

Health Care Reform

Preventive Drug Coverage Guidelines

November 2021

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires that eligible people get certain preventive services at no cost. The following four categories and related drugs are clinical recommendations in the ACA. They are included in the ACA as preventive services. The ACA was passed in 2010.

Breast Cancer Prevention

Prescribe for women who are at increased risk of breast cancer (5-year risk of three percent or greater) and at a low risk for adverse drug effects. This applies to women without symptoms age 35 years or older. Also, they should not have a prior diagnosis of breast cancer, ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) or lobular carcinoma in situ (LCIS). These drugs should not be used in women who have a history of thromboembolic events (deep venous thrombosis, pulmonary embolus, stroke, or transient ischemic attack).

Medications	Coverage Guideline	Age Guideline
anastrozole	1 mg daily for up to 5 years	Women, age 35 and older
exemestane	25 mg daily for up to 5 years	Women, age 35 and older
tamoxifen	20 mg daily for up to 5 years	Women, age 35 and older
raloxifene	60 mg daily for up to 5 years	Women, age 35 and older

Cardiovascular Disease Primary Prevention

To prevent cardiovascular events and mortality, prescribe low-to-moderate statins for adults without a history of cardiovascular disease when they 1) are 40 to 75 years of age, 2) have greater than or equal to one risk factor, such as dyslipidemia, diabetes, hypertension, or smoking, and 3) when the calculated 10-year risk of a cardiovascular event is greater than or equal to 10 percent.

Medications	Coverage Guideline	Age Guideline
atorvastatin	10-20 mg for moderate-intensity regimen	Adults aged 40-75 years
lovastatin	20 mg for low-intensity regimen 40 mg for moderate-intensity regimen	Adults aged 40-75 years
pravastatin	10-20 mg for low-intensity regimen 40-80 mg for moderate-intensity regimen	Adults aged 40-75 years
rosuvastatin	5-10 mg once daily for moderate-intensity regimen. Quantity Limits apply	Adults aged 40-75 years
simvastatin	10 mg for low-intensity regimen 20-40 mg for moderate-intensity regimen	Adults aged 40-75 years

Colorectal Cancer Screening

Medications	Coverage Guideline	Age Guideline
Bowel Prep: peg 3350/electrolytes solution and trilyte	Limited to 2 fills/calendar year	Covered for screening for colorectal cancer in adults between the ages of 45 and 75

Heart Attack Prevention

Medications	Coverage Guideline	Age Guideline
aspirin	Prescribe when potential benefit (due to reduced heart attacks) outweighs the potential harm (due to an increase in GI hemorrhage) in men ages 45-79 years and women ages 55-79 years	aspirin is covered for women of all ages and men between 45 and 79

HIV preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP)

Medications	Coverage Guideline	Age Guideline
Descovy	If emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil is not appropriate therapy as part of the prior authorization	None
emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate	Offer PrEP with effective antiretroviral therapy for HIV-negative people at high risk of acquiring HIV infection, which included men who have sex with men, those at risk through heterosexual contact, and people who inject drugs	None

Smoking Cessation

Medications	Coverage Guideline	Age Guideline
bupropion (Zyban equivalent) Nicotrol Nasal Spray Nicotrol Inhaler Nicotine Kits nicotine patch (Nicoderm equivalent) nicotine gum (Nicorette equivalent) nicotine lozenge (Commit equivalent) Chantix	Provide tobacco cessation intervention to those adults that use tobacco products. Includes FDA-approved tobacco cessation medications (including both prescription and over-the-counter medications)	18 years and older

Vitamins and Minerals

Medications	Coverage Guideline	Age Guideline
fluoride	Prescribe to preschool children older than 6 months of age whose primary water source is deficient in fluoride	0 months to five years
folic acid	Prescribe to women planning or capable of pregnancy as a daily supplement containing 0.4 to 0.8 mg (400 to 800 ug) of folic acid	No age guidelines
iron	Prescribe to children aged 6 to 12 months who are at increased risk of iron deficiency anemia	0 months to 1 year