



Biosimilars FAQs and Prior Authorization

Biosimilars are safe alternatives to original biological medications. They can effectively treat conditions like multiple sclerosis, Crohn's disease, cancers, and diabetes. Biosimilars are approved by the FDA which ensures they meet the safety and efficacy standards as the original medication. This means they provide the same medical benefits, come in similar dosage forms and strengths, and have similar side effects.

What makes biosimilars unique?

Biosimilars are a type of biologic medication made from living sources like bacteria, yeast, or animal cells. They have become available in recent years due to patent expiration of the original referenced product, and offer a way for everyone to save money.

Are biosimilars the same as generics?

No, generics and biosimilars are not the same. Generics are chemical copies of brand-name medications, while biosimilars are derived from living sources and differ slightly from the original product.

Why Biosimilars are Preferred



Safe and Effective

Biosimilars have similar safety and efficacy profiles as the original referenced drug. There are no clinically meaningful differences between the products.



Cost Savings

Biosimilars are usually cheaper than the brand-name medication. This means you will have lower out-of-pocket expenses and it helps us control healthcare costs for long-term, sustainable care.

We understand that any change in medication can raise questions or concerns, and we are here to provide guidance and assistance throughout this process. If you have any questions or need help with the prior authorization process, please contact Member Services at **855-428-7284**



FAQ



Will I need a new prescription for a biosimilar if I have a prescription written for Humira? What about if I am on another biosimilar?

Yes, you will need a new prescription for the biosimilar unless your biosimilar is considered an interchangeable biosimilar. An interchangeable medication may be switched at your pharmacy. Your pharmacist will inform you when a switch has occurred. This is similar to when a brand medication is switched for a generic. Speak to your doctor or pharmacist to see if a new prescription is required if you're on a different biosimilar.



Are biosimilars generics?

No, biosimilars are not generics. They are similar to generics and provide cost-effective alternatives for brand-name medications. Biosimilars are biologics and include medicines such as vaccines, insulins, cancer treatment, and immunosuppressants (i.e., Humira).



How many biosimilars are available today for Humira?

Today, there are at least nine biosimilars available for Humira. Curative's preferred biosimilar is adalimumab fkip (unbranded Hulio) and Cyltezo. Check our formulary to make sure your drug is available.



What is the copay for a non-formulary biosimilar?

Your maximum copay may be up to \$250.00 per 30-day supply of medication. Biosimilars that are non-specialty medications may be up to \$50.00 per month.



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Will the biosimilars treat the same conditions as the original product?

Yes, most of the FDA-approved conditions have the same indications approved for the biosimilar. Speak to your doctor to see if a biosimilar is approved for your condition.



How do I get approval for a biosimilar?

Your doctor must submit a Prior Authorization form to Curative for clinical review.



How Your Doctor Can Submit Prior Authorization Requests:

Your doctor can find the forms for prior authorization at curative.com/for-providers. Once received, the process may take up to one week to review. We encourage you to have your doctor submit this to us at the start of your plan year to prevent any delays in treatment.

Your Provider can also send the forms directly to Curative:

Phone: 855-414-1089, **Fax:** 888-293-4075, **Email:** pharmacypa@curative.com



What can I do if a Prior Authorization request has been denied?

Curative will notify your provider of a denial of services via mail and fax. The notification will include a description of the procedure for filing an Appeal. It will consist of a notice to the Participant of the right to appeal and the steps to obtain that review, including a copy of the form prescribed by the Texas Department of Insurance. An appeal may take up to 30 days to review.



How do I find out more information regarding biosimilars?

Please visit [Biosimilar Basics for Patients](#) for information regarding biosimilars and their proven safety and efficacy profile against similar branded agents.