



# RxBenefits' Pharmacy FAQ

## Who is RxBenefits?

Founded in 1995, Birmingham, AL-based RxBenefits is the employee benefit industry's first and only technology-enabled pharmacy benefits optimizer (PBO). We are a growing team of more than 500 pharmacy pricing, contract, service, technology, data, and clinical experts that work together as one team towards one common goal: putting the benefit back in pharmacy benefits. We focus exclusively on helping employee benefits consultants, and their self-insured clients, access and deliver an affordable, best-in-class pharmacy benefit.

## How Do I Learn More About My Prescription Benefits?

Your pharmacy benefits are part of the specific insurance coverage selected by your employer, and are designed to help you access your prescriptions at the right time and at the best cost. Simply present your prescription benefit ID card and prescription at the in-network retail pharmacy of your choice. The pharmacist will use your prescription and member information to determine if the medication is covered by your plan, and if so, your co-payment or co-insurance.

Details of your specific benefits plan including drug coverage can be found in your Prescription Benefit Coverage (PBC). The PBC is a snapshot of your health plan's co-pays, benefits, covered healthcare services, and other features that are important to you and your family in easy-to-understand terms. If you have any questions or issues, please call RxBenefits' Member Services Team at 800.334.8134.

## Where can I get my prescriptions filled in-person?

Your pharmacy benefit gives you access to a large retail pharmacy network that includes thousands of pharmacies throughout the United States. That means you have convenient access to your prescriptions wherever you are - at home, work, or even on vacation. You'll get the most from your benefits by using a participating pharmacy. For a list of participating pharmacies, access your PBM's website for more information.

**Note:** Choosing a non-network pharmacy means you'll pay the full cost of the prescription up front. You will need to then submit a claim form to your plan for reimbursement.

## What Is A Drug List/Formulary?

All prescription benefit plans, including yours, use what is called a "formulary" that may also be referred to as a drug list. The formulary / drug list contains brand-name and generic medications that are covered by your plan. All medications on the formulary have been approved by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and have been reviewed and recommended by your plan's Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee. The P&T Committee is an independent group of practicing doctors, pharmacists, and other healthcare professionals responsible for the research and decisions surrounding the drug list based on various factors including their safety and effectiveness.

If your healthcare provider prescribes a medication that is not on the drug list/formulary, it will not be covered, and you will be responsible for the full cost of the medication. If your healthcare provider prescribes a non-covered medicine, talk with them about prescribing a medication that is on the drug list/formulary instead.

Please call the Member Services number on the back of your ID card at any time to determine if a particular medication is (or is not) on your approved formulary and covered by your plan. Or you can refer to your Prescription Benefit Coverage (PBC) for coverage limitations and exclusions.

### **What Is A Prior Authorization?**

Certain prescription drugs may require a "prior authorization" before you can fill the prescription. Some drugs require prior authorization because they may not be a good fit for every patient. Prior Authorization ensures your safety and helps limit your out of pocket costs.

When a medication requires prior authorization, your healthcare provider will need to send documentation to an independent pharmacy reviewer who will review the documentation to ensure the medication is a good fit for you and your benefit coverage. If you use home delivery, it is important that your prescriber obtain prior authorization before you can fill your prescription.

We never want you to go without an appropriate medication to treat your condition. If you are having trouble getting a medication filled because it requires prior authorization, please call the Member Services number on the back of your ID card. We will do everything we can to assist you and your healthcare provider in getting the prior authorization processed promptly.

### **What Is The Difference Between Generic & Brand Medications? How Does It Affect My Benefits?**

A brand-name drug is usually available from only one manufacturer and may have patent protection. A generic drug is required by law to have the same active ingredients as its brand-name counterpart but is available only after the patent expires on a brand-name drug. You can typically save money by using generic medications.

#### **Are generic medications as safe and effective as brand-name drugs?**

Yes. Generic medications are regulated by the FDA. In order to pass FDA review and be A-rated, the generic drug is required to be therapeutically equivalent to its counterpart brand-name medication. It must have the same active ingredients as well as the same dosage and strength.

#### **Why are generic medications less expensive?**

Normally, a generic drug is introduced to the market only after the patent has expired on its brand-name counterpart. At that point, it can be offered by more than one manufacturer, increasing competition. Generic drug manufacturers generally price their products below the cost of the brand-name versions in order to compete.

#### **How can I request a generic medication?**

Your healthcare provider and pharmacist are the best sources of information about generic medications. Simply ask one of them if your prescription can be filled with an equivalent generic medication. You may be subject to higher cost sharing for brand drugs.

**Can My Prescription Be Switched To A Drug With A Lower Co-Payment?**

If your current prescription medication is not a generic, call your healthcare provider and ask if it's appropriate for you to switch to a lower cost generic drug. The decision is up to you and your healthcare provider.

You can also select lower cost options from your PBM's website where you manage your current prescriptions. You'll get information to discuss with your healthcare provider and the tools to get started.

**How Do I Order Medications Using Home Delivery?**

Home delivery is a convenient service for members who take medications to treat a chronic condition on an ongoing basis. Examples of conditions that may require maintenance medications include hormone replacement, asthma, diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, arthritis, and many other routine prescriptions delivered directly to your door so you never miss a dose. Depending on how your plan is designed, ordering maintenance medications using home delivery may also be more cost-effective. Check your plan details for more information on how copays vary using home delivery vs. a retail pharmacy.

**I Am Going To Be Out Of Town For An Extended Period.****How Do I Get An Extra Supply Of Drugs To Cover Me For That Time?**

If you are going to be out of town for an extended period and need extra medication, call the member services number on the back of your member ID card to request a vacation override. You must provide the member services representative with both the date you are leaving and the date you are returning. RxBenefits will place the override in the system and you can pick up your medication at your local pharmacy.

**Who do I contact with questions about my specific plan and/or medications?**

Your RxBenefits Member Services Team is available to answer any questions you may have. You can reach them Monday – Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. CT by calling **800.334.8134** or emailing [CustomerCare@rxbenefits.com](mailto:CustomerCare@rxbenefits.com).