

NYRx Step Therapy Overview

What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Know

Some drugs and drug classes, regardless of preferred or non-preferred status, are subject to specific clinical criteria, frequency/quantity/duration, dose optimization, **step therapy**, or the Brand Less Than Generic Program. Step therapy requires the use or trial of a lower-cost drug prior to a higher-cost drug indicated to treat the same diagnosis. NYRx step therapy requirements are implemented based on recommendation from the New York State (NYS) Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB) and approval by the NYS Commissioner of Health and are based on FDA labeling and /or current clinical practice guidelines to ensure clinically appropriate and cost-effective use of these drugs and drug classes. Medications that have step therapy requirements are listed on the [NYRx Preferred Drug List \(PDL\)](#) with a superscript of **ST**.

The NYRx claim processing system electronically reviews Medicaid claim history to see if the lower-cost drug has been tried. If the electronic claim review can confirm the appropriate use or trial of the lower-cost drug a prior authorization may not be required.

Prescribers should review the [PDL](#) and prescribe according to step therapy guidelines.

Resources

- [NYRx Education & Outreach Website](#)
- [NYRx Preferred Drug List](#)

Contact Information

The NYRx Education & Outreach Call Center is available by phone at 1-833-967-7310 or by email at NYRxEO@primetherapeutics.com from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM ET, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

The NYRx Education & Outreach team hosts virtual office hours every week for stakeholders to ask questions related to NYRx and care coordination. Visit the [NYRx Education & Outreach website](#) for more information.