



# New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association

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TO: NYSCOPBA Chief Sector Stewards

FROM: Sharon Smith, Health Benefits Specialist

DATE: November 2, 2016

RE: Empire Plan's Prescription Drug Flexible Formulary Changes for 2017

As you know, changes to the Empire Plan's Prescription Drug Flexible Formulary can be made once a year, effective the new plan year. Below are the changes for 2017.

A total of 17 drugs will be added to the list of exclusions; 2 drugs will move up a tier; a total of 30 drugs will move down a tier; 2 previously excluded drugs will be added back on the formulary; and 2 drugs will be removed from exclusions due to the fact the products are discontinued. Specifics are as follows:

## Exclusions:

### Drug Name

### Use

Acticlate (doxycycline hyclate) tablets	antibiotic for infections
Avidoxy DK (doxycycline) tablets + salicylic acid wash + sunscreen lotion	acne
Basaglar (insulin glargine) injection	diabetes/high blood sugar
Clindacin ETZ (clindamycin) topical pledget	acne
Epiduo Forte (adapalene/benzoyl peroxide) topical gel	acne
Evoclin (clindamycin) topical aerosol foam	acne
Evzio (naloxone) autoinjector	opioid drug overdose
Gelsyn-3 (hyaluronic acid) injection	osteoarthritis (joint pain)
Helixate FS (antihemophilic factor recombinant) injection	hemophilia
Hymovis (hyaluronan) injection	osteoarthritis (joint pain)
Metformin extended release tablets (generic Fortamet)	diabetes/high blood press.
Metformin extended release tablets (generic Glumetza)	diabetes/high blood sugar
Minocin (minocycline) capsules	antibiotic for infections

Exclusions continued):

Onzetra Xsail (sumatriptan) nasal inhalation powder	migraine headache
Solodyn (minocycline ER) tablets	acne
Sumaxin CP (sulfacetamide/sulfur) topical cleaning pads	rosacea
Zembrace (sumatriptan) subcutaneous solution injection	migraine headache

Uptiers:

Bydureon	antidiabetics/incretin mimetics
Benzaclin	dermatology/acne agent

Downtiers:

Aristada	antipsychotics/atypical injectable
Aubagio	multiple sclerosis
Belsomra	hypnotics (sedatives)
Breo Ellipta	corticosteroid/beta-agonist Combination inhalers (asthma)
Cardura XL	benign prostatic hyperplasia
Epclusa	hepatitis c
Fycompa	anticonvulsants
H.P. Acthar	endocrine/metabolic miscell.
Hysingla ER	long-acting opioids
Invega Trinza	antipsychotics/atypical, injectable
Mirvaso	dermatology/rosacea agents
Narcan Nasal Spray	opioid antagonists
Opsumit	pulmonary arterial hypertension – endothelin receptor antagonists
Otrexup	DMARD-injectables (rheumatoid Arthritis)
Oxtellar RX	anticonvulsants
Pazeo	ophthalmics/antiallergics
Qudexy XR	anticonvulsants
Rebif	multiple sclerosis
Rytary	antiparkinsonian agents
Silenor	hypnotics (sedatives)
Synjardy	antidiabetics – SGLT2 & Combin.
Tresiba	antidiabetics – basal insulin
Trokendi XR	anticonvulsants
Trulicity	antidiabetics – incretin mimetics
Uptravi	pulmonary arterial hypertension/ misc.

Downtiers (continued):

Varubi	antiemetics
Vascepa	antilipemics/omega-3 fatty acids
Viberzi	irritable bowel syndrome-diarrhea
Xiidra	ophthalmic/immunomodulators
Zeprexa Relprevv	antipsychotics/atypical, injectable

Drugs from Exclusions Added Back on Formulary at Tier 2:

Betaseron	multiple sclerosis
Proair Respiclick	short acting beta-agonists (asthma)

Drugs Removed From Exclusions – Products Discontinued:

Flo-Pred	ophthalmic inflammation
Liptruzet	cholesterol

As a result of the changes, a total of 116 NYSCOPBA members (106 Corrections/10 Law Enforcement) will be affected by the exclusions; 39 members (37 Corrections/2 Law Enforcement) will be affected by the move from Preferred to Non-Preferred; 0 members will be affected by the move from Generic to Preferred; and 211 members (187 Corrections/24 Law Enforcement) will be affected by the Downtier to Preferred. Disruption letters are will be mailed to those members affected by both the excluded drugs and those drugs which will have a higher copay. Participating providers in the Empire Plan will receive the 2017 Flexible Formulary around the same time (2017 formulary is on website). Affected members should speak with their provider regarding their scripts and possible alternatives.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

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cc: NYSCOPBA Executive Board  
NYSCOPBA Jt. Committee on Health Benefits