



# SPECIALTY DRUG BENEFIT OPTIMIZATION

Specialty Drug Benefit Optimization is an innovative program aimed at reducing spend on specialty drugs. It targets specialty drugs that can be converted from the medical benefit to the pharmacy benefit at a lower net cost that are being filled by our specialty pharmacies.

## How it works

Our clinical pharmacists continually review the list of eligible specialty drugs and analyze claims data to identify members taking these medications.

We then determine who will have a positive, neutral, or negative cost share impact if the claims are transitioned to the pharmacy benefit.

If there is a positive or neutral member impact, the next drug claim will be moved from the medical benefit to the pharmacy benefit. If there is a negative member impact, the drug coverage will stay under the medical benefit and the member will not be switched over to the pharmacy benefit.

For employer groups, Specialty Drug Benefit Optimization is automatically included at no additional cost.

## Positive impact (Included)

- A member pays a \$50 copay with their medical benefit, and by switching to the pharmacy benefit, the member has a \$20 copay.
- A member who is paying a \$50 copay on a medical benefit, and by switching to the pharmacy benefit (and enrolling in SaveOnSP) has a copay of \$0.

*Note: If a member needs to enroll in SaveOnSP to obtain the drug at zero cost, they will be notified via mail.*

## Negative impact (Excluded)

- A member who is paying a \$0 copay on a medical benefit and by switching to the pharmacy benefit has a copay of \$20.



## Group impact

The program impacts fully insured, self-funded, minimum premium, and Article 47 employer groups. Medicare and Medicaid lines of business are not included.

The transition is seamless, and the benefit is automatically included at no additional cost to groups.

The list of applicable Specialty Drugs will change over time; please contact your Excellus BlueCross BlueShield sales representative for updates or questions.