

PHARMACY PROGRAMS

Tufts Health Plan has a number of pharmacy management programs designed to manage escalating prescription drug costs, while at the same time promoting patient safety. And our programs work.

New-to-Market Drug Evaluation Process (NTM)

Tufts Health Plan initially delays coverage for all new-to-market drugs to assess their safety and cost-effectiveness.

List of Non-covered Drugs (NC)

This identifies a limited number of prescription drugs that are not covered because there are safe, comparably effective, and significantly less expensive alternative drugs available. All of the alternatives are approved by the FDA and are widely used and accepted in the medical community.

Prior Authorization (PA) and Dispensing Limitation (DL) Programs

These programs encourage rational prescribing of drugs that have narrow indications of use and/or are extremely expensive. Some Prior Authorizations may require the member to go through step-therapy to try proven, cost-effective drugs first.

Special Designated Pharmacy Program

Tufts Health Plan contracts with a few special pharmacies that are able to provide special pharmacy care services and negotiate substantial savings on prescription medications that are used to treat specific, complex illnesses. This is part of our continued effort to provide our members with an affordable pharmacy benefit.

3-Tier Copayment Benefit

- Tier-1 has the lowest copayment (includes many generic drugs),
- Tier-2 has the middle level copayment, and
- Tier-3 has the highest copayment.

A vast majority of the higher-priced Tier-3 drugs have lower cost alternatives on Tier-1 or 2.

Tufts Health Plan's Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

Tufts Health Plan's Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee is comprised of community-based physicians and pharmacists who meet monthly with Tufts Health Plan medical directors and pharmacy staff to review clinical and cost information.

U.S. News and World Report and the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) State of Health Care Report recently named Tufts Health Plan the number two health plan in the nation.

For more information, contact the sales offices at:

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