

# Preferred Drug List Guidelines

## Preferred Drugs

The drugs that are included on the Preferred Drug List (PDL) are those drugs that are determined by the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee to be the best in a particular class based on: clinical effectiveness, safety and outcomes. When all drugs in a class are therapeutically equivalent or nearly equivalent, then the cost of the drug including rebates will be considered. Most medications on the PDL can be prescribed and dispensed without prior approval. Some Preferred Drugs may have clinical claim limits to ensure appropriate use and patient safety.

When considering medications for Nebraska Medicaid clients, providers should try to choose drugs that are on the PDL.

## Non-Preferred Drugs

Non-preferred drugs will remain available to Nebraska Medicaid clients, but will be subject to Prior Authorization. These criteria will be based on failure, side effects or contraindications to medications on the Preferred Drug list.

## Methods of Review of Drugs

*Clinical Analysis:* Each drug is reviewed on its clinical contributions relative to other medications in the same therapeutic category. Data regarding efficacy, adverse effects and tolerability is analyzed and compared to other drugs within the therapeutic class.

*Economic Analysis:* An economic analysis will incorporate Nebraska utilization data, the CMS (federally negotiated with drug manufacturers) rebates and any supplemental rebates offered to the State by the drug manufacturers.

## Posting of the Preferred Drug List

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) shall maintain an updated PDL in electronic format and shall make the list available to the public on the Nebraska Medicaid Pharmacy internet web site: <https://nebraska.fhsc.com>

## Audits of the Preferred Drug List

Each drug class will be reviewed and updated annually.

The Pharmacy Benefit Management (PBM) Service will provide:

- Quarterly reports showing status of all supplemental rebate agreements
- Quarterly PDL compliance
- Quarterly report showing savings achieved from PDL/Supplemental Rebate program.

**Resolution of Disputes**

The Prime Therapeutics State Government Solutions Rebate Manager will have primary responsibilities for disputes of Supplemental Rebate Rate Data.

Drug prior authorization denials may be appealed by either the client or the prescriber acting on behalf of the client using the established appeal process.