

NYRx Education & Outreach Pharmacy Newsletter

October 2026



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Welcome!

In this issue, you'll find trending topics, information about the NYRx Education & Outreach team, helpful links, calendar events, links to resources, and how to contact us.

Highlights

Brand Less Than Generic Program Update

Effective **October 22, 2026**, the following changes will be made to the Dispense Brand Name Drug When Less Expensive Than the Generic Program:

- Janumet XR®
- Nexiclon XR®
- Nuedexta®

For more information, see [NYRx Brand Less Than Generic Program Update](#).

Cost Optimization Program Update

Effective **September 10, 2026**, the following additional drugs require a Manual Review by NYRx for coverage approval:

- baclofen 15 mg tablet
- benzonatate 150 mg capsule
- bupropion XL 450 mg tablet
- buspirone 5mg capsule
- buspirone 2.5 mg, 12.5 mg tablet
- diflorasone 0.05% cream
- Doxycycline hyclate 75 mg capsule
- Duloxetine 80 mg, 90 mg, 120 mg capsule
- gabapentin 200 mg capsule
- meclizine 50 mg tablet
- naproxen-esomeprazole 375- 20 mg, 500-20 mg tablet
- omeprazole-sodium bicarbonate 20-1680 mg, 40-1680 mg packet
- tazarotene 0.05%, 0.1% gel
- ursodiol 150 mg capsule

For more information, see [Cost Optimization Program Update: Program Additions](#).

Discontinued Drug Coverage for Terminated Labelers

Effective **October 1, 2026**, the following drug manufacturers voluntarily withdrew labeler codes from participation in the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program. As a result, NYRx, Medicaid Drug Program, will no longer provide coverage for drugs with the labeler codes listed in the [Discontinued Drug Coverage for Terminated Labelers per Medicaid National Drug Rebate Agreement](#). Coverage of drugs made by the following manufacturers may be affected:

- Aspen Global Incorporated
- Gilead Sciences, LLC
- GlaxoSmithKline, LLC
- Mainpointe Pharmaceuticals, LLC
- Medicure International, Inc
- Moore Medical
- Singular Dreamer, LLC

Pharmacists as Immunizers

Effective **September 2026**:

- Pharmacists certified to administer immunizations are authorized to administer COVID-19 and influenza vaccines to Medicaid members **age two** and older.
- When billing by National Drug Code (NDC), **do not submit a second claim for administration**. The administration fee is automatically included in the reimbursement when billing the vaccine NDC. Pharmacies that submit a second claim for administration are at risk for overpayment, audit, and recovery.

For more information, see the [NYRx, Medicaid Pharmacy Program Pharmacists as Immunizers Fact Sheet](#).

Practitioner-Administered Drug Claim Submissions

Effective **November 19**, certain Practitioner Administered Drugs (PADs) billed as a medical claim to Medicaid Fee-For-Service will require prior authorization, and reimbursement methodologies will change.

For more information, see [Reminder: Upcoming Changes to the Medicaid Fee-for-Service Claim Submission Process for Practitioner-Administered Drugs](#).

About Us

The NYRx Education & Outreach team serves as a liaison between all stakeholders and NYRx to support care coordination. Clinical liaisons are trained to support and help solve complex pharmacy cases for:

- Managed Care Plans
- Case workers and New York State agencies
- Prescribers and pharmacies with questions regarding NYRx drug coverage, prior approval requirements, and NYRx enrolled pharmacies
- Complex care coordination for populations such as HIV/AIDS, Hemophilia, Foster Care Children, Serious Mental Illness, Substance Use Disorder, and Hepatitis C

Quicklinks

- [NYRx Brand Less Than Generic Program Updates](#)
- [NYRx eMedNY Formulary File](#)
- [NYRx Preferred Diabetic Supply Program](#)
- [NYRx Preferred Drug List](#)
- [NYRx Preferred Drug Quick List](#)

Calendar

Office Hour Q&A Pop-In

[Tuesday & Thursday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ET](#)

Weekly Webinar

To register for a webinar, please visit the [NYRx E&O website](#):

- Pharmacy Webinar Wednesday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ET
- NYRx, the Medicaid Drug Program Friday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM ET

Resources

- [NYRx E&O Website](#)
- [NYRx E&O YouTube Channel](#)
- [New York Public Health Now Podcast](#)

Contact Us

- [NYRx E&O Mailbox](#)
- NYRx E&O Call Center at 1-833-967-7310, M – F, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM ET, Excludes Holidays
- The NYRx E&O team is available to meet with you. To request a meeting, click [here](#).