



## MassHealth Pharmacy Operational Page

This page lists operational information related to the MassHealth Pharmacy Program.

Any drug that does not appear on the MassHealth Drug List (MHDL) requires prior authorization (PA).

### Brand name (no substitution) drugs with FDA “A”-rated generic equivalents and non-preferred drug generic equivalents for drugs appearing on the MassHealth Brand Name Preferred Over Generic Drug List

Typically, the generic is preferred when available unless the brand-name drug appears on the MassHealth Brand Name Preferred Over Generic Drug List. In general, when requesting the non-preferred version, whether the brand or generic, the prescriber must provide medical records documenting an inadequate response or adverse reaction to the preferred version, in addition to satisfying the criteria for the drug itself.

- Documentation of all of the following is required:
  - individual drug PA criteria must be met first where applicable; **and**
  - medical records documenting one of the following:
    - an allergic response or adverse reaction to the preferred drug product or history of allergic reaction to the inactive ingredients used in the manufacturing process of a certain drug product; **or**
    - an inadequate response to the preferred drug product.

### New-to-market drugs and biologics

FDA-approved new-to-market drugs and biologics that are not listed in the MHDL are under review and will be handled on a case-by-case basis until MassHealth has concluded its evaluation of the drug or biologic.

- Documentation of all of the following is required:
  - appropriate diagnosis; **and**
  - medical necessity based on diagnosis and existing treatment options.

### Non-FDA-approved drugs and biologics

Non-FDA-approved drugs and biologics require PA and will be evaluated for medical necessity.

- Documentation of all of the following is required:
  - appropriate diagnosis; **and**
  - trials of all clinically appropriate FDA-approved alternatives.

## Non-Rebate drugs and biologics

MassHealth does not pay for drugs that are manufactured by companies that have not signed rebate agreements with the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services. Non-rebate drugs and biologics require PA and will be evaluated for medical necessity. Rebate status is subject to change and the MassHealth Drug List may be updated at a future rollout.

- Documentation of all of the following is required:
  - appropriate diagnosis; **and**
  - trials of all clinically appropriate alternatives whose manufacturers participate in the federal rebate program; **and**
  - clinical rationale for use of a drug whose manufacturer does not participate in the federal rebate program.