Pharmacy Update June 2024

Over-the-Counter (OTC) Products at No Cost

OTC products play an important role in meeting U.S. health care needs. On average, households spend \$645 annually on OTC products. The availability of OTC drugs saves the U.S. health care system a total of \$167 billion annually between prescription drug cost savings and clinical visits.

Despite their value, OTC drugs are not covered by Medicare Part D. Medi-Cal covers some OTC drugs, but not all. For your patients who may benefit from using OTC products and are enrolled in OneCare, there is a no-cost option. OneCare members receive a quarterly allowance of \$100 to spend on over 500 plan-approved OTC health and wellness items. At the beginning of the year, members received a copy of the OTC catalog in the mail.

How your patients can use the OTC benefit

- 1. View the catalog to select items (print copy or online)
- 2. Place an order online, by phone, by mobile app or by mail
- 3. Receive the shipment of OTC items within five to seven business days after the order is received

Ways to order:

Visit the website: www.caloptima.org/OneCareOTC	Call an OTC advocate: 1-855-299-5410 (TTY 711) Monday–Friday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Download the mobile app: OTC-Anywhere Available for Apple and Android mobile devices	Mail an order form: OTC Servicing Center P.O. Box 526266 Miami, FL 33152-9819

Limitations:

- The full \$100 must be used in one order. Unused benefits will not roll over into the next guarter.
- The order total may not exceed \$100. Cash, checks, credit cards or money orders are not accepted.
- OTC products are intended for member use only to help with a health or medical need. The use of this benefit to order OTC items for family members and friends is prohibited.
- OTC items are available through home delivery only. Products may not be purchased at a local retail pharmacy and submitted for reimbursement or through any source other than those listed above.

Popular covered products*:

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Category	Example Products	
Cold and flu	 Cough drops 	Tylenol Cold & Flu
Cold and lid	 Mucus Relief DM 	Vapor rub
Dental care	 Dental floss 	Toothbrush
	 Fixodent 	 Toothpaste
Eye care	 Artificial tears drops 	Redness relief eye drops
First aid	 Adhesive bandages 	Neosporin
	 Face masks 	 Nitrile exam gloves
Pain relievers	 Acetaminophen extra strength 	 Salonpas pain relieving patches
	 Eagle brand medicated oil 	Tiger Balm
Vitamins and minerals	 Daily multivitamins 	Vitamin B complex
	 Fish oil 	Vitamin C

^{*}This is only a subset of products available. Please view the catalog for a complete list.

References

Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA). The Power of OTCs to Provide Consumer Value, November 2022. https://www.chpa.org/sites/default/files/media/docs/2022-11/The-Power-of-OTCs-to-Provide-Consumer-Value.pdf. Accessed March 14, 2024.