



Metropolitan Nashville
Public Schools

Important Changes to Your PPO Pharmacy Program

Effective January 1, 2010, your benefit plan will only cover generics for certain medications that control stomach acid and relieve heartburn. These medications are called proton pump inhibitors, or PPIs, and include brand-name drugs like Aciphex, Nexium, Prevacid, Prilosec, Protonix and Zegerid.

This does not mean you cannot buy the brand-name medication. It just means your plan will not cover the brand-name drug, and you will be responsible for the full cost of the brand-name drug.

If you take a brand-name PPI, talk to your doctor about switching to a generic to help you get the treatment you need – and save money.

Choose to use Generics and Save

Using generic drugs is one of the easiest ways to save money on your health care costs.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requires generics to meet the same strength, safety and purity standards as brand-name drugs. And generics can be just as effective as their brand-name counterparts – but usually cost less.

Learn more about generic drugs and your pharmacy benefits at bcbst.com.

COMPARE AND SAVE

**If you take one of
these brand-name PPIs
(not covered by your plan)**

Aciphex*
Nexium*
Prilosec*
Prevacid*
Protonix*
Zegerid*

**Talk to your doctors
about switching to one
of these generic PPIs
(covered by your plan)**

omeprazole
pantoprazole

* These medications are covered by your plan:

- For ages 18 and under;
- For ages 19 and over with prior authorization.

Your doctor can request prior authorization if there is a diagnosis of one of the following conditions:

1. Grade III Erosive Esophagitis,
2. Grade IV Erosive Esophagitis, or
3. Zollinger-Ellison syndrome.

Your doctor can call Caremark at 1-877-916-2271 to request prior authorization.



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One Cameron Hill Circle
Chattanooga, TN 37402

bcbst.com