

# Provider Bulletin

Molina Healthcare of New Mexico, Inc.

January 31, 2025

## Attention Providers: Q1 Medicaid Formulary Changes, effective 1/1/2025

Type	Product/Drug Name	Formulary Change	Formulary Alternatives
<b>Removals</b>			
Antiasthmatic Agents	Dulera*	Removed	Budesonide-formoterol (generic for Symbicort)
Antiasthmatic Agents	Qvar Redihaler*	Removed	Fluticasone HFA (generic for Flovent)
Antidiabetics	Basaglar Kwikpen	Removed	Glargine YFGN Pen (unbranded Semglee), or Glargine Solostar (unbranded Lantus), or Rezvoglar
Antidiabetics	Trulicity	Removed	Ozempic, Rybelsus, and liraglutide (generic for Victoza)
Anticoagulants	Eliquis and Eliquis Starter Pack**	Removed	Xarelto (rivaroxaban)
Anti-TNF alpha	Humira	Removed	Hadlima biosimilar

<b>Additions</b>			
Anticoagulants	Xarelto	Added	Replaces Eliquis
Antidiabetics	Liraglutide (generic Victoza)	Added	Replaces Trulicity
Antidiabetics	Rezvoglar pen, Glargine YFGN pen and vial	Added	Replaces Basaglar Kwikpen
Anti-TNF alpha	Hadlima	Added	Replaces Humira

\*Dulera and QVAR Removal: Pulmonary/Lung Specialists and Providers who treat asthma and other lung conditions will need to know the alternatives here as well.

- 72-hour emergency override is available
- Discharge request from CC

\*\* Eliquis Removal: UNM and other hospitals, anticoagulation specialists, etc. will need to be aware that Eliquis is not preferred. Members are frequently discharged on these for clots. They will have short term access via

- 72-hour emergency override
- Discharge request from care coordinator to the pharmacy utilization management team a discharge request. However, authorization will be needed after that.

Members currently using these medications have been notified by mail of the changes. This proactive approach emphasizes Molina's commitment to minimizing disruptions in care and ensuring that members continue to receive their necessary medications without undue hassle.

To facilitate a smooth transition, members who are currently using the specified medications in 2024 will be granted continued access until March 31, 2025. This three-month period is designed to allow adequate time for members to consult with their healthcare providers and obtain the required prior authorizations. By providing this grace period, the healthcare plan aims to prevent any interruptions in treatment and support members in adapting to the new requirements.

In instances where it has been determined that a member cannot switch to an alternative medication, the healthcare plan has established an exception process. Providers who find themselves in such a situation are advised to submit an exception prior authorization request. This process ensures that members with specific medical requirements are assessed to determine whether they can continue to receive the necessary medications without interruption.

#### Formulary Information

Molina's current Medicaid formulary can be found on our New Mexico provider website, MolinaHealthcare.com under the "Pharmacy" tab:

<https://www.molinahealthcare.com/providers/nm/medicaid/drug/Pharmacy.aspx>

Recognizing the potential challenges you may face during this transition, please call Molina Healthcare toll-free at 1-855-322-4078 with any questions you may have.

## **Medication Prior Authorization Requests: Understanding “Urgent” Status**

The “Urgent” status on a medication prior authorization (PA) request is for situations where a delay in treatment could seriously harm a member’s life, health, or ability to recover. Using “urgent” incorrectly can cause delays for members with real emergencies.

### **Urgent Requests:**

- For cases where delays could seriously harm a member’s life, health, or recovery.
- Molina processes within 24 hours.
- Example: A member needs medication to prevent a life-threatening condition.

### **Standard Requests:**

- For routine care where no immediate harm is expected.
- Molina processes within 72 hours.
- Example: A follow-up appointment for a stable chronic condition.

### **Key Points to Remember:**

- Use “urgent” only when standard timelines would endanger the member.
- Include clear clinical documentation to support urgent status (NMAC 8.310.2).
- Plan ahead for standard requests to allow enough processing time.

Using “urgent” status correctly helps ensure faster care for those who need it most. For questions or help with PA requests, check the Medicaid Provider Manual or contact 1-855-322-4078.

## **New Mexico Senate Bill 135: Changes to Step Therapy Protocols**

In accordance with New Mexico Senate Bill 135 Step Therapy Guidelines (2024), Molina has eliminated the step therapy and prior authorization requirements for medications used in the treatment of cancer, certain autoimmune conditions, and substance use disorders. It is essential to ensure that these medications align with the appropriate diagnoses, and we will continue to verify that these treatments correspond to the conditions outlined in Senate Bill 135.

### **Key Highlights:**

- Elimination of Step Therapy and Prior Authorization Requirements: Effective January 1, 2025, step therapy and prior authorization protocols will no longer be required for specific medications prescribed for:
  - Cancer treatments
  - Certain autoimmune conditions
  - Substance use disorders



Implications for Your Practice:

- Prescription Process: Beginning January 1, 2025, you can prescribe specified medications without step therapy protocols or prior authorizations.
- Patient Care: These changes will expedite access to essential medications, improving treatment outcomes and patient satisfaction.

For more detailed information, you can access the full text of Senate Bill 135 on the New Mexico Legislature's website: [NM SB 135](#).

If you have any questions or require further clarification on how these changes may affect your practice, please do not hesitate to contact us at 1-855-322-4078.

This special pharmacy Provider Bulletin is a newsletter distributed to all network providers serving members of Molina Healthcare of New Mexico health plans. Thank you for your commitment to serving Molina Healthcare of New Mexico members and the community.