

SPECIAL eBULLETIN

FOR PROFESSIONAL AND FACILITY

JANUARY 16, 2019

REMINDER: GABAPENTIN PRIOR AUTHORIZATION POLICY FOR MEDICARE FORMULARIES REQUIRED FOR NEW STARTS ONLY

In December 2018, we sent letters to Medicare Advantage providers informing them of changes to the Medicare Formularies, including prior authorization policies.

We'd like to remind you that effective Jan. 1, 2019, Highmark's Medicare Formularies now require a prior authorization **for new starts of Gabapentin only**.

As Gabapentin is within a protected drug class, prior authorization will **not** be required for members who are actively taking this medication.

The table below outlines circumstances under which prior authorization is needed and not needed for Gabapentin.

No Prior Authorization Needed	Prior Authorization Needed
<p>The member has filled Gabapentin, through their Highmark insurance, within the past 365 days.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The member has not been prescribed Gabapentin previously.• The member has been prescribed Gabapentin, but has not taken the medication in more than a year.• The member has been prescribed Gabapentin within the past year, but had a different insurance plan.• The member has been prescribed Gabapentin within the past year, but received samples or used a pharmacy discount card.



DRUGS AFFECTED BY THIS POLICY

This policy applies to the following medications:

- Gabapentin 100mg capsule
- Gabapentin 600mg tablet
- Gabapentin 300mg capsule
- Gabapentin 800mg tablet
- Gabapentin 400mg capsule
- Gabapentin 250mg/5ml oral solution

For members with the Incentive Formulary, the policy will also apply to all strengths of brand name Neurontin.

IF PRIOR AUTHORIZATION IS REQUIRED

Should you determine a prior authorization will be necessary, please complete the Prescription Drug Medication Request form and send to Highmark at:

Fax: 1-866-240-8123
Mail: Medical Management and Policy
120 Fifth Ave, MC P4207
Pittsburgh, PA 15222