

## I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Beta Blockers

### A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

Prescriptions for Beta Blockers that meet any of the following conditions must be prior authorized:

1. A non-preferred Beta Blocker. See the Preferred Drug List (PDL) for the list of preferred Beta Blockers at: <https://papdl.com/preferred-drug-list>.
2. A Beta Blocker when there is a record of a recent paid claim for another Beta Blocker (therapeutic duplication).
3. A prescription for Hemangeol (propranolol hydrochloride oral solution).

### B. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

In evaluating a request for prior authorization of a prescription for a Beta Blocker, the determination of whether the requested prescription is medically necessary will take into account whether the beneficiary:

1. For Hemangeol (propranolol hydrochloride oral solution), all of the following:
  - a. Is prescribed Hemangeol (propranolol hydrochloride oral solution) for an indication that is included in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)- approved package labeling,
  - b. Is age-appropriate according to FDA-approved package labeling, nationally recognized compendia, or peer-reviewed medical literature,
  - c. Is prescribed a dose and duration of therapy that is consistent with FDA-approved package labeling, nationally recognized compendia, or peer-reviewed medical literature,
  - d. Is prescribed Hemangeol (propranolol hydrochloride oral solution) by or in consultation with an appropriate specialist (e.g., pediatric dermatologist, hematologist, or oncologist);

**AND**

2. For a non-preferred Beta Blocker, has a history of therapeutic failure, contraindication, or intolerance of the preferred Beta Blockers approved or medically accepted for the beneficiary's diagnosis; **AND**
3. For therapeutic duplication, one of the following:
  - a. Is being titrated to or tapered from a drug in the same class
  - b. Has a clinical reason for concomitant use of the requested medications that is supported by peer-reviewed literature or national treatment guidelines.

NOTE: If the beneficiary does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the beneficiary, the request for prior authorization will be approved.

FOR RENEWALS OF PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FOR HEMANGEOL (PROPRANOLOL HYDROCHLORIDE ORAL SOLUTION): The determination of medical necessity of a request for renewal of a prior authorization for Hemangeol (propranolol hydrochloride oral solution) that was previously approved will take into account whether the beneficiary:

1. Has documentation of improvement in disease severity since initiating treatment with Hemangeol (propranolol hydrochloride oral solution); **AND**
2. Is prescribed a dose and duration of therapy that is consistent with FDA-approved package labeling, nationally recognized compendia, or peer-reviewed medical literature; **AND**
3. Is prescribed Hemangeol (propranolol hydrochloride oral solution) by or in consultation with an appropriate specialist (e.g., pediatric dermatologist, hematologist, or oncologist).

NOTE: If the beneficiary does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the beneficiary, the request for prior authorization will be approved.

#### C. Clinical Review Process

Prior authorization personnel will review the request for prior authorization and apply the clinical guidelines in Section B. above to assess the medical necessity of a prescription for a Beta Blocker. If the guidelines in Section B. are met, the reviewer will prior authorize the prescription. If the guidelines are not met, the prior authorization request will be referred to a physician reviewer for a medical necessity determination. Such a request for prior authorization will be approved when, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the beneficiary.

## NON-PREFERRED MEDICATION PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FORM (form effective 01/01/20)

<input type="checkbox"/> New request <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal request		# of pages: _____	Prescriber name:	
Name of office contact:			Specialty:	
Contact's phone number:			NPI:	State license #:
LTC facility contact/phone:			Street address:	
Beneficiary name:			Suite #:	City/State/Zip:
Beneficiary ID#:	DOB:	Phone:	Fax:	
Medication will be billed via: <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy <input type="checkbox"/> Medical (Jcode: _____)			Place of Service: <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Provider's Office <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Please refer to <https://papdl.com/preferred-drug-list> for the list of preferred and non-preferred medications in each Preferred Drug List class.

Non-preferred medication name:		Dosage form:	Strength:
Directions:		Quantity:	Refills:
Diagnosis <i>(submit documentation)</i> :		Dx code <i>(required)</i> :	
Has the beneficiary taken the requested non-preferred medication in the past 90 days? <i>(submit documentation)</i> ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Describe all applicable medical reasons the beneficiary cannot use the preferred medication(s) in the same Preferred Drug List class. <b>Submit documentation (e.g., recent chart/clinic notes, diagnostic evaluations, lab results, etc.) supporting this non-preferred request.</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Treatment failure or inadequate response with preferred medication(s) <i>(include drug name, dose, and start/stop dates)</i> :			
_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable side effects, hypersensitivities, or other intolerances to preferred medication(s) <i>(include description and drug name(s))</i> :			
_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Contraindication to preferred medication(s) <i>(include description and drug name(s))</i> :			
_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Unique clinical or age-specific indications supported by FDA approval or medical literature <i>(describe)</i> :			
_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Absence of preferred medication(s) with appropriate formulation <i>(list medical reason formulation is required)</i> :			
_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Drug-drug interaction with preferred medication(s) <i>(describe)</i> :			
_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other medical reason(s) the beneficiary cannot use the preferred medication(s) <i>(describe)</i> :			
_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> For renewal requests of previously approved medications, submit documentation of tolerability and beneficiary's clinical response.			

**PLEASE FAX COMPLETED FORM TO HIGHMARK WHOLECARE – PHARMACY DIVISION**

Prescriber Signature:	Date:
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