

Dear Pharmacist

## Discovery Health Medical Scheme: Chronic Disease List formulary update for 2024 and 2025

At Discovery Health, we recognise the critical role you play in delivering care to members of the medical schemes we administer. Keeping you up to date with essential changes is a key part of supporting the incredible work you do for our clients. As part of our ongoing commitment to your practice and patients, we are pleased to share the updates to the Chronic Disease List (CDL) formulary for 2025.

In line with the Prescribed Minimum Benefits, the Chronic Disease List provides comprehensive coverage for conditions across all health plans. This year, we've added 123 new products to the formulary, including more affordable generics and therapeutic equivalents, helping you offer greater value and care to your clients.

You can view the products that have been replaced with preferentially priced generic or therapeutic equivalents in the Chronic Illness Benefit provisional formulary for 2025 by clicking [here](#).

### Notable formulary updates for 2025

We've made significant additions in the following therapeutic areas: cardiovascular conditions, diabetes mellitus, glaucoma, inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, and psychiatric or neurological conditions. Below are some key updates:

#### Additions to the Comprehensive and Executive plans, only

- Dysrhythmias
  - Apixaban 2.5 mg and 5 mg – Apixaban DRL<sup>®</sup> and Eplipix<sup>®</sup>
  - Dabigatran 75 mg and 150 mg – Dabigatran DRL<sup>®</sup>
- Glaucoma
  - Latanoprostene bunod ophthalmic solution – Vyzulta<sup>®</sup>

#### Additions to all health plans, except KeyCare

- Cardiovascular
  - First to market generic version of valsartan, amlodipine and hydrochlorothiazide (all available strengths) – Arlozyb Co<sup>®</sup>

- Diabetes mellitus
  - Sitagliptin 50mg and 100 mg – Metliptin®
  - Sitagliptin and metformin combination: 50/850 mg and 50/1,000 mg – Metliptin Co®
- Inflammatory bowel disease
  - Mesalazine – Salofalk® 1.5 g sachets
- Psychiatry
  - Quetiapine (XR formulation) – Quesara XR® 150 mg, 200 mg, 300 mg and 400 mg

### **Additions to all health plans**

- Cardiovascular
  - Perindopril and amlodipine combinations (all available strengths) – Amlessa®, Coveram® and Teprilam®
- Diabetes insipidus
  - Desmopressin – Minirin Melt® sublingual tablets: 60 mcg, 120 mcg and 240 mcg
- Multiple sclerosis
  - Interferon beta-1b – Betaferon® pre-filled syringes

### **Your role in enhancing patient care**

By dispensing medications listed on the 2025 formulary, you help ensure that your patients avoid co-payments, reducing their financial burden while ensuring high-quality treatment. We trust this update will help you provide continued excellent care and improve your clients' health outcomes.

For further details on the formulary and payment structures for 2025, please log in to the Healthcare Professional Zone on the Discovery website and access the MedAdvisor tool by following this path: **Tools > Health Tools > Medicine Adviser** from October 2024. We've attached a "cheat sheet" to help you understand the changes made to this formulary (medicine list).

If you have any questions or need additional support, please don't hesitate to email us at [healthpartnerinfo@discovery.co.za](mailto:healthpartnerinfo@discovery.co.za) or visit the Healthcare Professional Zone at [www.discovery.co.za](http://www.discovery.co.za).

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to the health of our members. Your commitment to staying informed and adapting to these updates is invaluable in ensuring that we continue to deliver the highest standard of care, together.

Regards



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