



Medical Assistance BULLETIN

ISSUE DATE November 7, 2025	EFFECTIVE DATE January 5, 2026	NUMBER *See below
SUBJECT Prior Authorization of Antihemophilia Agents – Pharmacy Services		BY  Sally Kozak Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All providers must revalidate the Medical Assistance (MA) enrollment of each service location every 5 years. Providers should log into PROMISe to check the revalidation dates of each service location and submit revalidation applications at least 60 days prior to the revalidation dates. Enrollment (revalidation) applications may be found at: <https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/dhs/resources/providers/provider-enrollment-information/provider-enrollment-documents.html>.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to issue updated handbook pages that include the requirements for prior authorization and the type of information needed to evaluate the medical necessity of prescriptions for Antihemophilia Agents submitted for prior authorization.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all licensed pharmacies and prescribers enrolled in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program. The guidelines to determine the medical necessity of Antihemophilia Agents will be utilized in the fee-for-service and managed care delivery systems. Providers rendering services to MA beneficiaries in the managed care delivery system should address any questions related to the prior authorization of Antihemophilia Agents to the appropriate managed care organization.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Human Services' (Department) Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee reviews published peer-reviewed medical literature and recommends the following:

*01-26-04	09-26-04	27-26-04	33-26-04
02-26-04	11-26-04	30-26-04	
03-26-04	14-26-04	31-26-04	
08-26-04	24-26-04	32-26-04	

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Fee-for-Service Provider Service Center: 1-800-537-8862

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at:

<https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/dhs/departments-offices/omap-info.html>

- Preferred or non-preferred status for new drugs and products in therapeutic classes already included on the Statewide Preferred Drug List (PDL).
- Changes to the statuses of drugs and products on the Statewide PDL from preferred to non-preferred and non-preferred to preferred.
- Therapeutic classes of drugs and products to be added to or deleted from the Statewide PDL.
- New quantity limits.
- New guidelines or revisions to existing guidelines to evaluate the medical necessity of prescriptions submitted for prior authorization.

DISCUSSION:

During the September 24, 2025, meeting, the P&T Committee recommended the following revisions to the guidelines to determine medical necessity of Antihemophilia Agents:

- Deletion of the guidelines specific to Hemlibra (emicizumab).
- Addition of guidelines related to non-factor replacement Antihemophilia Agents.
- Addition of guidelines that Antihemophilia Agents are subject to the guidelines in the Quantity Limits Chapter.

The revisions to the guidelines to determine medical necessity of prescriptions for Antihemophilia Agents submitted for prior authorization, as recommended by the P&T Committee, were subject to public review and comment and subsequently approved for implementation by the Department.

PROCEDURE:

The procedures for prescribers to request prior authorization of Antihemophilia Agents are located in SECTION I of the Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook. The Department will take into account the elements specified in the clinical review guidelines (which are included in the provider handbook pages in the SECTION II chapter related to Antihemophilia Agents) when reviewing the prior authorization request to determine medical necessity.

As set forth in 55 Pa. Code § 1101.67(a), the procedures described in the handbook pages must be followed to ensure appropriate and timely processing of prior authorization requests for drugs and products that require prior authorization.

ATTACHMENTS:

Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook - Updated pages

RESOURCES:

Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook – SECTION I

Pharmacy Prior Authorization General Requirements

<https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/dhs/resources/pharmacy-services/pharmacy-prior-authorization-general-requirements.html>

Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook – SECTION II

Pharmacy Prior Authorization Guidelines

<https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/dhs/resources/pharmacy-services/clinical-guidelines.html>

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I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Antihemophilia Agents

A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

All prescriptions for Antihemophilia Agents must be prior authorized.

B. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

In evaluating a request for prior authorization of a prescription for an Antihemophilia Agent, the determination of whether the requested prescription is medically necessary will take into account whether the beneficiary:

1. Is prescribed the Antihemophilia Agent for an indication that is included in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved package labeling or a medically accepted indication; **AND**
2. Is prescribed a dose that is consistent with FDA-approved package labeling, nationally recognized compendia, or peer-reviewed medical literature; **AND**
3. Is prescribed the Antihemophilia Agent by a hematologist or hemophilia treatment center practitioner; **AND**
4. Does not have a contraindication to the requested drug; **AND**
5. For a bypassing agent (e.g., FEIBA, NovoSeven RT, Sevenfact), **one** of the following:
 - a. Has a diagnosis of hemophilia A with inhibitors and at least **one** of the following:
 - i. **Both** of the following:
 - a) Is using the requested drug for routine prophylaxis
 - b) **One** of the following:
 - (i) Has documentation of failure to achieve clinical goals with emicizumab,
 - (ii) Has documentation from the prescriber of a medical reason why emicizumab cannot be used,
 - (iii) Has a current history (within the past 90 days) of being prescribed the same bypassing agent for routine prophylaxis
 - ii. Is using the requested drug for episodic/on-demand treatment or intermittent/periodic prophylaxis
 - b. Has a diagnosis of **one** of the following:

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- i. Hemophilia B with inhibitors,
- ii. Acquired hemophilia,
- iii. Congenital factor VII deficiency,
- iv. Glanzmann's thrombasthenia;

AND

6. For a non-preferred extended half-life factor VIII replacement agent, **one** of the following:
- a. Has documentation of failure to achieve clinical goals with the preferred extended half-life factor VIII replacement agent(s) approved or medically accepted for the beneficiary's diagnosis or indication,
 - b. Has a contraindication or an intolerance to the preferred extended half-life factor VIII replacement agent(s) approved or medically accepted for the beneficiary's diagnosis or indication,
 - c. **Both** of the following:
 - i. Has a current history (within the past 90 days) of being prescribed the same non-preferred extended half-life factor VIII replacement agent
 - ii. Has documentation from the prescriber of a medical reason why the beneficiary should continue to use the non-preferred extended half-life factor VIII replacement agent (e.g., has a history of inhibitors and has not developed inhibitors while using the requested non-preferred agent)

See the Preferred Drug List (PDL) for the list of preferred Antihemophilia Agents at:
<https://papdl.com/preferred-drug-list>;

AND

7. For a non-preferred extended half-life factor IX replacement agent, **one** of the following:
- a. Has documentation of failure to achieve clinical goals with the preferred extended half-life factor IX replacement agent(s) approved or medically accepted for the beneficiary's diagnosis or indication,
 - b. Has a contraindication or an intolerance to the preferred extended half-life factor IX replacement agent(s) approved or medically accepted for the beneficiary's diagnosis or indication,
 - c. **Both** of the following:
 - i. Has a current history (within the past 90 days) of being prescribed the same non-preferred extended half-life factor IX replacement agent

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- ii. Has documentation from the prescriber of a medical reason why the beneficiary should continue to use the non-preferred extended half-life factor IX replacement agent (e.g., has a history of inhibitors and has not developed inhibitors while using the requested non-preferred agent)

See the PDL for the list of preferred Antihemophilia Agents at:
<https://papdl.com/preferred-drug-list>;

AND

- 8. For all other non-preferred factor replacement Antihemophilia Agents, **one** of the following:
 - a. Has documentation of failure to achieve clinical goals with the preferred Antihemophilia Agent(s) approved or medically accepted for the beneficiary's diagnosis or indication,
 - b. Has a contraindication or an intolerance to the preferred Antihemophilia Agent(s) approved or medically accepted for the beneficiary's diagnosis or indication,
 - c. Has a diagnosis for which no preferred Antihemophilia Agents are appropriate,
 - d. **Both** of the following:
 - i. Has a current history (within the past 90 days) of being prescribed the same non-preferred Antihemophilia Agent
 - ii. Has documentation from the prescriber of a clinical reason why the beneficiary should continue to use the non-preferred agent (e.g., has a history of inhibitors and has not developed inhibitors while using the requested non-preferred agent)

See the PDL for the list of preferred Antihemophilia Agents at:
<https://papdl.com/preferred-drug-list>;

AND

- 9. For a non-factor replacement Antihemophilia Agent, **both** of the following:
 - a. **One** of the following:
 - i. For hemophilia A, has **one** of the following diagnoses:
 - a) Severe congenital hemophilia A,
 - b) Congenital hemophilia A with inhibitors,
 - c) Congenital hemophilia A and a history of at least one spontaneous episode of bleeding into a joint or other serious bleeding event,
 - d) Acquired hemophilia A (emicizumab only)

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- ii. For hemophilia B, has **one** of the following diagnoses:
 - a) Severe congenital hemophilia B,
 - b) Congenital hemophilia B with inhibitors,
 - c) Congenital hemophilia B and a history of at least one spontaneous episode of bleeding into a joint or other serious bleeding event
- b. For a non-preferred non-factor replacement Antihemophilia Agent, **one** of the following:
 - i. Has a history of therapeutic failure of or a contraindication or an intolerance to the preferred non-factor replacement Antihemophilia Agents approved or medically accepted for the beneficiary's diagnosis
 - ii. Has a current history (within the past 90 days) of being prescribed the same non-preferred non-factor replacement Antihemophilia Agent (does not apply to non-preferred biologics when a corresponding biosimilar/brand biologic/unbranded biologic is preferred)

See the PDL for the list of preferred Antihemophilia Agents at:
<https://papdl.com/preferred-drug-list>;

AND

- 10. If a prescription for an Antihemophilia Agent is for a quantity that exceeds the quantity limit, the determination of whether the prescription is medically necessary will also take into account the guidelines set forth in the Quantity Limits Chapter. The list of drugs that are subject to quantity limits, with accompanying quantity limits, is available at:
<https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/dhs/resources/pharmacy-services/quantity-limits-daily-dose-limits.html>.

NOTE: If the beneficiary does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the beneficiary, the request for prior authorization will be approved.

FOR RENEWALS OF PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FOR ANTIHEMOPHILIA AGENTS: The determination of medical necessity of a request for renewal of a prior authorization for an Antihemophilia Agent that was previously approved will take into account whether the beneficiary:

- 1. Has documentation of a positive clinical response to the requested Antihemophilia Agent;
AND
- 2. Is being prescribed the Antihemophilia Agent for an indication that is included in FDA-approved package labeling OR a medically accepted indication; **AND**

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3. Is prescribed a dose that is consistent with FDA-approved package labeling, nationally recognized compendia, or peer-reviewed medical literature; **AND**
4. Is prescribed the Antihemophilia Agent by a hematologist or hemophilia treatment center practitioner; **AND**
5. Does not have a contraindication to the requested drug; **AND**
6. If a prescription for an Antihemophilia Agent is for a quantity that exceeds the quantity limit, the determination of whether the prescription is medically necessary will also take into account the guidelines set forth in the Quantity Limits Chapter. The list of drugs that are subject to quantity limits, with accompanying quantity limits, is available at:
<https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/dhs/resources/pharmacy-services/quantity-limits-daily-dose-limits.html>.

NOTE: If the beneficiary does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the beneficiary, the request for prior authorization will be approved.

C. Clinical Review Process

Prior authorization personnel will review the request for prior authorization and apply the clinical guidelines in Section B. above to assess the medical necessity of a prescription for an Antihemophilia Agent. If the guidelines in Section B. are met, the reviewer will prior authorize the prescription. If the guidelines are not met, the prior authorization request will be referred to a physician reviewer for a medical necessity determination. Such a request for prior authorization will be approved when, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the beneficiary.

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