

## Pharmacy Policy

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### Step Therapy – Proton Pump Inhibitors

**Policy Number:** 9.806

**Version Number:** 2.0

**Version Effective Date:** 3/1/2022

Product Applicability		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>All Plan+ Products</b>
<b>Well Sense Health Plan</b>	<b>Boston Medical Center HealthNet Plan</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire Medicaid	<input type="checkbox"/> MassHealth - MCO	<input type="checkbox"/> MassHealth - ACO
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Qualified Health Plans/ConnectorCare/Employer Choice	Direct
	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Care Options	

Note: Disclaimer and audit information is located at the end of this document.

## Prior Authorization Policy

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### POLICY STATEMENT:

A step therapy program has been developed to encourage the use of Step-1 products prior to the use of a Step-2 product, without interrupting existing therapy. If the step therapy rule is not met for a Step-2 agent at the point of service, coverage will be determined by the step therapy criteria below. All approvals are provided for 1 year in duration.

### Standard Criteria:

The Plan May Authorize Coverage Of The Products in Appendix A For Members Meeting The Following Criteria When Step Therapy Is Not Met At Point Of Sale From Claims History:

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1. Prescribers must provide documentation (including dates of trial and outcome) that the member has tried and failed the appropriate number of applicable step agents as indicated in Appendix A and in the coverage criteria requirements. **OR**
2. Prescribers must provide documentation that the member has a contraindication to, or other clinical rationale preventing the use of, **ALL** applicable step agents indicated in Appendix A.

### Appendix A: Step Therapy Details

Proton Pump Inhibitor Agents		
Step 1	Step 2	Coverage Criteria
Esomeprazole DR capsule Lansoprazole DR capsule Omeprazole DR capsule Pantoprazole DR tablet Rabeprazole DR tablet	Dexilant DR capsule	A Step 2 Agent will be covered when pharmacy claims indicating at least a 14-day trial of <b>ALL</b> of the Step 1 Agents has been filled in the last 365 days

Original Approval Date	Original Effective Date	Policy Owner	Approved by
9/10/2020	1/1/2021	Pharmacy Services	Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee

Policy Revisions History			
Review Date	Summary of Revisions	Revision Effective Date	Approved by
9/10/2020	9.087 Step Therapy Policy retired, new policy created. Updated policy to align with 2021 formulary. Updated policy to align with 2021 formulary. Changed approval duration from 2 to 1 year. Changed trial duration from 180 to 365 days	1/1/2021	P&T Committee
11/11/2021	P&T Annual Review. Revised criteria with new standard step therapy criteria. Move esomeprazole 40 mg to step 1.	3/1/2022	P&T Committee

### Next Review Date

11/2022

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## Other Applicable Policies

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## Reference to Applicable Laws and Regulations, If Any

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### Disclaimer Information

Medical Policies are the Plan's guidelines for determining the medical necessity of certain services or supplies for purposes of determining coverage. These Policies may also describe when a service or supply is considered experimental or investigational, or cosmetic. In making coverage decisions, the Plan uses these guidelines and other Plan Policies, as well as the Member's benefit document, and when appropriate, coordinates with the Member's health care Providers to consider the individual Member's health care needs.

Plan Policies are developed in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations, and accrediting organization standards (including NCQA). Medical Policies are also developed, as appropriate, with consideration of the medical necessity definitions in various Plan products, review of current literature, consultation with practicing Providers in the Plan's service area who are medical experts in the particular field, and adherence to FDA and other government agency policies. Applicable state or federal mandates, as well as the Member's benefit document, take precedence over these guidelines. Policies are reviewed and updated on an annual basis, or more frequently as needed. Treating providers are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of Members.

The use of this Policy is neither a guarantee of payment nor a final prediction of how a specific claim(s) will be adjudicated. Reimbursement is based on many factors, including member eligibility and benefits on the date of service; medical necessity; utilization management guidelines (when applicable); coordination of benefits; adherence with applicable Plan policies and procedures; clinical coding criteria; claim editing logic; and the applicable Plan – Provider agreement.

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