

New To Market Drug Exclusion Program



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New drugs often make the news because of their extremely high cost. Recently, new drugs entering the market drove a 20.6% annual increase in cost for oral specialty medications and a 12.5% annual increase for injectable specialty medications including 48 new approved drugs. These new biologic medications and gene therapies can exponentially drive up plan cost.

While many of these drugs represent important therapeutic advances, others are drugs that compete with existing drugs on the market. Often these advances in therapy come with significant costs that this program is designed to evaluate prior to payment. Our Amwins Rx New to Market Drug Exclusion Program helps plans manage the utilization of costly new drugs.

In many cases, new gene therapies are covered under the medical benefit, however, we also add these drugs to our New to Market lists to ensure they are managed appropriately.

When a new drug is introduced to the market, we place it on our New to Market Drug Exclusion List for up to six months. During this time, we review available clinical information as well as alternative treatments in order to determine appropriate formulary placement and associated utilization management edits (e.g., prior authorization and quantity limits). New drugs are also reviewed for inclusion in other Amwins Rx clinical programs to help our clients manage drug utilization and plan costs.

When drugs are removed from the New to Market Drug Exclusion List and considered for addition to our formulary, ongoing management strategies may include:

- Prior Authorization Required
- Quantity Limits
- Step Therapy
- Financial Assistance Program
- Disease State Management
- Specialty Drug Management

