

Medical Foods

2024 Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan - Standard and Basic Option

Section 5. Benefits

Section 5(f). Prescription Drug Benefits

Medical Foods

The Plan covers medical food formulas and enteral nutrition products that are ordered by a healthcare provider and are medically necessary to prevent clinical deterioration in members at nutritional risk.

To receive benefits, products must meet the definition of medical food (See Section 10, Definitions).

Members must be receiving active, regular, and ongoing medical supervision and must be unable to manage the condition by modification of diet alone.

Coverage is provided as follows:

- Inborn errors of amino acid metabolism
- Food allergy with atopic dermatitis, gastrointestinal symptoms, IgE mediation, malabsorption disorder, seizure disorder, failure to thrive, or prematurity, when administered orally and is the sole source (100%) of nutrition. This once per lifetime benefit is limited to one year following the date of the initial prescription or physician order for the medical food (e.g., Neocate, in a formula form or powders mixed to become formulas)
- Medical foods and nutritional supplements when administered by catheter or nasogastric tubes

Note: A prescription and prior approval are required for medical foods provided under the pharmacy benefit. Renewals of the prior authorization are required every benefit year for inborn errors of metabolism and tube feeding.

Note: See Section 5(a), Medical Supplies, for our coverage of medical foods and nutritional supplements when administered by catheter or nasogastric tube under the medical benefit.