



EXCELLUS BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD MEDICATION ASSURANCE PROGRAM*

The Medication Assurance Program is designed to reduce spend on specialty medications by holding manufacturers accountable for drugs that are approved through the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Accelerated Approval Program.

As new, and often expensive drugs enter the market through the FDA's Accelerated Approval Program, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield is working to ensure that the drug manufacturers are held accountable for the efficacy of these medications.

Medication Assurance is our promise that a drug prescribed is **a drug that works**.

Unlike traditional FDA approved drugs, accelerated approval drugs can be prescribed even if they have an unconfirmed clinical benefit. For an accelerated approval drug to remain on the market, the drug manufacturer must agree to continue their clinical studies and confirm clinical benefit, which would ultimately lead to final FDA approval.

If these post approval studies are not completed, the FDA can withdraw its approval and remove the drug from the market.

With more than 65 accelerated approval drugs currently on the market, effective solutions that will encourage manufacturers to stand behind the clinical benefit of their accelerated approval drugs are needed.

To manage the cost of a medication that is not proven effective, Excellus BCBS requests that manufacturers guarantee accelerated approval drugs. If the manufacturer chooses not to participate in the Medication Assurance Program, that drug will be excluded from coverage.

If a drug is no longer covered, members can reach out directly to the manufacturer to apply to the manufacturer's financial assistance program. Excellus BCBS Customer Care team can provide members with the manufacturer's contact information and a list of alternative drugs to review with their provider.

If the manufacturer participates and the drug fails the program requirements, Excellus BCBS will receive a refund from the manufacturer for a portion of the cost of the drug and will share that refund with the group at 85% of the amount received.

*Applies only to Self Funded Plans. Article 47 and Minimum Premium plans are not eligible.

To learn more about the Medication Assurance Program, or to see a list of excluded medications, log into your member account at ExcellusBCBS.com
Choose **Prescriptions > Check Drug Lists > View Or Print Our Drug Lists > Other Offerings**.



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Our Health Plan complies with federal civil rights laws. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, origin, age, disability, or sex.

Atención: Si habla español, contamos con ayuda gratuita de idiomas disponible para usted. Consulte el documento adjunto para ver las formas en que puede comunicarse con nosotros.

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