



Your first step for meds: lower-cost prescriptions

You might know that your State Health Plan prescription drug benefits will give you a relatively low copayment for your pharmacy purchases, down to \$9 for a generic drug. But did you know that the Plan provides options for using lower-cost drug alternatives instead of more expensive, brand name drugs?

The step therapy process encourages you to use low-cost drugs first, such as generics or in some cases less expensive brand-name drugs, which are considered just as effective and safe as their alternatives. It's one of the kinds of coverage reviews which Express Scripts, your pharmacy benefits manager, uses to ensure health and safety for you, and improve insurance affordability for you and your employer.

How step therapy works

When you present a prescription for a higher-cost drug with a step therapy alternative, Express Scripts will let your pharmacist know. If you'd like to get a lower price through the Plan, then your pharmacist or you can contact your doctor to see if he may give you a prescription for the covered medication.

In some cases, the medication the Plan prefers might not work – perhaps you tried it already, or perhaps your doctor decides you need the higher-cost medication. In this case, your doctor could request a coverage review from Express Scripts to obtain coverage for that medication.

Learn more

For questions or concerns about drug types and costs, contact Express Scripts at 855.612.3128, or register online at www.Express-Scripts.com. You can also download Express Scripts' mobile app at www.Express-Scripts.com/mobileapp to get access to cost estimate and generic alternative information from anywhere, even when you are at your doctor's office.

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