BLUE CROSS® AND BLUE SHIELD®

Information for Iowa and South Dakota physicians, hospitals and health care providers

DECEMBER 2020



Visit us at [Wellmark.com/BlueInk](https://www.wellmark.com/blueink)



FEATURE

[Everything to know about your millennial patients' \(and employees'\) overall health and well-being](#)

[Resources available on provider portal and via WINS for new medical authorization tool, Jiva](#)



ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY

[New codes effective Jan. 1, 2021, for opioid treatment](#)

[Reminder: Include all pertinent information in paper claims](#)

[Reminder: Use the correct revenue codes when billing for Home Health Care \(HHC\) Agencies and Hospice services](#)

[Understanding applications and change requests](#)

[Network and product reminders in 2021](#)

This article was updated on Jan. 25, 2021, after the initial publication date.

[Submit a current W-9 if you have a change of address](#)

[Three services are moving to prior approval from post-service](#)

[Medical policy format delayed](#)



CLAIMS AND CODING

[COVID-19 vaccine update](#)



EDUCATION AND RESOURCES

[Updated guidance around language sensitive to gender identities](#)



PHARMACY

[Changes to the Wellmark Drug List](#)

[New medical preferred drug strategies with biosimilars](#)



Everything to know about your millennial patients’ (and employees’) overall health and well-being

Learn why this matters to you and your practice.

Millennials aren’t getting any younger, and their health — according to the [Blue Cross[®] and Blue Shield[®] Health of America](#) report titled, “The Health of Millennials” — isn’t getting any better.

While the national report tells the story of the various issues facing millennials, Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield created a one-of-its-kind e-book that provides local data (Iowa and South Dakota), insights from our in-house experts and research. You’ll find everything you need within our e-book to better understand your millennials, the severity of their health, and ways you can help.

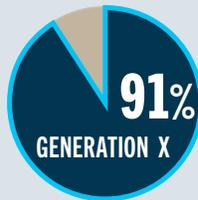
Why this information matters to you

It’s simple. A few key things to know from the report:

KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM “THE HEALTH OF MILLENNIALS” REPORT

ONLY 68 PERCENT OF MILLENNIALS

Have a primary care provider (PCP) compared to 91 percent of Generation X.



1 IN 3 MILLENNIALS

Have a health condition that affects their quality of life.

MILLENNIAL HEALTH BEGINS TO DECLINE AS EARLY AS AGE 27.



continued on next page

With this data in mind, we held meaningful discussions in Iowa and South Dakota with various health care providers, millennial professionals, corporate executives, community leaders and human resource managers to better understand the reason this generation's overall health and well-being is in decline.

Consider our key takeaways from our discussions for you and your colleagues to know:

- **PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS ARE CHANGING THE WAY THEY VIEW BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**, which includes recognizing the link between mental and physical health.
- **MILLENNIALS WANT INSTANT RESULTS** from medications they are prescribed.
- **MILLENNIALS MENTIONED ACCESS TO PROVIDERS IS CHALLENGING**. With mental health providers in high demand, it's especially difficult to get a timely appointment.
- **SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH CARE NEED TO BE ADDRESSED**. Millennials find it hard to focus on health when distracted by basic needs.
- **MILLENNIALS ARE LOOKING FOR CONVENIENCE** when it comes to their participation and engagement with health and wellness or preventive measures.
- **PROVIDER PARTICIPANTS ECHOED THE NEED FOR EASY DIGITAL EDUCATION** that provides transparency, stresses individual accountability and builds trust with the health care system.

How to stay in the know with millennial health

Visit our [millennial health e-book page](#), and check out our exclusive millennial content on [Wellmark.com/BlueAtWork](#) for more information, tools and resources to help you address the growing health concerns of millennials.

This is the 26th study of the Blue Cross Blue Shield, Health of America Report[®] series, a collaboration between Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and Blue Health Intelligence (BHI), which uses a market-leading claims database to uncover key trends and insights in healthcare affordability and access to care. This report analyzes the data of 55 million commercially.

© 2020 Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. All Rights Reserved. The Blue Cross Blue Shield Association is an association of independent, locally operated Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies.



Download the e-book now and start the discussion

When you download this e-book, you'll receive insightful information on your soon-to-be largest patient — and employee — population. When a millennial patient visits your office for sickness or injury, consider having a conversation with them about the significance of annual wellness exams to spot, treat or manage signs of chronic diseases.

By shifting your approach in caring for — and employing millennials — you can help create sustainable change for this generation and their overall health and well-being.

Resources available on provider portal and via WINS for new medical authorization tool, Jiva

Subscribe to WINS and use digital resources for latest updates on Jiva.

Wellmark recently implemented a new medical authorization tool, Jiva™, to improve the experience of both providers and members when seeking medical authorizations. It allows for electronic submissions of some authorizations that were previously submitted via paper and fax, which will speed up the time in which these authorizations are processed.

Wellmark has made several training resources available for Jiva, including a [comprehensive user guide](#), [pre-recorded webinars](#), a [questions and answers document](#), and a [troubleshooting document](#). We encourage providers to use these training materials and the step-by-step User Guide for successful submissions.

The user guide can be found on the [Manage Authorizations page](#) in the User Guides section, and is titled [Medical Authorization User Guide \(Jiva\)](#).

- It contains helpful step-by-step guides and screenshots on all aspects of using Jiva, including submitting requests, performing InterQual reviews, and extending requests.
- The guide is broken up into easy-to-navigate chapters for ease of use.
- To easily find keywords you are looking for, type Ctrl+F, then type the keyword. This will work in Google Chrome, Internet Explorer, and Adobe.

The majority of Jiva **log in and authorization request submission issues have now been resolved**. Using Jiva is the most efficient means of submitting and having authorization requests processed and approved. If you are having issues submitting authorization requests in Jiva, contact Wellmark Technical Support at 800-407-0267.

Faxed requests

Wellmark is **only** accepting faxed medical authorization requests that are defined as expedited. Requests are considered expedited when a delay in medical care or treatment can:

- Seriously jeopardize the life or health of the member or the member's ability to regain maximum function, OR
- Subject the member to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment requested.



Encourage coworkers to subscribe to WINS

The best way to get the latest information on Jiva is to [subscribe to WINS](#), Wellmark's real-time notification system for providers. Encourage your coworkers to subscribe as well!



New codes effective Jan. 1, 2021, for opioid treatment

The two new codes apply to Type of Bill and Condition Code.

Opioid treatment program facilities provide treatment for opioid use disorder on an ambulatory basis. These programs can be freestanding locations unaffiliated with acute care facilities or can be operated by hospitals/institutional providers. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services have created two new codes for opioid treatment for dates of service Jan. 1, 2021, and after. The two new codes apply to **Type of Bill** and **Condition Code**.

To enable freestanding programs to bill for services rendered, the new bill type is for use by these entities. Providers should file **Type of Bill 087X** for services received at a freestanding non-residential opioid treatment program.

Hospitals that operate outpatient treatment programs should bill using an outpatient bill type, with a condition code to flag claims as being for services rendered at the hospital's outpatient treatment program. Providers should file **Condition Code 89** to indicate that the claim is for Opioid Treatment Program services.

Refer to the "Behavioral Health and Chemical Dependency" section of the *Provider Guide* for more information.



Reminder: Include all pertinent information in paper claims

If you receive a letter along with a claim being returned,
the claim is missing vital information and cannot be processed.

As a reminder, if you must submit a paper claim, all pertinent information is required. If you receive a letter along with a claim being returned, the claim is missing vital information and cannot be processed.

Some examples may include, missing prefix, ID number, NPI, diagnosis code, etc. Please correct the claim based upon the provider guide to billing rules and submit a new claim.

Please do not return this claim marked as corrections or attached to a provider inquiry form.

Reminder: Use the correct revenue codes when billing for Home Health Care (HHC) Agencies and Hospice services

To ensure you are using the correct revenue codes, reference the **[“Home Services and Hospice”](#)** section of the *Provider Guide*.

Submitting claims with the correct revenue codes is important. Using the correct revenue codes on facility claims for HHC Agencies and Hospice services will:

- Ensure correct fee schedule payment
- Ensure hospice claims that **do not require an authorization will process correctly** (when revenue codes 0650-0659 are billed)

HOME HEALTH SERVICES CATEGORIES OF CARE	REVENUE CODE	HCPCS CODE	UNIT
Short-Term Home Skilled Nursing	0550-0559	Yes	15 minutes
Physical Therapy	0420-0429	Yes	15 minutes
Occupational Therapy	0430-0439	Yes	15 minutes
Speech Therapy	0440-0449	Yes	15 minutes
Medical Social Worker	0560-0569	Yes	15 minutes
Home HealthAide	0570-0579	Yes	15 minutes
Extended Home Skilled Nursing	0582-0583, 0589	Yes	15 minutes
Durable Medical Equipment	0290, 0291, 0292, 0293, 0299	As appropriate	As appropriate
Medical Supplies	0270, 0272, 0274, 0275, 0276	Yes	As appropriate
Drugs	0631-0637	As appropriate	As appropriate

HOSPICE SERVICES CATEGORIES OF CARE	REVENUE CODE	HCPCS CODE	UNIT
Drugs	0631-0637	Yes	As appropriate
Routine Home Care	0651	Yes	1
Continuous Care	0652	Yes	15 minutes
Inpatient Respite Care	0655	Yes	1
General Inpatient Care	0656	Yes	1
Hospice Room and Board	0658	Yes	1

Understanding applications and change requests

Learn about these types of submissions in E-credentialing Central

Have you submitted an application, change request, or recredentialing application to Wellmark recently? Chances are you have, and you used **E-credentialing Central** (E-cred Central) to do so. Read on to learn more about E-cred Central and applications, change requests, and recredentialing applications.



Application Completion

Will you be applying as a practitioner or a facility/entity?

1. To help you determine, first go to Chapter 2 of the **“Credentialing and Network Participation”** section of the *Provider Guide*. This chapter has a table that lists approved practitioners, as well as approved facilities and entities. As you review the list, you will be able to determine the type of application you should submit.
2. Then, log in to **E-cred Central** and click on the Application Tool. You first will be asked if you want to submit an application for a Practitioner or Facility/Entity. Select the appropriate option, and you will be led through the application, which consists of answering a series of questions.

If you have additional questions as you go through the tool, check out the E-cred Central User Guide. The User Guide is located in the E-cred Central menu and provides information in more detail.



Change Request

The Change Request Tool provides a list of 16 types of changes that you can submit to Wellmark.

1. You will see a  icon next to each change, which you can hover over to read about that type of change.
2. Once you identify which change request you need to submit, log in to **E-cred Central** and click on the Change Request Tool. Select the type of change you would like to request, and you will be guided through submitting that change request.

Refer to the E-cred Central User Guide for additional information.



Recredentialing

Practitioners, facilities, and entities are required to be recredentialed every 36 months from the initial application acceptance date, for all Wellmark networks.

1. Approximately four months prior to a provider's recredentialing due date, a recredentialing notification is sent to all credentialing contact email addresses that Wellmark has on file for the provider due.
2. Once the recredentialing notification is received, log in to **E-cred Central** and click on the Recredentialing Tool. You will be led through the application which consists of answering a series of questions.

Failure to complete and submit the recredentialing application by the application deadline date, as displayed in the Recredentialing Tool lobby, may result in the initiation of the termination process from Wellmark Networks.

Refer to the E-cred Central User Guide for additional information.

For additional information regarding recredentialing, refer to Chapter 14 of the “Credentialing and Network Participation” section of the *Provider Guide*.

continued on next page

Questions about status or participation status?

Check out the following information.



Status

Once your application or change request is submitted, you are able to monitor the progress of your submission by checking its status on the [Submission Status Tracker](#). Just access the Submission Status Tracker and enter your E-cred submission number or individual NPI. When you view your status, remember that all boxes must have a white checkmark in order for the submission to be considered complete. The Submission Status Tracker is updated as Wellmark processes your submission, so you are provided current information. It is also the same tool Wellmark uses to check status.



Participation Status

Refer to the provider's notification letter for information regarding participation status, effective date information, billing national provider identifier (NPI), and location information.

In E-cred Central, organizational security coordinators (OSCs) and backup OSCs can use the View My Organization Tool to view information about their organization, such as the practitioners who are active under a tax identification number.

Resources

Be sure to use the following resources regularly. These resources provide key information that can help answer your common questions.

- [“Credentialing and Network Participation”](#) section of the Provider Guide
- E-cred Central User Guide (*Available in the [E-cred Central](#) menu after you log in*)
- [Submission Status Tracker](#)

If you'd like to learn more about credentialing and common questions, check out our June [BlueInk article](#) and [February webinar](#).

Network and product reminders in 2021

Always check ID cards and verify member benefits in the Check Member Information tool on Wellmark.com.

There are no new network offerings from Wellmark for the coming year. Wellmark will continue to offer:

Wellmark Blue HMOSM Network products on and off exchange

	BlueCross [®] BlueShield [®]	WellmarkBlue HMO SM
MEMBER NAME HERE		
XQWW99999999		
Group No.	00000	OFFICE COPAY \$XX
RxBIN	000000	
RxPCN	ADV	
RxGRP	RX0000	
Plan Code	640/140	
Printed: 02/01/2020 		

Wellmark Blue PPOSM Network products on and off exchange

	BlueCross [®] BlueShield [®]	WellmarkBlue PPO SM
MEMBER NAME HERE		
XQHW99999999		
Group No.	00000	OV COPAY PCP \$XX; NON PCP \$XX
RxBIN	000000	
RxPCN	ADV	
RxGRP	RX0000	
PLAN CODE	640/140	
Printed: 02/01/2020 		

Farm Bureau Health Plan products off exchange

		
Member Name Here		
WOO99999999		
Group No.	00000	SYSTEM GENERATED
RxBIN	00000	
RxPCN	ADV	
RxGrp	XXXXXX	
Plan Code	640/140	
Printed: 02/01/2020		

*Blue Advantage, Blue Access, and Blue Choice are products offered on the HMO network. The labels of the different tiers in the HMO network (bronze, silver, gold) are used as product names for marketing purposes. The primary focus of providers should be that they are all designated as HMO plans.

Wellmark Value Health Plan HMO Network will not be offered on exchange, but some members will remain on this product in 2021.

Always check ID cards and verify member benefits in the Check Member Information tool on Wellmark.com.



THIS ARTICLE WAS UPDATED ON JAN. 25, 2021, AFTER THE INITIAL PUBLICATION DATE.

Submit a current W-9 if you have a change of address

Did you have an address change this year?

If you have had an address change this year, submit a current W-9 form via email to 1099reporting@wellmark.com, so we can update our tax software and ensure your 2020 tax form 1099 is sent to the correct address. Please note, even if you have multiple business locations, you only need to submit one W-9 form with the address you need your tax forms mailed to. This information is NOT automatically updated when your address is updated with Wellmark's Provider Credentialing team, so this step is crucial to avoid delays in receiving your tax forms.



Three services are moving to prior approval from post-service

Custom fabricated knee braces, speech generating devices and cranial remolding to be added to the list of treatments, procedures and services that require prior approval.

BEGINNING FEB. 1, 2021, custom fabricated knee braces, speech generating devices and cranial remolding will be added to the list of treatments, procedures and services that require prior approval. We currently administer medical necessity for these services on a post-service basis. Moving the review to preservice gives both providers and members the opportunity to know medical necessity prior to the services being performed. InterQual[®] criteria will be used to determine medical necessity for custom fabricated knee braces and speech generating devices. Wellmark medical policy will continue to be used to determine medical necessity for cranial remolding. The Wellmark Authorization Table will be updated to allow authorization requests for this procedure to be accepted via the online Utilization Management Tool beginning Jan. 20, 2021.

To help you prepare for this transition, the InterQual[®] criteria (SmartSheets[™]) for custom fabricated knee braces and speech generating devices will be available for practitioners to view on Jan. 2, 2021. To access the SmartSheets[™], log in to the secure Provider tab on Wellmark.com, click “Utilization Management Tools and Resources,” then click “InterQual[®] Criteria and SmartSheets[™].”

Medical policy format delayed

Wellmark medical policies from webpages will be transitioned to PDFs.

The previously announced transition of Wellmark medical policies from webpages to PDFs has been delayed. Originally, this transition was scheduled for some time in December 2020. We anticipate this change will occur in the coming months.

As a reminder, this is only impacting formatting—the location and content will remain the same.

COVID-19 vaccine update

Coding information can be found below

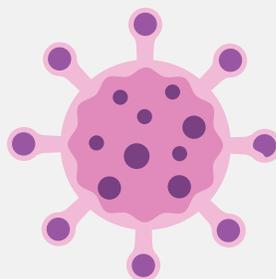
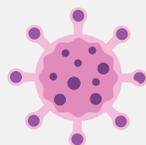
Wellmark is preparing to process claims for the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it is dispersed. Details about billing for the vaccine and other COVID-19 information can be found at [Wellmark.com/Provider](https://www.wellmark.com/provider).

Codes for billing will be 91300, 91301. When COVID-19 vaccine doses are provided by the government without charge, providers can:

- Bill only for the administration of the vaccine

OR

- **1500 CLAIM FORM** — Apply zero charge to the line and append the SL modifier
- **UB CLAIM FORM** — Apply charge to the line and append the SL modifier



Updated guidance around language sensitive to gender identities

Wellmark's Inclusion Council is developing procedures and updating document language with the goal of improving the experience of members who identify as transgender or non-binary.

Wellmark strives to create an inclusive experience that is sensitive to the needs of all our members. Becoming aware of the barriers facing transgender and non-binary people seeking health care is an opportunity to improve our processes and further educate ourselves on the medical and social needs of our members.

Throughout 2020, current and former members of Wellmark's Inclusion Council have been developing procedures and updating document language that's sensitive to gender identity with the goal of improving the care experience of members who identify as transgender or non-binary. Wellmark is taking the following steps:

- Replacing pronouns referring to specific genders such as "he/him" and "she/hers" with the gender-neutral pronouns "they/them/their" in accordance with the Meaningful Access and Non-Discrimination (MAND) regulation.
- Updating language for transgender health care services to "gender affirmation," which replaces outdated terms such as: "sex change," "sex reassignment," and "sex reconstruction."
- Beginning with member-facing roles, delivering training for Customer Service and other team members to use inclusive language when interacting with transgender or non-binary members or when discussing gender affirming care.

Changing these terms and references will not impact medical policy or benefits.

For best inclusive practices and more information, providers are encouraged to access the [Inclusive Health Care Hub](#) at [Wellmark.com > Provider Secure Home > Communication and Learning > Education and Training](#).





Changes to the Wellmark Drug List

Beginning Jan. 1, 2021

Wellmark and a statewide committee of pharmacists and physicians review the Wellmark Drug List several times a year. This review enables us to identify drugs that are the safest and most effective, while reducing costs and ensuring members have access to the drugs they need.

Some of the formulary and utilization management (UM) updates will change member coverage and/or cost share for certain drugs. Members affected negatively by these changes will be notified by mail and instructed on next steps. Providers will also be notified for changes that require prior authorization or a new prescription.

The chart below outlines the formulary and utilization management changes effective Jan. 1, 2021.

Wellmark updates its drug lists in January and July, and posts notices of changes at Wellmark.com. You can view all updates to the drug list on Wellmark.com (For Providers > Drug Information > Wellmark Drug List) or request a copy by contacting Provider Service.

Pharmacy formulary/UM changes

DRUG CATEGORY/CLASS	DRUG/S	FORMULARY CHANGE/UM
Central Nervous System Migraine Acute — Oral	Nurtec [™] and Reyvow [®]	CHANGING TO PREFERRED PRODUCTS AND MOVING FROM TIER 4 TO TIER 3.
	Ubrelvy [™]	CHANGING TO NON-PREFERRED PRODUCT. No change to formulary placement.
Central Nervous System Migraine CGRP receptor antagonists	Aimovig [®]	CHANGING TO PREFERRED in parallel with Ajovy [®] and Emgality [®] .
Endocrine and Metabolic Antidiabetics GLP-1 Receptor Agonists, Oral	Rybelsus [®]	MOVING FROM TIER 4/LEVEL 4 TO TIER 2/LEVEL 3.
Endocrine and Metabolic Antidiabetics GLP-1 Receptor Agonists, Oral	Glyxambi [®] and Trijardy [®] XR	MOVING FROM TIER 4/LEVEL 4 TO TIER 2/LEVEL 3.

continued on next page

DRUG CATEGORY/CLASS	DRUG/S	FORMULARY CHANGE/UM
Endocrine and Metabolic Antidiabetics SGLT2 Inhibitors Combinations	Farxiga [®]	CHANGING TO PREFERRED PRODUCT AND MOVING FROM TIER 4/LEVEL 4 TO TIER 2/LEVEL 2. Removing MN-PA.
	Xigduo [®] XR	CHANGING TO PREFERRED PRODUCT AND MOVING FROM TIER 4/LEVEL 4 TO TIER 2/LEVEL 3. Removing MN-PA.
	Invokana [®] , Invokamet [®] , and Invokamet XR	MOVING FROM TIER 2/LEVEL 3 TO TIER 4/LEVEL 4. Adding MN-PA. Farxiga, Jardiance, Xigduo XR, Synjardy, and Synjardy XR will be the preferred alternatives.
Medical Devices Blood Glucose Test Strip	Contour Test Strips	CHANGING TO PREFERRED PRODUCT IN PARALLEL WITH ONETOUCH AND MOVING FROM TIER 3/LEVEL 4 TO TIER 2/LEVEL 3. Removing PA. Quantity limits and post-limit PA will remain in place.
Respiratory Short Acting Beta Agonists	Brand ProAir [®] HFA	MOVING FROM TIER 1/LEVEL 2 TO TIER 4/LEVEL 4. Product selection penalty will apply based on benefit design. Generic will remain on Tier 1/Level 2.
	Brand Proventil HFA and Ventolin HFA	MOVING FROM TIER 2 TO TIER 4 AND REMAIN ON LEVEL 4 (NO LEVEL CHANGE FOR BLUESIMPLICITY). Product selection penalty will apply based on benefit design. Generic will remain on Tier 1/Level 2.
	ProAir RespiClick [®]	MOVING FROM TIER 1/LEVEL 2 TO TIER 4/LEVEL 4.
Respiratory Steroid Beta Agonist Combinations	Symbicort [®]	CHANGING TO PREFERRED PRODUCT AND MOVING FROM TIER 4/LEVEL 3 TO TIER 2/LEVEL 2. Removing MN-PA.
	Dulera [®]	MOVING FROM TIER 2/LEVEL 2 TO TIER 4/LEVEL 4. Adding MN-PA. Advair, Breo Ellipta, and Symbicort (Brand only) will be the preferred alternatives.
Endocrine and Metabolic Osteoporosis — Parathyroid Hormone Analogs	Tymlos and Forteo [®]	MOVING FROM SP-P/LEVEL 4 TO SP-NP/LEVEL 5.

continued on next page

DRUG CATEGORY/CLASS	DRUG/S	FORMULARY CHANGE/UM
Endocrine and Metabolic Chelating Agents	Trientine	MOVING FROM TIER 1 TO SP-P. No level change to BlueSimplicity.
Anti-Infective Agents Tetracyclines	Doxycycline Hyclate, 50mg tablets	MOVING FROM TIER 1/LEVEL 2 TO NOT COVERED. Doxycycline hyclate 50mg capsules and doxycycline monohydrate 50mg tablet/capsules will remain on Tier 1/Level 2.
Cardiovascular Agents Vasodilators — Nitrates	Isosorbide Dinitrate, 40mg	MOVING FROM TIER 1/LEVEL 2 TO NOT COVERED. Isosorbide dinitrate 20mg tablets will remain on Tier 2/Level 2.
Topical Rosacea Agents	Mirvaso [®] and Rhofade [®]	ADDING QUANTITY LIMIT (1 [30 GM] TUBE/PUMP BOTTLE PER 30-DAY).

MN-PA = Medically necessary prior authorization; SP-P = Specialty preferred; SP-NP = Specialty non-preferred



New medical preferred drug strategies with biosimilars

The changes are planned to go into effect throughout the first half of 2021.

New preferred drug strategies for medically benefited drugs with available biosimilars will be implemented in the first half of 2021. Wellmark’s preferred drug strategies are amended to help control drug spending, create a sustainable health care system, and achieve affordability for our members. Biosimilars, or biologics, are highly similar to the reference product, more affordable, and possess no clinically meaningful differences in terms of the safety, purity, and potency compared to the reference product.

Drugs and planned effective dates

Wellmark updates its drug lists in January and July, and posts notices of changes at Wellmark.com You can view all updates to the drug list on Wellmark.com (*For Providers > Drug Information > Wellmark Drug List*) or request a copy by contacting Provider Service.

Below are the drugs included in the new medical preferred strategies, changes to existing medical preferred strategies, and the planned implementation timeline.

DRUG CATEGORY/CLASS	PREFERRED DRUG DETAILS	PLANNED EFFECTIVE DATE
Autoimmune	PREFERRED BIOSIMILARS: Avsola™, Inflectra®, Ixifi™ and Renflexis® PREFERRED BRANDS: Entyvio, Simponi Aria, Stelara NON-PREFERRED BRANDS: Remicade®, Actemra IV, Orencia IV	01/01/2021
Colony Stimulating Factor Long Acting	PREFERRED BIOSIMILARS: Fulphila®, Nyvepria™, Udenyca® and Ziextenzo® NON-PREFERRED BRAND: Neulasta® <i>Neulasta® Onpro® excluded from strategy</i>	01/01/2021
Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents	PREFERRED BIOSIMILAR: Retacrit® PREFERRED BRAND: Aranesp® Non-preferred Brands: Epogen®, Procrit®, and Mircera®	04/01/2021
Oncology	PREFERRED BIOSIMILARS: Ruxience® and Truxima® PREFERRED BRAND: Rituxan Hycela® NON-PREFERRED BRAND: Rituxan®	01/01/2021
Oncology	PREFERRED BIOSIMILARS: Mvasi™ and Zirabev™ NON-PREFERRED BRAND: Avastin®	04/01/2021

continued on next page

DRUG CATEGORY/CLASS	PREFERRED DRUG DETAILS	PLANNED EFFECTIVE DATE
Oncology	<p>PREFERRED BIOSIMILARS: Herzuma®, Kanjinti™, Ogivri™, Ontuzant® and Trazimera™</p> <p>PREFERRED BRAND: Herceptin Hylecta™</p> <p>NON-PREFERRED BRAND: Herceptin®</p>	04/01/2021
Acromegaly	<p>Sandostatin® LAR changing to preferred</p> <p>PREFERRED PRODUCTS: Sandostatin LAR and Somatuline® Depot</p> <p>NON-PREFERRED PRODUCTS: Signifor® LAR and Somavert®</p>	01/01/2021
Asthma	<p>Xolair changing to preferred</p> <p>PREFERRED PRODUCTS: Fasenna, Nucala and Xolair</p> <p>NON-PREFERRED PRODUCT: Cinqair</p>	
Lysosomal Storage Disorders — Gaucher Disease	<p>Cerezyme® changing to Non-Preferred and Elelyso® changing to Preferred</p> <p>PREFERRED PRODUCT: Elelyso</p> <p>NON-PREFERRED PRODUCTS: Cerezyme and VPRIV®</p>	01/01/2021

Prior authorizations

Prior authorization (PA) will be required in Novologix if prescribing a non-preferred drug after the new medical preferred drug strategy goes into effect. Coverage of non-preferred products is based on clinical circumstances that would exclude the use of the preferred products (i.e., history of intolerance, contraindication, or adverse event to the preferred products that would not be expected to occur with the respective non-preferred product) and may be based on previous use of a product.

For patients who are currently receiving and already established on a non-preferred drug **other than Neulasta**, PA will not be required to continue coverage.

NOTE: Neulasta Onpro is excluded from the strategy but since it shares a HCPCS code with Neulasta, it will require PA.

BlueInk is published by Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Marketing Department.

EDITORS: Madeline Jamison, Victoria Clausen and Phil Dickinson

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Elisa Conklin

If you would like to subscribe to BlueInk, visit Wellmark.com/DigitalBlueInk.

For other questions, visit Wellmark.com.

Blue Cross[®], Blue Shield[®] and the Cross[®] and Shield[®] symbols, and are registered marks and BlueInkSM is a service mark of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, an Association of Independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans. Wellmark[®] is a registered mark of Wellmark, Inc.

Blue Distinction Centers (BDC) met overall quality measures, developed with input from the medical community. A Local Blue Plan may require additional criteria for providers located in its own service area; for details, contact your Local Blue Plan. Blue Distinction Centers+ (BDC+) also met cost measures that address consumers' need for affordable healthcare. Each provider's cost of care is evaluated using data from its Local Blue Plan. Providers in CA, ID, NY, PA, and WA may lie in two Local Blue Plans' areas, resulting in two evaluations for cost of care; and their own Local Blue Plans decide whether one or both cost of care evaluation(s) must meet BDC+ national criteria. Total Care providers have met national criteria based on provider commitment to deliver value-based care to a population of Blue members. Total Care+ providers also met a goal of delivering quality care at a lower total cost relative to other providers in their area. Program details are displayed on www.bcbs.com. Individual outcomes may vary. For details on a provider's in-network status or your own policy's coverage, contact your Local Blue Plan and ask your provider before making an appointment. Neither Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association nor any Blue Plans are responsible for noncovered charges or other losses or damages resulting from Blue Distinction, Total Care or other provider finder information or care received from Blue Distinction, Total Care or other providers.

CVS Caremark[®] is a registered trademark of CVS Health Corp., an independent company that provides pharmacy services on behalf of Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

This website contains references to brand-name prescription drugs that are trademarks or register trademarks of pharmaceutical manufacturers not affiliated with CVS Caremark.

The AMA assumes no liability for the data contained herein. Applicable FARS/DFARS restrictions apply to government use. CPT[®] is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association.

Wellmark is not providing, and does not provide, any legal advice with regard to your compliance with the requirements of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), or any other federal or state law. This document is not intended, and shall not be construed, to provide any legal advice, and may not be relied upon as such. Regulations and guidance on specific provisions of the ACA and other federal laws have been and will continue to be provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and/or other agencies. The information provided in this document reflects Wellmark's understanding of the most current information and is subject to change without further notice. For specific information regarding the application of these rules to your facts, or other compliance issues under applicable law, please consult your legal and/or tax advisors.

Wellmark complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, los servicios de asistencia de idiomas se encuentran disponibles gratuitamente para usted.
Comuníquese al 800-524-9242 o al (TTY: 888-781-4262).

注意: 如果您说普通话, 我们可免费为您提供语言协助服务。请拨打 800-524-9242 或 (听障专线: 888-781-4262)。

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlose sprachliche Assistenzdienste zur Verfügung.
Rufnummer: 800-524-9242 oder (TTY: 888-781-4262).



Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa, Wellmark Health Plan of Iowa, Inc., Wellmark Value Health Plan, Inc. and Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of South Dakota are independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.