

## I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Calcium Channel Blockers

### A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

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

1. A non-preferred Calcium Channel Blocker. See the Preferred Drug List (PDL) for the list of preferred Calcium Channel Blockers at: <https://papdl.com/preferred-drug-list>.
2. A Calcium Channel Blocker when there is a record of a recent paid claim for another calcium channel blocker in the point-of-sale on-line claims adjudication system (therapeutic duplication).

### B. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

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

1. For a non-preferred Calcium Channel Blocker, **one** of the following:
  - a. For a non-preferred Calcium Channel Blocker that contains only one active ingredient, has a history of therapeutic failure of or a contraindication or an intolerance to the preferred Calcium Channel Blockers
  - b. For a non-preferred Calcium Channel Blocker combination product that contains more than one active ingredient (e.g., amlodipine-atorvastatin), has a clinical reason as documented by the prescriber why the individual active ingredients cannot be used concurrently;

**AND**

2. For therapeutic duplication, **one** of the following:
  - a. Is being titrated to or tapered from a drug in the same class
  - b. Has a medical reason for concomitant use of the requested drugs that is supported by peer-reviewed medical 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.

### 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 Calcium Channel 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



Highmark Wholecare  
Pharmacy Division

Phone 800-392-1147 Fax 888-245-2049

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:	

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		
<b>Describe all applicable medical reasons the beneficiary cannot use the preferred medication(s) in the same Preferred Drug List class. 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 WITH SUPPORTING CLINICAL DOCUMENTATION**

Prescriber Signature:	Date:
-----------------------	-------

**Confidentiality Notice:** The documents accompanying this telecopy may contain confidential information belonging to the sender. The information is intended only for the use of the individual named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking of any telecopy is strictly prohibited.