



Drugs That Require Step Therapy (ST) Before Being Approved for Coverage

In some cases, AvMed Medicare requires you to first try certain drugs to treat your medical condition before we will cover another drug for that condition. For example, if Step-1 and Step-2 drugs both treat your medical condition, we may not cover the Step-2 drug unless you try the Step-1 drug first. If the Step-1 drug does not work for you, we will then cover the Step-2 drug.

You will need authorization from AvMed Medicare before filling prescriptions for the Step-2 drugs shown in the chart that begins on the next page. AvMed Medicare will only provide coverage after it determines that the drug is being prescribed according to the criteria specified in the chart.

You, your appointed representative, or your prescriber can request prior authorization by calling Express Scripts at 1-800-935-6103 or faxing your request in to 1.877.251.5896. Hours of operation are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Service is available in English and other languages. TTY users should call 1.800.716.323

CONSTIPATION AGENTS - PST

Products Affected

Step 1:

- LINZESS 145 MCG CAPSULE
- LINZESS 290 MCG CAPSULE
- LINZESS 72 MCG CAPSULE
- TRULANCE 3 MG TABLET

Step 2:

- MOTEGRITY 1 MG TABLET
- MOTEGRITY 2 MG TABLET

Details

Criteria	If the patient has tried one Step 1 product, approve the requested step 2 drug.
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HMG CO-A REDUCTASE INHIBITORS

Products Affected

Step 1:

- *amlodipine 10 mg-atorvastatin 10 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 10 mg-atorvastatin 20 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 10 mg-atorvastatin 40 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 10 mg-atorvastatin 80 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 2.5 mg-atorvastatin 10 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 2.5 mg-atorvastatin 20 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 2.5 mg-atorvastatin 40 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 5 mg-atorvastatin 10 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 5 mg-atorvastatin 20 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 5 mg-atorvastatin 40 mg tablet*
- *amlodipine 5 mg-atorvastatin 80 mg tablet*
- *atorvastatin 10 mg tablet*
- *atorvastatin 20 mg tablet*
- *atorvastatin 40 mg tablet*
- *atorvastatin 80 mg tablet*
- *ezetimibe 10 mg-simvastatin 10 mg tablet*
- *ezetimibe 10 mg-simvastatin 20 mg tablet*
- *ezetimibe 10 mg-simvastatin 40 mg tablet*
- *ezetimibe 10 mg-simvastatin 80 mg tablet*
- *lovastatin 10 mg tablet*
- *lovastatin 20 mg tablet*
- *lovastatin 40 mg tablet*
- *pravastatin 10 mg tablet*
- *pravastatin 20 mg tablet*
- *pravastatin 40 mg tablet*
- *pravastatin 80 mg tablet*
- *rosuvastatin 10 mg tablet*
- *rosuvastatin 20 mg tablet*
- *rosuvastatin 40 mg tablet*
- *rosuvastatin 5 mg tablet*
- *simvastatin 10 mg tablet*
- *simvastatin 20 mg tablet*
- *simvastatin 40 mg tablet*
- *simvastatin 5 mg tablet*
- *simvastatin 80 mg tablet*

Step 2:

- *pitavastatin calcium 1 mg tablet*
- *pitavastatin calcium 2 mg tablet*
- *pitavastatin calcium 4 mg tablet*

Details

Criteria	If the patient has tried one step 1 drug, approve pitavastatin. If the patient has tried a brand name version of the step 1 generic drug in the past, approve pitavastatin without a trial of a step 1 drug.
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ORAL BISPHOSPHONATES

Products Affected

Step 1:

- *alendronate 10 mg tablet*
- *alendronate 35 mg tablet*
- *alendronate 70 mg tablet*
- *alendronate 70 mg/75 ml oral solution*
- *ibandronate 150 mg tablet*
- *risedronate 150 mg tablet*
- *risedronate 30 mg tablet*
- *risedronate 35 mg tablet*
- *risedronate 35 mg tablet (12 pack)*
- *risedronate 35 mg tablet (4 pack)*
- *risedronate 35 mg tablet, delayed release*
- *risedronate 5 mg tablet*

Step 2:

- FOSAMAX PLUS D 70 MG-2,800 UNIT TABLET
- FOSAMAX PLUS D 70 MG-5,600 UNIT TABLET

Details

Criteria	If the patient has tried two Step 1 drugs, approve the requested Step 2 drug.
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PHOSPHATE BINDERS

Products Affected

Step 1:

- *calcium acetate (phosphate binders) 667 mg tablet*
- *calcium acetate (phosphate binders) 667 mg capsule*
- *sevelamer carbonate 800 mg tablet*

Step 2:

- *lanthanum 1,000 mg chewable tablet*
- *lanthanum 750 mg chewable tablet*
- *lanthanum 500 mg chewable tablet*

Details

Criteria	If the patient has tried one step 1 drug, approve the requested step 2 drug
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