



Formulary Change	#
2020 Exclusions (New)	48
New Exclusions for 2021	70
Number of Specialty Drugs	14
Positive Changes (add backs)	0
Member Impact %	6.3%
Cost Impact %	2.0%

Key Insights

- Express Scripts (ESI) will exclude 70 products from the National Preferred Formulary (NPF) and National Preferred Flex Formulary. This is expected to represent 6.3% impact to members and 2% impact on cost.
- The most member disruption will result from the removal of the brand albuterol HFA products, ProAir and Ventolin. This represents 83% of the formulary change member impact across our book of business. The formulary alternative represents the generic equivalent to the brand products, essentially the same drug. While this change affects a large volume of members, the disruption should be very minimal.
- Cosentyx, a self-administered injection for the treatment of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis, will be excluded. Just one year ago, Taltz, was excluded with Cosentyx as the preferred specialty drug. Both are self-administered as a subcutaneous injection but require a loading dose for new starts to therapy resulting in very high up-front costs, often \$17K or more. In addition to member disruption, plan sponsors will be responsible for the high up-front costs for those members having to switch therapy.
- Diabetes is a top category of spend for most plan sponsors and a category where changes are expected. Januvia and its combination products will be the only DPP4 inhibitor drugs covered, further narrowing type 2 diabetes drugs that will be covered.
- Lower cost generics and biosimilars as preferred agents account for 53 of the 70 drug exclusions. Notably, Fulphila and Ziextenzo, for Neulasta, an injection that is used to reduce the risk of infection in cancer patients who are using certain chemotherapy medications. The biosimilars do not offer Neulasta's unique dosage form by way of the Onpro®, which allows for ease of administration at home for cancer patients to avoid returning to the physician's office the day after receiving chemotherapy. However, patients or caregivers can be taught to self-administer at home or coordinate with a home health care nurse to administer.
- Efforts to identify and remove egregiously priced drugs with sufficient clinically acceptable alternatives continued, though more opportunities exist for cost savings.

**GET THE FORMULARY STRATEGY AND SUPPORT YOU NEED
FOR AN EVER-EVOLVING MARKET. CONTACT PSG TODAY!**