



State of Vermont
Department of Vermont Health Access
NOB 1 South, 280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-1010

Agency of Human Services
[Phone] 802-879-5900
[Fax] 802-241-0268

November 21, 2022

****Important Changes to Coverage for Select Outpatient Infusions****

Dear Medicaid Provider,

Effective 1/1/23, there will be important changes to the preferred formulations of infliximab, epoetin alpha, rituximab, and pegfilgrastim on the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) Preferred Drug List (PDL).

Infliximab: Biosimilars Avsola® (infliximab-axxq) and Inflectra® (infliximab-dyyb) have a significantly lower net cost to Vermont Medicaid compared to Remicade® (infliximab) and Renflexis® (infliximab-abda). Avsola® Q5121 and Inflectra® Q5103 will be preferred after clinical criteria are met. Remicade® J1745 and Renflexis® Q5104 will be moving to non-preferred.

Pegfilgrastim: Udenyca® (pegfilgrastim-cbqv) Q5111 will be moving to non-preferred. Alternatives Fulphila® (pegfilgrastim-jmdb) Q5108, Neulasta® (pegfilgrastim) J2506, and Ziextenzo® (pegfilgrastim-bmez) Q5120 will remain preferred with no prior authorization.

Epoetin alpha: Retacrit® (epoetin alpha-epbx) Q5105/Q5106 will be moving to non-preferred. Epogen® (epoetin alpha) J0885/Q4081 will remain preferred after clinical criteria are met

Rituximab: Rituxan® (rituximab) J9312 will be moving to non-preferred. Ruxience® (rituximab-pvvr) Q5119, Riabni® (rituximab-arrx) Q5123, and Truxima® (rituximab-abbs) Q5115 will remain preferred with no prior authorization required.

We continually monitor the net costs of these medications and periodically adjust the PDL if new cost-effective products become available. If you feel it is medically necessary for your patient to use a non-preferred product, a prior authorization will be required.

For questions, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-844-679-5362. Vermont providers can also send inquiries via email to **PBA_VTHelpdesk@changehealthcare.com**. Thank you for your continued support of Vermont's clinical pharmacy programs.