

# Pharmacy Management Drug Policy

**SUBJECT:** Coronavirus (COVID-19) Impacted Drug Therapies

**POLICY NUMBER:** PHARMACY-92

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 05/01/2020

**LAST REVIEW DATE:** 04/01/2023

*If the member's subscriber contract excludes coverage for a specific service or prescription drug, it is not covered under that contract. In such cases, medical or drug policy criteria are not applied. This drug policy applies to the following line/s of business:*

## Policy Application

<b>Category:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial Group (e.g., EPO, HMO, POS, PPO)	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicare Advantage
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Exchange Qualified Health Plans (QHP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicare Part D
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Off Exchange Direct Pay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Essential Plan (EP)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid & Health and Recovery Plans (MMC/HARP)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Health Plus (CHP)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Employee Program (FEP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ancillary Services
	<input type="checkbox"/> Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (D-SNP)	

## DESCRIPTION:

Multiple existing drug therapies are being studied for their safety and efficacy in treatment COVID-19. In addition, existing supportive therapies are also being prescribed to help in symptom management. The intent of this policy is to ensure appropriate use of the outlined medications, as well as to prevent stockpiling under the pharmacy benefit. For coverage of additional medication, prior authorization is required.

This policy applies to all lines of business except Medicare Part D.

## POLICY GUIDELINES:

### Hydroxychloroquine 100 mg, 300 mg, 400 mg tablet

1. The request is not approvable for the treatment or prevention of an episode of COVID-19
2. Patients with non-COVID diagnoses requesting 100mg, 300 mg, or 400 mg hydroxychloroquine tablets will be required to use hydroxychloroquine 200 mg tablets.
3. Quantity limit: 30 tablets/30 days.
  - a. A quantity limit exception may be granted for individuals with non-COVID diagnoses who meet the above criteria

### Lagevrio (molnupiravir) 200 mg capsule

1. Quantity limit: 40 capsules per 180 days
  - a. An additional treatment course (40 capsules) may be authorized with provider attestation that the patient has a subsequent COVID-19 infection. Note: this is a subsequent diagnosis unrelated to the diagnosis of COVID-19 previously treated with Lagevrio.
2. A treatment course consists of 800 mg (four 200 mg capsules) taken orally every 12 hours for 5 days, with or without food.

### Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir/ritonavir) tablets

1. Quantity limit:
  - a. 30 tablets per 180 days of 300 mg nirmatrelvir/100 mg ritonavir dose pack
  - b. 20 tablets per 180 days of 150 mg nirmatrelvir/100 mg ritonavir dose pack
2. An additional treatment course may be authorized with provider attestation that the patient has a subsequent COVID-19 infection
  - a. Retreatment will only be granted for a subsequent diagnosis unrelated to the diagnosis of COVID-19 previously treated with Paxlovid

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- b. Paxlovid has been noted to potentially cause rebound illness 2-8 days after completion of Paxlovid and additional therapy will not be granted to treat rebound illness
3. A treatment course consists of 300 mg nirmatrelvir (two 150 mg tablets) with 100 mg ritonavir (one 100 mg tablet) with all three tablets taken together twice daily for 5 days.
- a. For individuals with moderate renal impairment (eGFR > 30 to < 60 ml/min), a treatment course consists of 150 mg nirmatrelvir (one 150 mg tablet) and 100 mg ritonavir (one 100 mg tablet) twice daily for 5 days.

#### **Stromectol, ivermectin 3 mg tablet**

1. The request is not approvable for the treatment or prevention of an episode of COVID-19.
2. For patients with non-COVID diagnoses, the request can be approved for 12 months and is not subject to off label policy criteria.
3. Quantity limit: 12 tablets/365 days. This quantity limit is based off current FDA-approved indications for a single treatment course.
- a. A quantity limit exception may be granted for non-COVID diagnoses only

#### **UPDATES:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Revision</b>
04/01/2023	Revised
2/9/2023	Revised / P&T Committee Approval
8/2022	Revised
6/2022	Revised
5/2022	Revised
2/2022	Revised / P&T Committee Approval
1/2022	Revised
9/2021	Revised
2/11/2021	P&T Committee Approval
2/2021	Revised
6/2020	Revised
5/2020	P&T Committee Approval
5/2020	Created

#### **REFERENCES:**

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- COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Treatment Guidelines. National Institutes of Health. Available at <https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/> Accessed 9/22/2021.
- Lagevrio capsules [Fact Sheet, Emergency Use Authorization]. Whitehouse Station, NJ: Merck; August 2022. Available at: <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-legal-regulatory-and-policy-framework/emergency-use-authorization#coviddrugs>. Accessed on August 22, 2022.
- Paxlovid™ tablets [Fact Sheet, Emergency Use Authorization]. New York, NY: Pfizer; December 2021. Available at: <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-legal-regulatory-and-policy-framework/emergency-use-authorization#coviddrugs>. Accessed 5/24/2022.