



Generic Substitution Pharmacy Authorization Guidelines for Non-PDL drugs¹

Guidelines for Coverage

For drugs and products outside the scope of the Statewide PDL, Aetna Better Health may grant an exception to the generic substitution requirement upon review of documentation of adverse effects caused by the generic alternative. To request an exception, a practitioner/provider must fax to the Pharmacy Prior Authorization department a completed copy of the standard MedWatch form (the FDA-required form used to document and report adverse effects) that was submitted to the FDA. Narrow therapeutic index drugs do not require a prior authorization.

Criteria for reviewing exception requests include:

- Documented therapeutic failure of an equivalent generic drug
- Documented allergic reaction to a component of the generic product
- Documented adverse event attributed to a component of the generic product

Exception requests are reviewed by a licensed clinical pharmacist using professional judgment and Department approved guidelines, policies and protocols for determining medical necessity². Prescribing providers and members may request reconsideration of denied authorizations³.

¹ NCQA HP 2018/2019 UM11 B2, UM11 B4-5

² Pennsylvania HealthChoices Agreement. Exhibit BBB.

³ Pennsylvania HealthChoices Agreement: Exhibit BBB