



Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Changes to medical necessity criteria for prior authorizations for medical benefit drugs

For Blue Cross commercial and BCN commercial

February 2025

The medical necessity criteria for medical benefit drugs that require prior authorization are based on current medical information and the recommendations of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, which includes physicians, pharmacists and other experts. During periodic reviews of medical necessity criteria, the committee may recommend changes that result in updates to medical policies.

When we update a medical policy for a drug, we'll add a row for the drug at the top of the following table. The row will outline the changes to the medical necessity criteria, the date on which the changes were approved by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and the date on which the changes will go into effect.

You can view complete medical necessity criteria in our medical policies. To do this, go to bcbsm.com/providers, click *Resources* and then click *Search Medical Policies* to open the [Medical Policy Router Search](#) page. Enter the name of the drug in the *Policy/Topic Keyword* field and press *Enter*.

Medical policies that include the changes listed below will be posted to our Medical Policy Router on the effective date.

Drug	Changes to medical necessity criteria	Approval date	Effective date
Rebyota® (fecal microbiota, livejslm)	Can't be used in combination with Zinplava™ or Vowst™. Note: This was also announced in a Feb. 13, 2025, provider alert .	2/13/2025	3/31/2025
Ryoncil® (remestemcel-L-rknd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The member must have tried and failed, or have a contraindication or intolerance to, Jakafi® (ruxolitinib) when age appropriate per FDA labeling. The provider must attest to providing clinical outcome information within the appropriate provider portal as requested by Blue Cross or BCN. Note: This was also announced in a Feb. 13, 2025, provider alert .	2/13/2025	3/31/2025