

TRANSITION POLICY:

A transition policy allows a member to obtain drugs when they are subject to certain coverage rules. Most Medicare Part D drugs are eligible for transition. Transition eligible Part D drugs include those that are not on the formulary (list of covered drugs) or are on the formulary with a restriction such as step-therapy, quantity limits or prior authorization (but otherwise considered a Part D drug). Some Part D drugs are excluded for transition and are not covered under the transition policy. Examples are drugs used for cosmetic purposes, drugs used for erectile dysfunction, or over the counter drugs.

Members should talk to their doctors to decide if they should switch to a different drug that we cover or request a formulary exception in order to get coverage for the drug. See Chapter 9, Section 6.2 in your plan's Evidence of Coverage to learn more about how to request an exception. Please contact Pharmacy Services at 1.800.624.6961 ext. 7914 (TTY 711) if your drug is not on our formulary, is subject to certain restrictions, such as prior authorization or step therapy, or will no longer be on our formulary next year and you need help switching to a different drug that we cover or requesting a formulary exception. We will provide current members an opportunity to request a formulary exception 60 days in advance for the following year.

While members are talking to their prescribers about their drug choices, we may provide a temporary supply of a transition eligible drug if members need a refill for the drug during the first 90 days of new membership in our Plan. If you are a current member affected by a formulary change from one year to the next, we will provide a temporary supply of a transition eligible drug, if you need a refill for the drug during the first 90 days of the new plan year.

When a member goes to a network pharmacy and we provide a temporary supply of a transition eligible drug, we will cover a 30-day supply (unless the prescription is written for fewer days, in which case the plan will allow multiple fills to provide up to a total of 30 days of medication). After we cover the temporary 30-day supply, we generally will not pay for these drugs as part of our transition policy again. We will provide you with a written notice after we cover your temporary supply. This notice will explain the steps you can take to request an exception and how to work with your prescriber to decide if you should switch to an appropriate drug that we cover.

If a new member is a resident of a long-term-care facility (like a nursing home), we will cover a temporary 31-day transition supply (unless the prescription is written for fewer days). If necessary, we will cover more than one refill of these drugs during the first 90 days a new member is enrolled in our plan to meet the temporary 31-day transition supply. If the resident has been enrolled in our plan for more than 90 days and needs a drug that is not on our formulary, or is subject to other restrictions, such as step therapy or dosage limits, we will cover a temporary 31-day emergency supply of that drug (unless the prescription is for fewer days) while the new member pursues a formulary exception.

Please note that our transition policy applies only to those drugs that are Part D drugs and bought at a network pharmacy. The transition policy cannot be used to buy a non-Part D drug or a drug out of network, unless you qualify for out of network access.