



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

Global Commitment Register

April 10, 2024

GCR 23-144
FINAL PROPOSED

VPharm Coverage Rule Update

Policy Summary:

The Agency of Human Services (AHS) has filed the following final proposed rule with the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rulemaking and the Office of the Secretary of State (SOS):

5450 VPharm Coverage (AMENDMENT)

- Amended to reflect the expansion of drug coverage under VPharm 2 and VPharm 3 effective and implemented July 1, 2022 (see [GCR 22-046](#) for more information).
- Amendments were also made to improve clarity and to be consistent with the Health Care Administrative Rule on Prescribed Drugs and current practices.

VPharm is a State pharmaceutical assistance program that provides supplemental drug coverage to Medicare beneficiaries who are enrolled in Medicare drug plans and have household income at or below 225% of the federal poverty level (FPL). The VPharm rules establish eligibility, enrollment, and coverage for the VPharm program.

Effective Date:

The final proposed rule was filed with the LCAR on April 5, 2024. The rule will not become effective until the administrative rulemaking process is complete.

Authority/Legal Basis:

Adoption and rulemaking: 3 V.S.A. § 801(b)(11); 33 V.S.A. § 2081(a)

Population Affected:

VPharm beneficiaries

Fiscal Impact:

The estimated gross annualized budget impact is \$24,397.

Public Comment Period:

The public comment period ended March 13, 2024. One public comment was received. [This comment and the state's response can be viewed here.](#)

Additional Information:

The [VPharm final proposed rule is available here](#), including an annotated and non-annotated version.

The [Office of the Secretary of State](#) references the final proposed rule on its website as follows:

- VPharm Coverage – Number 24P003

To get more information about the [rulemaking process](#), see the website of the Office of the Secretary of State.

The [VPharm adopted rules](#) that are currently in effect are available here.

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