

Q3 2025 preferred drug list updates

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan

Effective July 1, 2025, we're making the following changes to the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan preferred drug list (PDL). Our Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee updates this PDL quarterly.

These changes apply to:

- The following states: Arizona (AZ), Colorado (CO), Hawaii (HI), Indiana (IN), Maryland (MD), Michigan (MI), Nebraska (NE), New Jersey (NJ), New Mexico (NM), Nevada (NV), Pennsylvania (PA), Rhode Island (RI), Texas (TX) and Virginia (VA)
- The following programs and plans: New York Children's Health Insurance Program (NY CHIP), New York Essential Plan (NY EP) and Pennsylvania CHIP (PA CHIP)

These changes don't apply to Florida, Kansas, North Carolina or Washington.

New medications on PDL

Medication	Description	States and plans in scope
Accu-Chek® Aviva, Guide Glucose Meters and Test Strips	Indicated for the monitoring of blood glucose control.	AZ, CO, HI, KS, MD, MI, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI, VA, WA
Adbry® injection	Indicated for the treatment of moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis. We require prior authorization.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI
Contour® Next meters and test strips, Contour® Plus Blue meters and Contour® Plus test strips	Indicated for the monitoring of blood glucose control.	AZ, CO, HI, KS, MD, MI, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI, VA, WA
estradiol/norethindrone tablets	Indicated for the treatment of vasomotor symptoms, severe vulvar and vaginal atrophy due to menopause, or prevention of postmenopausal osteoporosis.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI
epinephrine 0.15 mg and 0.3 mg injection	Indicated in the emergency treatment of allergic reactions including anaphylaxis.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI

New medications on PDL (cont.)

Medication	Description	States and plans in scope
lamotrigine ER tablets	Indicated as adjunctive therapy for primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures and partial-onset seizures.	CO, HI, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI, TX
levetiracetam ER tablets	Indicated as adjunctive therapy for primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures and partial-onset seizures.	CO, HI, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI, TX
methadone 5 mg and 10 mg tablets	Indicated for the management of pain. We require prior authorization.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI
Norditropin® injection	Indicated for the treatment of growth failure due to growth hormone deficiency. We require prior authorization.	NY CHIP, NY EP
ethinyl estradiol/norethindrone tablets	Indicated for the treatment of vasomotor symptoms, severe vulvar and vaginal atrophy due to menopause, or prevention of postmenopausal osteoporosis.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI
olanzapine orally disintegrating tablets	Indicated for the treatment of schizophrenia, manic or mixed episodes associated with bipolar disorder, and maintenance of bipolar disorder.	CO, HI, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI
Otulf® injection	Indicated for the treatment of plaque psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease. We require prior authorization.	NY EP
paliperidone ER tablets	Indicated for the acute and maintenance treatment of schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder.	CO, HI, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI
risperidone orally disintegrating tablets	Indicated for the treatment of schizophrenia or acute manic or mixed episodes associated with bipolar disorder.	CO, HI, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI

New medications on PDL (cont.)

Medication	Description	States and plans in scope
Sogroya® injection	Indicated for replacement of endogenous growth hormone in adults with growth hormone deficiency. We require prior authorization.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NM, NV, NY CHIP, PA CHIP, RI
Yesintek™ injection	Indicated for the treatment of plaque psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, ulcerative colitis, or Crohn's disease. We require prior authorization.	NY EP

Changes to coverage

Medication	Description	States and plans in scope
benznidazole tablets	Indicated in pediatric patients for the treatment of Chagas disease. We'll no longer require a diagnosis check.	CO, HI, IN, MD, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA, PA CHIP, RI, VA
clobazam tablets and suspension	Indicated for adjunctive treatment of seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome. We'll no longer require a diagnosis check.	CO, HI, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI, TX
lacosamide tablets	Indicated for the treatment of partial-onset seizures or primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures. We'll no longer require prior authorization.	CO, HI, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI, TX
sevelamer carbonate tablets	Indicated for the control of serum phosphorus in patients with chronic kidney disease on dialysis. We'll no longer require step therapy.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI

Medication no longer on PDL

We're removing the following medication(s) from our PDL.

Medication	Description	States and plans in scope
Dhivy® tablets	Indicated for the treatment of Parkinson's disease, post-encephalitic parkinsonism and symptomatic parkinsonism. Alternatives include generic carbidopa and levodopa tablet. We require prior authorization.	CO, HI, IN, MD, NJ, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI, VA
Duavee® tablets	Indicated for the treatment of vasomotor symptoms due to menopause, or prevention of postmenopausal osteoporosis. Alternatives include preferred generic estrogen products. We require prior authorization.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, PA CHIP, RI
oxymorphone ER tablets	Indicated for the relief of moderate to severe pain. Alternatives include generic morphine sulfate ER tablets, which require prior authorization. We require prior authorization.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI
Premarin® tablets	Indicated for the treatment of vasomotor symptoms, severe vulvar and vaginal atrophy due to menopause, or prevention of postmenopausal osteoporosis. Alternatives include preferred generic estrogen products. We require prior authorization.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, PA CHIP, RI
Premphase® tablets	Indicated for the treatment of vasomotor symptoms, severe vulvar and vaginal atrophy due to menopause, or prevention of postmenopausal osteoporosis. Alternatives include preferred generic estrogen products. We require prior authorization.	CO, HI, MD, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, PA CHIP, RI

Medication no longer on PDL (cont.)

<p>Prempro® tablets</p>	<p>Indicated for the treatment of vasomotor symptoms, severe vulvar and vaginal atrophy due to menopause, or prevention of postmenopausal osteoporosis.</p> <p>Alternatives include preferred generic estrogen products.</p> <p>We require prior authorization.</p>	<p>CO, HI, MD, NJ, NE, NM, NV, NY CHIP, PA CHIP, RI</p>
<p>Stelara® injection</p>	<p>Indicated for the treatment of plaque psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease.</p> <p>Alternatives include Otulfi and Yesintek, both of which require prior authorization.</p> <p>We require prior authorization.</p>	<p>NY EP</p>
<p>Unithroid® tablets</p>	<p>Indicated as replacement therapy for hypothyroidism.</p> <p>Alternative includes generic levothyroxine tablets.</p> <p>We require prior authorization.</p>	<p>CO, HI, IN, MD, NJ, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI</p>
<p>Vandazole® 0.75% gel</p>	<p>Indicated for the treatment of bacterial vaginosis.</p> <p>Alternative includes generic metronidazole 0.75% vaginal gel.</p> <p>We require prior authorization.</p>	<p>CO, HI, MD, NJ, NM, NV, NY CHIP, NY EP, PA CHIP, RI</p>



Medication alternatives

We may cover medication alternatives for medications not on our PDL. If you feel a medication alternative is medically appropriate for a patient, and you'd like to prescribe it, please do one of the following:

- Contact the member's pharmacy to request the prescription
- Submit an electronic prescription using Optum Rx® ePrescribe
 - For more information, visit [Electronic Prescribing \(eRx\) to Optum Home Delivery](#) at optum.com
- Write a new prescription and give it to your patient (where state regulations permit)

If a preferred alternative medication isn't medically appropriate for a patient, please request a PDL prior authorization exception by calling Optum Rx prescriber prior authorization at **800-310-6826**. If the medication meets our medical necessity criteria, we'll continue to cover it for that patient.



Resources

As of July 1, 2025, you can view the changes at UHCprovider.com/plans > Health Plans by State > Community plan (Medicaid) > Pharmacy Resources and Physician Administered Drugs.