



# Premium formulary



When choosing a pharmacy benefit, plan sponsors want the right balance of medication access and affordability. The Optum Rx® Premium formulary can help you achieve that balance through an exclusion strategy that reduces costs, maintains therapeutic choices and promotes lower-cost alternatives.

## Drive value

The Premium formulary is an open formulary with targeted exclusions and mandatory utilization management in select drug categories:

|               |                                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Tier 1</b> | Generic medications*            |
| <b>Tier 2</b> | Commonly used brand medications |
| <b>Tier 3</b> | Higher-cost brand medications   |

Specialty medications, including injectables, are tiered based on the Optum® Specialty Pharmacy drug list and may fall within any of the above tiers.

## Improve savings

The formulary excludes more than 550 medications from benefit coverage. By removing these medications, we can negotiate better discounts for quality medications used to treat the same condition. This ultimately results in lower overall health care costs while maintaining more affordable medication options for members.

## Clinically sound

Medications undergo a rigorous independent clinical review and financial evaluation process before they are excluded. Medications may be considered for exclusion if they:

- Are therapeutically equivalent to a lower-cost alternative
- Are in the same class as a clinically similar product or strategy
- Demonstrate no unique therapeutic benefit compared to alternatives

## Premium formulary highlights

- Promotes medication quality and safety through a clinically driven offering
- Supports member choice and minimize disruption
- Delivers significant client savings and value

## Added protection

The New Drugs to Market program is also required when choosing the Premium formulary. This program excludes newly launched medications, which allows for appropriate review of evidence and overall clinical value compared to other alternatives. This helps avoid disruption, so members do not begin new medications that become permanently excluded.

## Utilization management options

Utilization management programs may bring additional quality and savings opportunities. Optum Rx offers options that support clinical decisions and positive health outcomes, whether you're looking to optimize savings through an aggressive pharmacy benefit strategy, manage your benefit with minimal disruption, or pick and choose between strategies.

### Select from these utilization management programs:

| A la carte  | Comprehensive   |
|---|---|
| Select any combination of our utilization management strategies based on therapeutic groupings. | This package includes more than 500 utilization management strategies, including those in the Focused utilization management program, providing the greatest control and savings. Utilization management programs will be automatically updated and included as new drugs become available in the market. |

The Premium formulary also encourages members to use lower-cost alternatives through exclusions and prior authorization. Prior authorization is required in three therapeutic classes: immunomodulators, hepatitis C and multiple sclerosis.

## Strengthen your clinical program strategy

To learn more about the Optum Rx Premium formulary, contact your Optum Rx representative or send an email to [optumrx@optum.com](mailto:optumrx@optum.com).



\*Targeted brand drugs are included on the formulary in a preferred position. Higher-priced generic alternatives are excluded.

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