

Mutual News

First Quarter, 2023

Stay Informed with the Provider Manual

The Provider Manual is available at [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) > [Provider Manual](#). It is updated quarterly to include the latest policies, procedures and guidelines providers need to work effectively with Medical Mutual.

Sub-sections Revised — Current updates to the Provider Manual include:

- Section 1 – Overview: The following section was revised:
 - Contact Information



Contact Us

The phone number for our Medical Mutual Provider Contracting team is now 1-800-625-2583. This number is being used in all of our provider contracting regions.

If you do not know who your Provider Contracting Representative is, you can find the information on the contact us page of [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider).

General Information

New Medical Mutual Notice Address

For all contracted providers, pursuant to the notice provision of your contract, this constitutes notice of change to Medical Mutual's address for purposes of any notice required to be given pursuant to the terms and provisions of your contract.

Beginning May 1, 2023, for all contracted providers, the following is Medical Mutual's notice address:

Medical Mutual
100 American Road
Brooklyn, OH 44144
Attn: Vice President, Network Management

Reimbursement Policy

Effective May 1, 2023, Medical Mutual is implementing the Facility Routine Services, Supplies and Medical Equipment Reimbursement Policy (Policy Number RP-202301).

To view this policy, please visit [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) and select Policies and Standards > [Corporate Reimbursement Policies](#).

Notice of Changes to Prior Authorization Requirements

Prior Approval Required for External Ambulatory Infusion Pump; Insulin (HCPCS code E0784), External Ambulatory Infusion Pump, Insulin, Dosage Rate Adjustment Using Therapeutic Continuous Glucose Sensing (HCPCS code E0787) and Artificial Pancreas Device System (e.g., low glucose suspend (LGS) feature) including continuous glucose monitor, blood glucose device, insulin pump and computer algorithm that communicates with all of the devices (HCPCS code S1034)

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2023, Medical Mutual will require prior approval for HCPCS Codes E0784, E0787 and S1034 for commercial plans. The medical-necessity criteria can be found in the Diabetes Management Corporate Medical Policy, CMP200117, which is available on [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) > Policies and Standards > [Medical Policies](#). The Commercial and Medicare Advantage Prior Authorization CPT/HCPCS Code List will be updated to reflect this change.

For more details about the prior approval process, visit [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) and click on the [Commercial and Medicare Advantage Prior Approval CPT/HCPCS Code List](#) link under Prior Approvals.

Reminder about Discharge Notification for Inpatient and Skilled Nursing Facilities

When one of our members is discharged from an inpatient or skilled nursing facility, as part of the discharge notification to Medical Mutual, please make sure to include the discharge date and disposition. This allows for the prompt closing of the case to avoid potential delays in claim processing.

If you have transitioned to MedCommunity, you can submit this information using the MedCommunity portal at <https://mmo-prd.assurecare.com/provider/login>. If you have not transitioned yet, you can submit via ReviewLink at https://reviewlink.mmoh.com/Security/SiteNavigation/HIPAA_Disclaimer.aspx.

Thank you for your assistance with this.

Sign Up Now for Email Communications from Medical Mutual

If you are currently registered with Medical Mutual in the Availity provider portal, but have not signed up to receive email communications from us, please do so now.

To receive electronic communications, please take the following actions:

- Enroll or login to Availity at Availity.com/medicalmutual.
- Locate the Medical Mutual payer space, go to the Applications Tab and input the applicable email address.

By not signing up for e-communication, you will miss out on:

- Faster and more timely communication of important information
- Easier sharing and referencing of prior communications
- Convenient access to additional information/resources through email links

If you have any questions, please contact your Medical Mutual Provider Contracting Representative.

If you don't know who your Provider Contracting Representative is, please visit the Contact Us page at MedMutual.com/Provider.



Medical Policy Updates

Medical Policy Updates

The Corporate Medical Policies (CMPs) developed, revised or retired between Dec. 1, 2022 and Feb. 28, 2023 are outlined in the following charts. CMPs are regularly reviewed, updated, added or withdrawn, and are subject to change. For a complete list of CMPs, please visit [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) and select Policies and Standards > Corporate Medical Policies.

Medical Drug CMPs	
CMP Name	Policy Status
Abecma	Revised
Adalimumab	Revised
Adbry	Revised
Adstiladrin	New
Aldurazyme	Revised
Alpha 1 proteinase Inhibitors	Revised
Amyloid targeting monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of Alzheimers Disease	Revised
Arranon	Revised
Bavencio	Revised
Bendamustine	Revised
Benlysta	Revised
Brineura	Revised
Briumvi (ublituximab):	New
Cablivi	Revised
Compound PA	Revised
Corticotrophin Gel-ACTH	Revised
Darzalex_IV	Revised
Dupixent	Revised
Elaprase	Revised
Enjaymo	Revised
Fabrazyme	Revised
Gamifant	Revised
Gazyva	Revised
General Oncology	Revised
Eylea	Revised
Givlaari	Revised
Global PA	Revised

CMP Name	Policy Status
Hemgenix	New
Imcivree	Revised
Imfinzi	Revised
Jemperli	Revised
Kadcyla	Revised
Kanuma	Revised
Keytruda	Revised
Kimmtrak	Revised
Kineret	Revised
Kyprolis	Revised
Libtayo	Revised
Lumizyme	Revised
Lunsumio	New
Luxturna	Revised
Mepsevii	Revised
Nexviazyme	Revised
NPlate	Revised
Onpattro	Revised
Opdivo	Revised
Orencia	Revised
PAH- Epoprostenol	Revised
PAH- Inhaled Prostacyclins	Revised
PAH- Remodulin	Revised
Perjeta	Revised
Pralent	Revised
Repatha	Revised
Revcovi	Revised
Rituximab IV	Revised
Rylaze	Revised
Scenesse	Revised
Skysona	Revised
Soliris	Revised
Stelara	Revised
Sylvant	Revised
Synribo	Revised
Tecentriq	Revised





CMP Name	Policy Status
Tecvayli	New
Tezspire	Revised
Trastuzumab IV	Revised
Tzield	New
Ultomiris	Revised
Voxogo	Revised
Vyvgart	Revised
Yervoy	Revised

Medical CMPs

CMP Name	CMP Number	Policy Status
Bariatric Surgery for Obesity	94030	Revised
Light Therapies for Dermatological Conditions	94057	Revised
Blepharoplasty, Brow Lift and Blepharoptosis Repair	96018	Revised
Autonomic Nervous System Testing	200002	Revised
Pancreas Transplantation	200210	Revised
Sublingual Immunotherapy	200224	Revised
Endometrial Ablation	200302	Revised
Bone-Anchored Hearing Aid	200401	Revised
Otoplasty	200521	Revised
Meniscal Allograft Transplantation	200714	Revised
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Replacement	200813	Revised
Surgical Repair of Pectus Deformities	200905	Revised
Intraperitoneal Hyperthermic Chemotherapy	201005	Revised
Transcatheter Pulmonary Valve Implantation	201426	Revised
Electrothermal Therapy	201527	Revised
Transanal Radiofrequency Therapy for Fecal Incontinence	201709	Revised
Hypoglossal Nerve Stimulation for Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea	201914	Revised
Bulking Agents for Fecal Incontinence - Solesta®	201942	Revised
Liposuction for lipedema	202103	Revised
Intravascular Lithotripsy (IVL)	202204	Revised
Fertility Preservation for Iatrogenic Infertility	202302	Revised
Lumipulse GP	202303	Revised
Arthroscopy-Shoulder- Surgical subacromial spacer	202304	Revised
Wireless pulmonary artery pressure monitoring-CardioMEMS	2019-A	Revised
Investigational Spinal Procedures	2019-G	Revised

For a list of services requiring prior approval or considered investigational, please visit [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) and select Policies and Standards > [Prior Approval & Investigational Services](#).

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Pharmacy

Biosimilars: Safe and Effective Medications that can Lower Healthcare Costs for Patients

Biosimilars, are safe and effective biological medications for treating many illnesses, including psoriasis; Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis; arthritis; kidney conditions; diabetes; and cancer¹. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) created a specific pathway to rigorously evaluate biosimilar products, ensuring there is no clinically meaningful difference between a biosimilar and its biologic (reference) product. The FDA applies the same rigorous standards to reviewing biosimilars as are applied to all biologic products. Biosimilars are important because they can provide patients with more treatment options, increase access to quality medications and lower healthcare costs².

Biosimilars: The Evidence

A recently published review of 19 clinical studies conducted across Europe and the United States evaluated patients who were switched to a biosimilar product from a reference product, and patients who switched between two biosimilar products, with outcomes measured before and after the switch. Medications studied include infliximab, adalimumab and etanercept, switched with their respective biosimilars. Review of this data confirms that prescribing a biosimilar in lieu of a reference product is safe and effective, even in treatment established patients³.

In another recent study conducted by clinicians in Ireland, investigators examined patients switched to an adalimumab biosimilar product to treat moderate to severe psoriasis. Results showed that 81% of patients who switched from adalimumab reference product to a biosimilar remained on the biosimilar product at 16 weeks. In 90-91% of these patients, maintenance or improvement in their baseline PASI and DLQI scores were observed, reassuring providers of the appropriateness of prescribing biosimilar products⁴.

Humira: The Biggest Opportunity for Biosimilar Use

The first biosimilar for Humira (adalimumab), Amjevita has entered the market with at least seven other biosimilar products soon to follow. This is a historic event which provides new options to save patients money and reduce overall healthcare costs for what is believed to be the single most profitable drug in history. A recent survey conducted by Cardinal Health surveying prescribers practicing in areas that will likely be impacted by these approvals revealed that between 75% and 93% of these physicians are comfortable prescribing a Humira biosimilar⁵. Medical Mutual is committed to increasing biosimilar availability and helping to decrease healthcare costs, so we have added Amjevita as a choice for our members who need an adalimumab product. Please look for more information about coverage as more biosimilar options become available.

Biosimilar Cost and Market Landscape

- Increased competition in the marketplace will lower health care costs for patients.
 - As of January 2023, there are 40 FDA approved biosimilar medications, of which 26 are available to patients and many are currently in development.
 - Average sales prices for biosimilars are about 50% less than the reference product.⁶

Important Prescribing Information for Biosimilar Medications

- Biosimilars have similar benefits and risks compared with their reference product and:
 - Are made with the same types of natural sources
 - Are administered the same way
 - Demonstrate the same treatment benefits as the reference product
- The FDA ensures biosimilars are as safe and effective as the reference product by:
 - Only approving biosimilars after a careful review of data and studies, and the FDA continues to monitor for safety and efficacy, even after approval.
 - Checking for medication quality during production
 - Reviewing patient safety reports made to FDA

For an up-to-date list of which biosimilars have been approved and launched, you can go to biosimilarscouncil.org/resource/fda-approved-biosimilars.

For more information about prescribing a biosimilar, please visit: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/biosimilars/health-care-provider-materials>.

For more information about biosimilar product development and approval, please visit: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/biosimilars/health-care-provider-materials>.

1. <https://www.fda.gov/media/151058/download>
2. <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/biosimilars/basics-patients>
3. <https://www.froeniersin.org/articles/10.3389/fphar.2022.917814/full>
4. <https://www.hcplive.com/view/study-underlines-utility-of-biosimilars-in-treatment-of-moderate-to-severe-psoriasis>
5. <https://www.scienceboard.net/index.aspx?sec=ser&sub=def&pag=dis&ItemID=5261>
6. <https://biosimilarscouncil.org/resource/fda-approved-biosimilars/>

These recommendations are informational only. They are not intended to require a specific course of treatment or take the place of professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Members should make decisions about care with their healthcare providers. Recommended treatment or services may not be covered. Eligibility and coverage depend on the member's specific benefit plan.

Pharmacy Prior Approval Requirements

Medical Mutual requires prior approval for the following drugs regardless of whether they are covered under the medical or pharmacy benefits:

- All new specialty drugs
- All new drugs with significant safety, clinical or potential abuse or diversion concerns

This requirement is intended to ensure medications are used safely and will be effective for members. The prior approval criteria for these drugs are detailed in the Global PA/New Drug Prior Approval policy available at [Medmutual.com/Provider](https://www.medmutual.com/Provider) on the following pages:

For drugs covered under the medical benefit: Select Policies and Standards > [Corporate Medical Policies](#).

This page also includes all current Corporate Medical Policies and information about our prior approval services and [Magellan Rx's secure provider portal](#), a web-based tool at www1.magellanrx.com that providers can use to manage prior approval requests for medications.

For drugs covered under the pharmacy benefit: Select Policies and Standards > Prescription Drug Resources, then click the link under [Prior Authorization](#) to see the list. This page also includes information about our other coverage management programs (e.g., step therapy, quantity limits) and formularies, as well as a link to the ExpressPath tool.

Notice of Changes to Prior Authorization Requirements

Prior Authorization Required for Lupron Depot (leuprolide acetate) (HCPCS codes J1950, J9217) Under Medical Benefit Product Coverage for Medical Mutual Commercial and Affordable Care Act (ACA) Plans

Effective May 1, 2023, prior authorization will be required for Lupron Depot (leuprolide acetate) (HCPCS codes J1950, J9217) under the Medical Mutual commercial and ACA medical benefit plans. Trial of Eligard will be required for the following indications under this criteria:

- Prostate Cancer
- Ovarian Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Head and Neck Cancer – Salivary Gland Tumors

For more information, please visit [Medmutual.com/For-Providers, Policies and Standards, Corporate Medical Policies](https://www.medmutual.com/For-Providers, Policies and Standards, Corporate Medical Policies).



Medicare Advantage

Notice of Changes to Prior Authorization Requirements

Prior Authorization Required for Lupron Depot (leuprolide acetate) (HCPCS codes J1950, J9217) Under Medical Benefit Drug Coverage for Medical Mutual Medicare Advantage Plans

Effective May 1, 2023, prior authorization will be required for Lupron Depot (leuprolide acetate) (HCPCS codes J1950, J9217) for Medical Mutual Medicare Advantage Plans. Trial of Eligard will be required for the following indications under this criteria:

- Prostate Cancer
- Ovarian Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Head and Neck Cancer – Salivary Gland Tumors

For more information, please visit [Medmutual.com/For-Providers, Policies and Standards, Corporate Medical Policies](https://www.medmutual.com/For-Providers-Policies-and-Standards-Corporate-Medical-Policies).

Healthy Aging Resources for Medicare Advantage Members

The older adult population is growing, and many older adults are living with multiple health challenges as they age, including our Medicare Advantage members. According to The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 80% of older adults have at least one chronic condition, and 1 in 3 have limitations in activities like preparing meals and housekeeping¹.

Below are Medical Mutual resources available to our Medicare Advantage members, as well as additional industry resources, that can help them manage their chronic conditions and the challenges of aging.

Medical Mutual Resources

- Case Management - Offers help and support with complex medical needs. Provider referral:
 - Medicare Advantage Case Management referral: 1-855-887-2273 or CaseMgmt-MedAdv@medmutual.com
 - Commercial Case Management: 1-800-258-3175 option 2 (members) or option 3 (providers)
- Chronic Condition Management - Offers education and support for Diabetes, COPD, Asthma, CAD, CHF, Hypertension - 1-800-590-2583
 - Remote Monitoring Program
 - Lark Diabetes
 - Lark Hypertension
- Care Navigation - A Medical Mutual program that offers help with community resources or socioeconomic barriers to care. Toll free 1-877-480-3105, option 2
- Transitional Care - options for certain members to receive health coaching and support for follow-up care after a hospital stay.
 - Return to Home Telephonic Program - Call Case Management at 1-800-258-3175
 - Direction Home In-Home/Telephonic Program
- Palliative Care Program - Refer a member to the palliative care program by emailing PopHealthSupport@medmutual.com with the member's name, date of birth and program you are recommending. You can also refer, or members can self-refer, by calling Aspire toll free at 1-844-232-0500.
- 24-hour/7 day a week Conduit NurseLine - available to answer members' questions and help to guide care - 1-888-912-0636.
- Dispatch Health In-home Urgent Care Services (availability based on member location)
- MedMutual Resource Connect - A resource that connects individuals with free or reduced cost services like medical care, food, job training, and more, based on their ZIP Code. This resource can be accessed by visiting [MedMutualResourceConnect.com](https://www.medmutual.com/resourceconnect).
- Silver Sneakers/Stitch - SilverSneakers is offered at no additional cost to our Medicare Advantage members. Stitch is a social community that helps adults 50+ attend in-person and online activities and events with others who share their interests and hobbies. A Stitch membership is available at no additional cost as part of SilverSneakers. More information is available at [SilverSneakers.com](https://www.silversneakers.com) or www.stitch.net.



Other Resources

Healthy Aging Tip Sheets

[The American Geriatrics Society's Health in Aging Foundation](#) has developed multiple tools and tip sheets for older adults available at [HealthInAging.org](#). Members can access these resources from their own devices, or you may find them useful to share with members and caregivers via print or email. Some topic examples are:

- [The 5Ms of Geriatrics](#)
- [A Guide To Healthy Aging](#)
- [Alternatives for Medications Listed in the AGS Beers Criteria® for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in Older Adults](#)
- [Avoiding Caregiver Burnout](#)
- [Choosing the Right Cane or Walker](#)
- [Home Safety Tips for Older Adults](#)
- [How to Talk to Your Healthcare Provider: Tips on Improving Communication](#)
- [My Medication and Supplement Diary](#)
- [Preventing Serious Falls](#)
- [Ten Top Tips for Aging Well](#)

Thank you for the excellent care you provide for our Medicare Advantage members who are your patients. Together, we can help our older adult members get the care they need to live happy and healthy lives.

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/grand-rounds/pp/2017/20170919-senior-aging.html>

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