

PROTECT
Formulary Optimization for Low Clinical Value Medications

Low Clinical Value Medication Alternatives

*01/01/2023 additions highlighted

Our Formulary Optimization program provides protection to clients and their members. Using our clinical expertise, we prevent unnecessary spending by removing Low Clinical Value medications from the formulary and provide better alternatives – equal or more effective medications at a lower cost. By applying our clinical expertise to remove high dollar, non-essential drugs, employers optimize clinical and financial results for their plan and their members.

Excluded Medication*	Use	Cost of Excluded Med	Alternative Therapy	Cost of Alternative
Anti-inflammatory Agents				
diclofenac 1.5% topical solution	Osteoarthritis of the knee	\$292/bottle	OTC topical analgesic (ex Voltaren Gel OTC, Capsaicin) or oral NSAID agent (Rx or OTC)	\$10-\$145/30 days
Duexis	Osteoarthritis or Rheumatoid arthritis	\$2,443/30 days	Generic OTC or Rx NSAID (ibuprofen) + generic acid reducer (famotidine)	\$35 for OTCs
Fenorthis 200 mg capsule	Osteoarthritis or Rheumatoid arthritis	\$3,364/30 days	Generic OTC or Rx NSAID	<\$10 for OTCs
Flector 1.3% patch	Acute pain control	\$367/30 patches	Oral OTC or Rx NSAIDs, OTC topical analgesic (ex Voltaren Gel OTC, Capsaicin), or OTC pain patches	<\$20 for OTCs
Mitigare	Gout	\$455/30 days	Generic colchicine 0.6mg tablet	\$346/30 days
Naprelan	Osteoarthritis or Rheumatoid arthritis	\$831/30 days	OTC Naproxen	<\$20 for OTCs
Norgesic	Musculoskeletal Pain	\$6,600/30 days	Generic orphenadrine (non-combination) or other generic NSAID	\$130/30 days or <\$10 for OTC
Orphengesic Forte	Musculoskeletal Pain	\$4,680/30 days	Generic orphenadrine (non-combination) or other generic NSAID	\$130/30 days or <\$10 for OTC
Pennsaid 2% topical solution	Osteoarthritis of the knee	\$2,448/bottle	OTC topical analgesic (ex Voltaren Gel OTC, Capsaicin) or oral NSAID agent (Rx or OTC)	\$10-\$145 for OTCs
Qmiiiz ODT	Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)	no pricing data	Generic Rx meloxicam (Mobic)	\$27/30 days
Seglents	Acute pain control	\$610/30 days	Generic tramadol and generic celecoxib	\$20/30 days (each)
Vimovo	Osteoarthritis or Rheumatoid arthritis	\$2,442/30 days	Generic OTC or Rx NSAID (naproxen) + proton-pump inhibitor (esomeprazole)	\$35 for OTCs
Zipsor	Osteoarthritis or Rheumatoid arthritis	\$780/30 days	Generic OTC or Rx NSAID	<\$10 for OTCs
Zorvolex	Osteoarthritis or Rheumatoid arthritis	\$250/30 days	Generic OTC or Rx NSAID	<\$10 for OTCs
Vivlodex	Osteoarthritis or Rheumatoid arthritis	\$840/30 days	Generic NSAID (Meloxicam)	\$25/30 days
Cardiovascular Agents				
Antihyperlipidemic				
Fenofibrate 120mg	High triglycerides	\$900/30 days	Other dosage forms and strengths of generic fenofibrate	\$60/30 days
Lovaza	High triglycerides	\$286/30 days	Generic OTC omega-3 fatty acids	<\$25 for OTCs
Niacor	High triglycerides	\$574/30 days	OTC Niacin	<\$20 for OTCs
Vascepa	High triglycerides	\$275/30 days	Generic OTC omega-3 fatty acids	<\$25 for OTCs
Antihypertensives				
Consensi	High blood pressure + osteoarthritis	no pricing data	Generic Rx amlodipine (Norvasc) + generic Rx celecoxib (Celebrex)	\$32/30 days
Diuretics				
CaroSpir suspension	Diuretic / cardiovascular agent	\$1,160/473 mL	Generic Rx spironolactone tablets (can be compounded to liquid by a pharmacist)	\$51/equivalent tablets
Prevention				
Durlaza	Cardiovascular event prevention	\$180/30 days	Generic OTC Aspirin	<\$20 for OTCs
Central Nervous System Agents				
Antidepressive Agents				
Aplenzin	Depression	\$1,800/30 days	Generic bupropion HCL ER or immediate release tablets	\$120/30 days
Anti-Parkinson Agents				
Gocovri	Parkinson's tremors	\$2,337/30 days	Generic Rx immediate release amantadine	\$31/30 days
Osmolex ER	Parkinson's tremors	\$886/30 days	Generic Rx immediate release amantadine	\$31/30 days
Rytary	Parkinson's tremors	\$1,175/360 tabs	Generic Carbidopa-Levodopa ER tab	\$250/360 tabs
Hypnotics/Sedatives/Sleep Disorder Agents				
Eduar	Insomnia	\$365/30 tabs	Generic Rx zolpidem (Ambien)	\$16/30 tabs
Intermezzo	Insomnia	\$450/30 tabs	Generic Rx zolpidem (Ambien)	\$16/30 tabs
Migraine Products				
Allzital	Migraine relief	\$490/ 30 tabs	Generic OTC or Rx acetaminophen or NSAID; or other generic butalbital-acetaminophen combination	\$45/30 tabs
Cambia powder packet	Migraine relief	\$670/9 packets	Generic Rx antimigraine agent such as sumatriptan (Imitrex)	\$45/9 tabs
Tosymra	Migraine relief	\$700/box	Generic Rx antimigraine agent such as sumatriptan (Imitrex)	\$45/9 tabs
Treximet	Migraine relief	\$952/9 tabs	Generic Rx sumatriptan (Imitrex) + as needed OTC NSAID (naproxen)	\$45/9 tabs
Musculoskeletal Therapy Agents				
Amrix	Muscle relaxant	\$1,072/30 caps	Generic Rx cyclobenzaprine (Flexeril)	\$27/30 days
Chlorzoxazone 250 mg	Muscle relaxant	\$2,400/120 tabs	Immediate release cyclobenzaprine or Chlorzoxazone 500 mg tablet	\$25/90 tabs
Fexmid 7.5mg tab	Muscle relaxant	\$250/30 tabs	Generic Rx cyclobenzaprine (Flexeril) 5mg or 10mg tablets	\$27/30 days
Neurological Agents				
Eprontia	Migraine prevention or anticonvulsant	\$558/30 days	Generic Rx immediate release topiramate (Topamax)	\$275/30 days
Gralise	Postherpetic neuralgia (nerve condition)	\$750/30 days of max dose	Generic Rx immediate release gabapentin (Neurontin)	\$135/30 days of max dose
Horizant	Postherpetic neuralgia (nerve condition)	\$830/30 days of max dose	Generic Rx immediate release gabapentin (Neurontin)	\$135/30 days of max dose
Qudexy XR	Migraine prevention or anticonvulsant	\$785/30 days	Generic Rx immediate release topiramate (Topamax)	\$275/30 days
Trokendi XR	Migraine prevention or anticonvulsant	\$972/30 days	Generic Rx immediate release topiramate (Topamax)	\$275/30 days
Dermatological Agents				
Alcortin A external gel	Non-inflammatory skin disease	\$7,841/48g tube	Generic Rx iodoquinol / hydrocortisone (Dermazene or Vytone)	\$93/30g tube
Altreno 0.05% lotion	Topical acne lotion	\$113/45g tube	OTC benzoyl peroxide or salicylic acid acne treatment	<\$10 for OTCs
ApexiCon E 0.05% cream	Topical steroid cream	\$430/60g tube	Generic Rx topical steroid such as triamcinolone or halobetasol formulation	\$5/80g - \$53/50g
Bensal HP 3% ointment	Topical dermatitis ointment	\$900/30g tube	OTC benzoyl peroxide or salicylic acid treatment	<\$10 for OTCs
Bryhali 0.01% lotion	Topical steroid lotion	\$394/100g tube	Generic Rx topical steroid such as triamcinolone or alternate halobetasol formulation	\$5/80g - \$53/50g
Centany Kit	Topical antibiotic	\$330/kit	Generic mupirocin 2% ointment , along with OTC latex-free gauze pads and cloth tape strips for securing gauze	\$85/22g tube
Cordran tape	Topical steroid	\$695/each	Generic Rx topical steroid such as triamcinolone or halobetasol formulation	\$5/80g - \$53/50g
Denavir	Herpes labialis (cold sores)	\$974/5g tube	Generic acyclovir ointment	\$180/30g tube
DermacinRx All Product Extensions**	Topical steroid/analgesic/anti-inflammatory	\$3,000/pack	Generic OTC topical analgesics, corticosteroids, or anti-inflammatory PLUS hydrating agents like petroleum jelly	\$5/80g - \$53/50g
Doryx	Acne	\$1,200/30 tabs	Doxycycline hyclate immediate release or Doxycycline monohydrate immediate release	\$65/30 tabs
Doryx MPC	Acne	\$400/30 tabs	Doxycycline hyclate immediate release or Doxycycline monohydrate immediate release	\$65/30 tabs
doxepin 5% cream	Topical emollient	\$144/45g tube	OTC diphenhydramine or topical OTC or Rx steroid cream	<\$20 for OTCs
EpiCeram skin barrier	Skin lubricant, mositurizer, or barrier	\$2,289/90g tube	Topical OTC emollient such as Aquaphor or Vaseline	<\$10 for OTCs
Entty emulsion spray	Topical emollient	\$1476/250 mL bottle	OTC topical emollient such as Vaseline, Aquaphor, or Aloe	<\$20 for OTCs
Jublia	Toe nail fungus	\$1,127/8 mL bottle	Oral generic Rx terbinafine (Lamisil)	\$77/30 tabs
KamDoy Rx skin emulsion	Topical emollient	\$1,275/60mL bottle	OTC topical lidocaine with emollient such as Vaseline or Aquaphor	<\$20 for OTCs

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Excluded Medication*	Use	Cost of Excluded Med	Alternative Therapy	Cost of Alternative
Dermatological Agents Continued				
Kerydin	Toe nail fungus	\$1,487/10 mL bottle	Oral generic Rx terbinafine (Lamisil)	\$77/30 tabs
Kenalog spray	Topical steroid spray	\$815/100g bottle	Generic Rx topical steroid in cream or ointment formulation such as betamethasone or fluticasone	\$5/80g - \$53/50g
Luzu 1% cream	Topical antifungal	\$484/60g tube	Topical OTC antifungal such as Lotrimin or topical generic Rx such as ketoconazole	<\$25 for OTCs
Novacort gel	Non-inflammatory skin disease	\$5,857/29g tube	Generic Rx topical corticosteroid or OTC Preparation H	<\$10 for OTCs
Pramosone cream	Non-inflammatory skin disease	\$402/60g tube	Generic Rx topical corticosteroid or OTC Preparation H	<\$10 for OTCs
Prudoxin 5% cream	Topical emollient	\$642/45g tube	OTC diphenhydramine or topical OTC or Rx steroid cream	<\$20 for OTCs
Psorcon	Topical steroid	\$930/60g tube	Generic Rx topical steroid in cream or ointment formulation such as betamethasone or fluticasone	\$5/80g - \$53/50g
Sernivo	Topical steroid	\$1,000/120ml bottle	Generic Rx topical steroid in cream, ointment, or lotion formulation such as betamethasone	\$5/80g - \$53/50g
Sil-K pad	Topical emollient	\$4,795/4-pad pack	OTC Duoderm products	<\$20 for OTCs
Sitavig buccal tablet	Oral antiviral (treatment for cold sores)	\$477/treatment course	OTC topical antiviral (Abreva)	<\$20 for OTCs
Synerderm emulsion	Topical emollient	\$1,225/60 mL bottle	OTC topical emollient such as Vaseline, Aquaphor, or Aloe	<\$20 for OTCs
TargaDOX	Acne	\$780/60 tabs	Doxycycline hyclate immediate release or Doxycycline monohydrate immediate release	\$65/30 tabs
Twynéo	Acne	\$510/30g tube	Generic tretinoin cream and OTC benzoyl peroxide	\$131/20g & <\$10 for OTCs
Zonalon 5% cream	Topical emollient	\$854/45g tube	OTC diphenhydramine or topical OTC or Rx steroid cream	<\$20 for OTCs
Xolegel 2% gel	Topical antifungal	\$770/45g tube	Topical OTC antifungal such as Lotrimin or topical generic Rx such as ketoconazole	<\$25 for OTCs
Epiduo Forte	Topical antiseptic/acne	\$730/45g tube	OTC adapalene (Differin gel) and benzoyl peroxide (Clean & Clear Persa-Gel 10)	<\$25 for OTCs
Duobrii	Topical steroid	\$1,049/100g tube	Generic Rx topical steroid such as halobetasol or clobetasol + tazarotene	<\$500/30 days
Endocrine and Metabolic Agents				
<i>Antidiabetics</i>				
Fortamet	Oral antidiabetic agent	\$2,088/60 tabs	Generic Rx metformin ER (Glucophage XR formulation)	\$20/60 tabs
Glumetza	Oral antidiabetic agent	\$6,573/30 days of max dose	Generic Rx metformin ER (Glucophage XR formulation)	\$20/30 days of max dose
<i>Corticosteroids</i>				
Rayos	Steroidal anti-inflammatory	\$82 per tablet	Generic Rx prednisone or methylprednisolone	<\$10 for steroid pack
Gastrointestinal Agents				
Bonjesta	Nausea/vomiting	\$630/30 days	OTC vitamin B6 + Unisom	<\$20 for OTCs of max dose
Zegerid	Heart burn	\$3,254/30 days	Generic Rx or OTC proton-pump inhibitor + OTC Tums	<\$25 for OTCs
Dexilant	Indigestion/Gastroesophageal reflux disease	\$370/30 days	Generic Rx or OTC proton-pump inhibitor	<\$25 for OTCs
Diclegis	Nausea/vomiting	\$784/30 days of max dose	OTC vitamin B6 + Unisom	<\$20 for OTCs of max dose
Hematological Agents				
Yospira	Secondary prevention of cardiovascular event	\$162/30 days	Generic OTC aspirin + OTC omeprazole (Prilosec)	<\$25 for OTCs
Nutrients and Nutritional Agents				
Dietary Management agents (such as Xyzbac)	Dietary supplement	\$808/30 tabs	OTC multivitamin plus OTC CoQ10 + Rx folic acid	<\$20 for OTCs
Folika-D	Folic Acid/Vitamin D Supplement	\$1,500/30 days	OTC oral vitamin D + Rx folic acid	<\$20 for OTCs
Folika-V	Dietary supplement	\$1,800/30 days	OTC multivitamin plus OTC CoQ10 + Rx folic acid	<\$20 for OTCs
Nascobal nasal solution	Vitamin B-12 supplement	\$549/30 days	OTC oral vitamin B-12 or Rx injectable vitamin B-12	<\$10 for OTC or Rx
Ophthalmic and Otic Agents				
Cequa 0.09% ophthalmic solution	Dry eye relief	\$499/30 days	OTC ophthalmic lubricants	<\$10 for OTCs
Vyzulta 0.024% ophthalmic solution	Glaucoma	\$177/2.5 mL bottle	Generic Rx latanoprost (Xalatan)	\$11/2.5mL bottle
Xelpros 0.005% ophthalmic solution	Glaucoma	\$5/2.5ml bottle	Generic Rx latanoprost (Xalatan)	\$11/2.5mL bottle
Xiidra 5% ophthalmic solution	Dry eye disease	\$499/box	OTC ophthalmic antihistamine or lubricant or Rx generic antihistamine	<\$10 for OTCs
Respiratory Agents				
<i>Cough/Cold/Allergy/Antihistamine</i>				
Claritin	Allergy relief	\$13/30 tabs	OTC antihistamine	<\$20/30 tabs
Claritin-D	Allergy relief	\$34/30 tabs	OTC antihistamine + decongestant	<\$30/30 tabs
SSKI	Expectorant or antidote	\$319/30 mL	OTC Mucinex for expectorant or OTC ThyroShield for antidote	<\$20 for OTCs
<i>Nasal Agents- Systemic And Topical</i>				
Sinuva	Nasal polyps	\$1,255/implant	OTC fluticasone (Flonase) nasal spray or oral antihistamine + decongestant	<\$20 for OTCs
Xhance	Allergy relief	\$510/bottle	OTC fluticasone (Flonase) nasal spray or oral antihistamine + decongestant	\$75/bottle
Anti-Infective Agents				
<i>Antibiotics</i>				
Ximino	Antibiotic	\$914/30 days	Generic Rx minocycline ER	\$75/30 days

* Any current or future generic alternatives of the listed brand medications also are excluded.
**All formulations of DermacinRx are excluded, alternatives will be dependent upon individual formulation

PROTECT

Protect ensures the prescription drug program is optimized to save clients money and create a high level of member satisfaction. Find out how low clinical value medications are impacting your clients' pharmacy plan. On average, clients save 1.5% - 2%.