



Medi-Cal Rx

Upcoming Changes to Medi-Cal Rx

August 19, 2025

Pursuant to the enacted [2025-26 State Budget](#), the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is implementing a series of Medi-Cal Rx policy updates over the coming months to reduce pharmacy spending, improve program integrity, and ensure continued, equitable access to quality pharmacy benefits and services. DHCS will provide notice with further details in advance of each of the following Medi-Cal Rx policy update implementation dates:

Effective November 1, 2025:

- The coordination of benefits (COB) claims submission process will be updated for Medicare.

Effective January 1, 2026:

- Over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 antigen tests will require a prior authorization (PA) request for all Medi-Cal members.
- Drugs used for weight loss and weight loss-related indications will be excluded from Medi-Cal Rx coverage for all Medi-Cal members.
- For members 21 years of age and older, Medi-Cal Rx coverage policies will be revised for select OTC products, including prenatal vitamins, multivitamin combinations, and single-ingredient vitamin products; first- and second-generation antihistamines; and dry eye products.
- Claims for select products that are paying due to continuation of care exceptions, as identified in the [Medi-Cal Rx Contract Drugs List](#) (CDL), will no longer be covered benefits for all members.
- Specific non-covered drugs will now require use of a therapeutically alternative Medi-Cal Rx CDL drug, prior to being a paid benefit. Continuation of care will not apply.

Contact Information

You can call the Medi-Cal Rx Customer Service Center (CSC) at 1-800-977-2273, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year.

For other questions, email Medi-Cal Rx Education & Outreach at MediCalRxEducationOutreach@primetherapeutics.com.