



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive, Center Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Global Commitment Register

October 11, 2023

GCR 22-091
FINAL

Specialty Drug List Change

Policy Summary:

The Vermont Medicaid program removed certain drugs from the specialty drug list. This allows dispensing at any enrolled pharmacy expanding access to these drugs. This proposal changes the coding on these drugs resulting in reduced dispensing fees and expanded access.

The specialty drug list includes drugs associated with high costs, complicated prescribing and monitoring requirements, and complex disease state management. These drugs must be dispensed by specialty pharmacies that have nationally recognized specialty certification.

Requirements for inclusion on the specialty drug list must include two (2) of the following:

- The cost of the medication exceeds \$5,000 per month.
- The medication is used in the treatment of a complex, chronic condition. This may include, but is not limited to, drugs that require administration, infusion, or injection by a health care professional.
- The manufacturer or FDA requires exclusive, restricted, or limited distribution. This includes medications that have REMS requirements for training, certifications, or ongoing monitoring for the drug to be distributed.
- The medication requires specialized handling, storage, or inventory reporting requirements.

The following medications no longer meet the criteria for inclusion on the specialty drug list:

- **Praluent®** (alirocumab), **Repatha®** (evolocumab), **Humira®** (adalimumab), **Enbrel®** (etanercept), **Veltassa®** (patiromer calcium sorbitex), **Jatenzo®** (testosterone undecanoate), and **Tlando®** (testosterone undecanoate)

The DVHA Pharmacy Unit will periodically review the specialty drug list for Vermont Medicaid. Any further alterations to the specialty drug list will be accompanied by appropriate provider notice prior to the change taking effect.

Effective Date:

January 13, 2023

Authority/Legal Basis:

[Medicaid State Plan](#)

Population Affected:

All Medicaid

Fiscal Impact:

The estimated gross annualized budget impact is a savings of \$19,900.

Public Comment Period:

The public comment period ended on February 13, 2023. No comments were received.

To be added to the GCR email list, send an email to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

Additional Information:

The specialty drug list is located here: [Drug Coverage Lists | Department of Vermont Health Access](#)