

# PROVIDER QUICK POINTS

## PROVIDER INFORMATION



May 4, 2018

### Pharmacy Benefit Update – New Drug-Related Step Therapy (ST) with Quantity Limit (QL) Criteria: Metformin ER

Effective July 1, 2018, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota (Blue Cross) will require ST with a QL requirement for Metformin ER under the pharmacy benefit plan.

The intent of the Metformin ER ST program is to encourage the use of cost-effective generic metformin ER agents over the more expensive brand agents.

As stewards of healthcare expenditures for our subscribers, we are charged with ensuring the highest quality, evidence-based care for our members. One method for doing so is through the ST process. The primary purpose is to ensure that evidence-based care is provided to our members, driving quality, safety, and affordability.

Pharmacy Prior Authorization Program	Drug Name	Quantity Limit (per 30 days)
Metformin ER Step Therapy with Quantity Limit	Fortamet® (metformin ER)	500 mg – 150 tablets 1000 mg - 60 tablets
	Glucophage XR® (metformin ER)	500 mg – 120 tablets 750 mg – 60 tablets
	Glumetza® (metformin ER)	500 mg – 120 tablets 1000 mg – 60 tablets

### Products Impacted

This notice applies to commercial lines of business.

The new Pharmacy ST program will be posted by July 1, 2018 and may be accessed using the Blue Cross provider link.

- Access [providers.bluecrossmn.com](http://providers.bluecrossmn.com)
- Under Tools and Resources, select Medical policy, then acknowledge the Acceptance statement
- Select View All Active Policies
- Select Pharmacy Utilization Management Programs

### CoverMyMeds prior authorization request service

As a reminder, CoverMyMeds (CMM) is a free service to providers which allows quick and easy submission of ST requests. Experience with CMM by other plans has demonstrated marked reductions in physician office call-backs regarding ST requests, after CMM is implemented. ST requests may also continue to be faxed to their review destination external to the CMM portal, as is the current practice.

QP31-18

Distribution: Available on [providers.bluecrossmn.com](http://providers.bluecrossmn.com). <https://www.bluecrossmn.com/healthy/public/personal/home/providers/forms-and-publications>

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You may access CMM at [www.covermyeds.com](http://www.covermyeds.com). Select Help (top right of the web page) to view FAQs and Support tutorials (3-5 minutes), including live online chat support to help you get started. You will need to open a CMM account to submit requests using the portal.

### **Questions?**

If you have questions, please contact provider services at **(651) 662-5200** or **1-800-262-0820**.