



HEALTHCARE COOPERATIVE

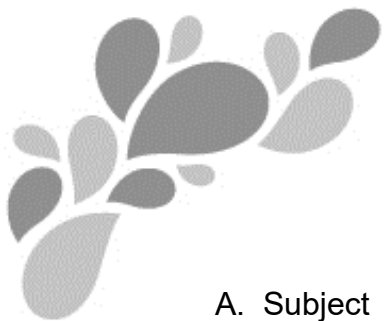
Administrative Policy Statement Common Ground Healthcare Cooperative (CGHC)			
Policy Name		Policy Number	Date Effective
Dispense as Written (DAW) Policy		PAD-0008-WI-MKP	12/01/2024
Policy Type			
Medical	ADMINISTRATIVE	Pharmacy	Reimbursement

Administrative Policy Statements prepared by CSMG Co. and its affiliates (including Common Ground Healthcare Cooperative) are derived from literature based on and supported by clinical guidelines, nationally recognized utilization and technology assessment guidelines, other medical management industry standards, and published MCO clinical policy guidelines. Medically necessary services include, but are not limited to, those health care services or supplies that are proper and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of disease, illness, or injury and without which the patient can be expected to suffer prolonged, increased or new morbidity, impairment of function, dysfunction of a body organ or part, or significant pain and discomfort. These services meet the standards of good medical practice in the local area, are the lowest cost alternative, and are not provided mainly for the convenience of the member or provider. Medically necessary services also include those services defined in any Evidence of Coverage documents, Medical Policy Statements, Provider Manuals, Member Handbooks, and/or other policies and procedures.

Administrative Policy Statements prepared by CSMG Co. and its affiliates (including Common Ground Healthcare Cooperative) do not ensure an authorization or payment of services. Please refer to the plan contract (often referred to as the Evidence of Coverage) for the service(s) referenced in the Administrative Policy Statement. If there is a conflict between the Administrative Policy Statement and the plan contract (i.e., Evidence of Coverage), then the plan contract (i.e., Evidence of Coverage) will be the controlling document used to make the determination.

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## A. Subject

Common Ground Healthcare Cooperative (CGHC) uses a formulary medication list that is established, reviewed and approved by the CGHC Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee and the regulatory bodies in each state in which CGHC functions. The formulary is reviewed routinely, and medication can be removed from the formulary list when the brand name becomes generically available or when it is no longer cost-effective compared to other existing or newer products.

For new drugs or new indications for drugs, the P&T Committee generally reviews for formulary status decision after 180 days from market release. CGHC will work to enforce clinically appropriate lower cost agents as first line therapy for our formulary agents in order to ensure that members have access to cost-effective care.

## B. Background

The intent of CGHC Pharmacy Policy Statements is to encourage appropriate selection of members for therapy according to product labeling, clinical guidelines, and/or clinical studies as well as to encourage use of formulary agents. The CGHC Pharmacy Policy Statement is a guideline for determining health care coverage for our members with benefit plans covering prescription drugs. Pharmacy Policy Statements are written on selected prescription drugs requiring prior authorization or step therapy. The Pharmacy Policy Statement is used as a tool to be interpreted in conjunction with the member's specific benefit plan.

**NOTE:** *The Introduction section is for your general knowledge and is not to be construed as policy coverage criteria. The rest of the policy uses specific words and concepts familiar to medical professionals and is intended for providers. A provider can be a person, such as a doctor, nurse, psychologist, or dentist. A provider can also be a place where medical care is given, like a hospital, clinic or lab. This policy informs providers about when a service may be covered.*

## C. Definitions

- Allergic Reaction: an allergic reaction, as defined by the American Academy of Allergy Asthma & Immunology, occurs when the immune system overreacts to a harmless substance. Types of allergic symptoms to medications range from skin rashes or hives, itching, respiratory problems, and swelling to anaphylaxis. All medications have the potential to cause side effects, but only about 5 to 10% of adverse reactions to drugs are allergic.<sup>1</sup>
- Clinical Judgment: decisions made within the scope of the expertise of a pharmacist following the review of subjective and objective medical data for a member. A pharmacist can use Clinical Judgment for a benefit determination for an exception request for a Non-Formulary Drug. If the request is outside the scope of a pharmacist's expertise, a benefit determination will be made in collaboration with a medical director.
- DAW: dispense as written.
- Drug: a medication or substance which induces a physiologic effect on the body of a member (i.e., medication, agent, drug therapy, treatment, product, biosimilar drugs, etc.).
- Formulary Drug List: a list of prescription drugs which includes a group of selected generic and brand-name drugs which are covered by CGHC.
- Non-Formulary Drug: a drug not on the Formulary Drug List.



#### D. Policy

CGHC will approve the use of DAW medications and consider their use when the following criteria have been met for situations as listed below. This policy will not supersede drug-specific criteria developed and approved by the CGHC P&T Committee nor drug or therapeutic category benefit exclusions. Prior authorization requests should be submitted for each non-formulary medication with chart notes and documentation.

- I. Member had a trial and failure with both of the following:
  - A. Two generic manufacturers of the requested brand name medication (information must be provided on the adverse event that was experienced by the member for each generic manufacturer) AND
  - B. All formulary alternatives within the drug class of the requested brand name medication that has FDA-approved indication to treat the member's condition OR
- II. The member had a serious adverse event with the generic version(s) and the prescriber has provided a copy and confirmation of a MedWatch form submission to the FDA documenting the adverse outcome experienced by the member that includes one of the following (Note: The MedWatch form is available at <https://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/UCM163919.pdf>):
  - A. Was life threatening
  - B. Required hospitalization
  - C. Caused disability or permanent damage
  - D. Required intervention to prevent permanent impairment/damage OR
- III. Member has a documented allergic reaction to an inactive ingredient in the generic product and the prescriber has documented the inactive ingredient, the reaction (dates and clinical details), and the manufacturer of the generic product(s) trialed.

**All other uses of Brand Name Medications are considered not medically necessary.**

**Requests will not be approved for treatment of non-FDA approved diagnoses or conditions not supported by compendia evidence. Please refer to the Off-Label Medication requests policy.**

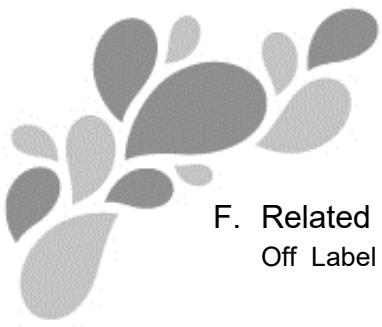
#### Notes:

- If the requested medication has a Medication Specific Policy, the member will need to meet those requirements in addition to the DAW policy.
- The start date and duration of the trial must be provided.
- There must be paid claims if the member was enrolled with CGHC when a trial of a medication occurred.
- Documented diagnoses must be confirmed by portions of the individual's medical record which need to be supplied with prior authorization requests. These medical records may include, but are not limited to test reports, chart notes from provider's office, or hospital admission notes.

Refer to the product package insert for dosing, administration and safety guidelines.

#### E. Conditions of Coverage

As above.



F. Related Policies/Rules  
Off Label

G. Review/Revision History

DATES		ACTION
Date Issued	12/1/2024	
Date Revised		
Date Effective	12/1/2024	
Date Archived		

H. References

1. deShazo RD, Kemp SF. Allergic reactions to drugs and biologic agents. JAMA. 1997;278:1895–906.

This guideline contains custom content that has been modified from the standard care guidelines and has not been reviewed or approved by MCG Health, LLC.

**The Administrative Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the Administrative Policy Statement Policy and is approved.**