

Step Therapy

Providing you with safe, affordable medication



What is Step Therapy?

A: Step therapy is a type of prior authorization that requires you to try a more cost-effective, safe drug before a more costly or risky drug will be covered. The goal of step therapy is to find the most cost-effective and safest drug for you.



Why do I need Step Therapy?

A: Step therapy minimizes risk and saves you money. Generic medications are medically appropriate and effective, and can significantly reduce costs for both you and your health plan.



How does Step Therapy work?

A: The step therapy program requires you to use “first-line” generic medications before alternative (“second-line”) medications are dispensed. The first-line medication is usually less expensive and has been proven effective for many people being treated for the same condition.



Do I have to do anything?

A: Your pharmacy will automatically check your prescription history to see if you have already tried the first-line medication. If you have, then a second-line prescription can be processed. If the pharmacy system doesn't find a history with the first-line medication, then you will need a prior authorization.

About MedImpact

MedImpact is a pharmacy benefit manager who works with your health plan to get you the medication you need. Our goal is to make it as easy as possible for you by working with your health plan and pharmacy to provide timely and essential information about your medicine, including how to take it correctly, potential side effects, any lower-cost drug options, and more.