



Uniform Formulary Medical Necessity Criteria for Oral Inhaled Corticosteroids

Drug Class - Oral Inhaled Corticosteroids

Background - After evaluating the relative clinical and cost effectiveness of the Oral Inhaled Corticosteroids, the DoD P&T Committee has recommended that the following medications be designated as non-formulary under the Uniform Formulary. These recommendations have been approved by the Director, TMA.

Effective Date: 16 September 2009

- Beclomethasone HFA MDI (QVAR)
- Budesonide DPI (Pulmicort Flexhaler)
- Ciclesonide HFA MDI (Alvesco)
- Flunisolide CFC MDI (AeroBid, AeroBid-M)
- Triamcinolone CFC MDI (Azmacort)

Patients currently using a non-formulary oral inhaled corticosteroid may wish to ask their doctor to consider a formulary alternative.

Uniform Formulary Status, Cost Shares, and Therapeutic Alternatives for Oral Inhaled Corticosteroids^{1,2}

Uniform Formulary Status	Medication	Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) cost share for up to a 90 day supply	Mail Order cost share for up to a 90 day supply	Retail Network cost share for up to a 30 day supply
Non-Formulary (Tier 3)	Beclomethasone HFA MDI (QVAR), budesonide DPI (Pulmicort Flexhaler), ciclesonide HFA MDI (Alvesco), flunisolide CFC MDI (AeroBid, AeroBid-M), and triamcinolone CFC MDI (Azmacort)	Not available ²	Non-Formulary cost share applies	Non-Formulary cost share applies
Formulary: Brand Name (Tier 2)	Flovent HFA (fluticasone HFA MDI), Flovent Diskus (fluticasone DPI), Asmanex Twisthaler (mometasone DPI)	\$0	Formulary (Brand) cost share applies	Formulary (Brand) cost share applies
Formulary: Generic (Tier 1)	Budesonide inhalation solution (generic)	\$0	Generic cost share applies	Generic cost share applies

1. Active duty copay always \$0 in all points of service for all three tiers; active duty service members may not fill prescriptions for a non-formulary medication unless it is determined to be medically necessary.
2. MTFs will be able to fill non-formulary requests for non-formulary medications only if both of the following conditions are met: 1) a MTF provider writes the prescription, and 2) medical necessity

is established for the non-formulary medication. MTFs may (but are not required to) fill a prescription for a non-formulary medication written by a non-MTF provider to whom the patient was referred, as long as medical necessity has been established.

Medical Necessity Criteria for Oral Inhaled Corticosteroids

The non-formulary cost share for Beclomethasone HFA MDI (QVAR), budesonide DPI (Pulmicort Flexhaler), ciclesonide HFA MDI (Alvesco), flunisolide CFC MDI (AeroBid, AeroBid-M), or triamcinolone CFC MDI (Azmacort) may be reduced to the formulary cost share IF one or more of the following criteria are met:

1. Use of ALL of the following formulary Oral Inhaled Corticosteroids is contraindicated: Flovent HFA (fluticasone HFA MDI), Flovent Diskus (fluticasone DPI), Asmanex Twisthaler (mometasone DPI), budesonide inhalation solution (generic).
2. The patient has experienced or is likely to experience significant adverse effects from ALL of the following formulary Oral Inhaled Corticosteroids: Flovent HFA (fluticasone HFA MDI), Flovent Diskus (fluticasone DPI), Asmanex Twisthaler (mometasone DPI), budesonide inhalation solution (generic).
3. The patient previously responded to non formulary agent and changing to ALL of the following formulary agents would incur unacceptable risk: Flovent HFA (fluticasone HFA MDI), Flovent Diskus (fluticasone DPI), Asmanex Twisthaler (mometasone DPI), budesonide inhalation solution (generic).

Criteria recommended by the DoD Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee at the February 2009 meeting & approved by the Director, TMA on 12 May 2009. For more information, please see the February 2009 [DoD P&T Committee minutes](#).

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