

# PHARMACY FACTS

## Program Updates from Louisiana Medicaid

August 16, 2024

### REMINDER: Brand/Generic Changes on Preferred Drug List Update July 1, 2024

On July 1, 2024, Louisiana Medicaid implemented changes to the Single Preferred Drug List (PDL) with brand vs. generic changes. Prior to July 1, 2024, the PDL indicated a preference of some brand-name drugs over generic drugs. The revised PDL shifted both brand and generic versions of these drugs to preferred status.

With the implementation of the new PDL, prescribing providers are advised to note “brand name necessary” on any prescription where they want to ensure pharmacies fill their prescriptions with a brand name drug. Absent this notation, individual pharmacists will make the decision on whether to fill the prescription with brand or generic drugs.

Generic drugs work the same and have the same active ingredients as brand-name drugs. Many covered generic drugs are listed in the Louisiana Medicaid Single PDL. Sometimes, when generic medicines are available and the prescriber wants the beneficiary to have the brand-name medicine, the brand-name medicine will have to be approved by the prescriber. “Brand name necessary” must be on the prescription.

The revised PDL is posted online at <https://ldh.la.gov/assets/HealthyLa/Pharmacy/PDL.pdf>. The updated list is posted below. All drugs transitioned to brand and generic preferred with the exception of Revatio suspension, as noted in the chart below, which is now generic preferred and brand non-preferred.

#### Generic drugs moved to preferred status with the brand, except Revatio suspension, Effective July 1, 2024

Brand Name	Therapeutic Class	Starting July 1, 2024
ADDERALL XR	ADD/ADHD: stimulants and related agent	Brand and generic preferred
ADVAIR DISKUS	Asthma/COPD: glucocorticoids, inhalation	Brand and generic preferred
ADVAIR HFA		Brand and generic preferred
ALPHAGAN P 0.15%	Glaucoma agents: intraocular pressure (IOP) reducers	Brand and generic preferred
AMITIZA	GI motility, chronic	Brand and generic preferred
APRISO	Digestive disorders: ulcerative colitis agents	Brand and generic preferred
BANZEL TABLET AND SUSPENSION	Anticonvulsants	Brand and generic preferred
BETHKIS	Infectious disorders: inhaled antibiotics	Brand and generic preferred
CARBATROL	Anticonvulsants	Brand and generic preferred
COMBIGAN	Glaucoma agents: intraocular pressure (IOP) reducers	Brand and generic preferred

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COPAXONE 20 mg/ml	Multiple sclerosis: immunomodulatory agents	Brand and generic preferred
COPAXONE 40 mg/ml	Multiple sclerosis: immunomodulatory agents	Brand and generic preferred
DEPAKOTE SPRINKLE	Anticonvulsants	Brand and generic preferred
ELIDEL	Dermatology: atopic dermatitis immunomodulators	Brand and generic preferred
NATROBA	Dermatology: antiparasitic agents, topical	Brand and generic preferred
NEXIUM SUSPENSION	Digestive disorders: proton pump inhibitors	Brand and generic preferred
PRADAXA	Anticoagulants	Brand and generic preferred
PROTONIX SUSPENSION	Digestive disorders: proton pump inhibitors	Brand and generic preferred
REVELA TABLET	Hemodialysis: phosphate binders	Brand and generic preferred
RESTASIS	Ophthalmic disorders: anti-inflammatory/immunomodulators	Brand and generic preferred
RETIN-A CREAM	Acne agents, topical	Brand and generic preferred
REVATIO SUSPENSION	Heart disease, hyperlipidemia; pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)	Brand non-preferred Generic preferred
REVLIMID	Oncology: oral – hematologic	Brand and generic preferred
SABRIL TABLET and POWDER PACK	Anticonvulsants	Brand and generic preferred
SPIRIVA HFA	Asthma / COPD: bronchodilator, anticholinergics inhalation	Brand and generic preferred
SUBOXONE FILM	Opiate dependence agents	Brand and generic preferred
SYMBICORT	Asthma/COPD: glucocorticoids, inhalation	Brand and generic preferred
TEGRETOL XR	Anticonvulsants	Brand and generic preferred
TRILEPTAL SUSPENSION	Anticonvulsants	Brand and generic preferred
TROKENDI XR	Anticonvulsants	Brand and generic preferred
VENTOLIN HFA (other generic albuterol inhalers will remain preferred)	Asthma	Brand and generic preferred

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### Physician Administered Drugs (PAD)

Effective September 1, 2024, some specific physician administered drugs (PAD) will no longer be paid through the pharmacy benefit of the managed care organization (MCO) by Magellan Medicaid Administration (MMA). These physician administered drugs should be billed and paid through the medical benefit of the MCO. All members and prescribers impacted by this change (utilization within the last 90 days of these drugs) have been notified via mail of the change in billing.

The link below is the list of PAD that will be effective September 1, 2024.

[www.lamcopbmpharmacy.com/documents/d/la/physician-administered-drugs-list-09-01-24](http://www.lamcopbmpharmacy.com/documents/d/la/physician-administered-drugs-list-09-01-24).

This list will be updated periodically and the updates will be available at

<https://www.lamcopbmpharmacy.com/forms-and-information>.

### Pharmacy Cost of Dispensing (COD) Survey

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) is conducting a pharmacy cost of dispensing (COD) survey. The survey results will be used to evaluate the Louisiana Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) future pharmacy reimbursement rates. The deadline for survey response is due September 18, 2024.

Myers and Stauffer LC is managing the survey on behalf of LDH and will host an informational webinar to guide pharmacies through the survey process. The webinar will explain the survey, clarify what information is being requested and offer an opportunity to ask questions. A webinar is scheduled for August 20, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. CST.

Pharmacies are encouraged to attend this webinar. You can join the webinar via Microsoft Teams to view presentation slides and via telephone for the audio portion of the meeting.

**Join via internet to view presentation and for audio (click the link below):**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 992 726 164 852

Passcode: GUtxn9

**Join by phone (audio only):**

Dial in number: 463.273.3031

Phone conference ID: 750 186 479#

If you have any questions or would like to request the Excel version of the survey tool, please call the Myers and Stauffer help desk, toll-free, at 800-374-6858 or email [disp\\_survey@mslc.com](mailto:disp_survey@mslc.com).