

FY-11 Plan Year Initiatives

Step Therapy Program to include Nexium

- Aciphex or Prevacid – both \$60 co-pay
- Nexium at a \$30 co-pay
- Omeprazole (generic) \$10 co-pay
- Member savings \$240 - \$600 per year
- Plan savings \$40,000

What is this program and how can I benefit?

The Step Therapy Program was implemented several years ago as many prescription medications became available over-the-counter. At that time, the Healthcare Task Force opted to support two of the many programs available.

The first program is relative to allergy medications and the second is in regards to medications used for gastric upset.

Basically, these programs state that a member must try the over-the-counter medications available. If for some reason these medications do not work as efficiently as you and your physician deem appropriate, a prescription strength medication may be dispensed through the Plan.

We are introducing a cost saving alternative to the Step Therapy Program, for those members taking either Aciphex or Prevacid. This program is available immediately.

Nexium is offering a new discount program that will enable members, with a new prescription from their doctor, to switch their medication to either Nexium or the generic equivalent of Prevacid - Omeprazole.

While we only have 22 members taking these two medications, we wanted to include this member/Plan saving program in this year's design because as you can see the savings are substantial.