

1 Diabetes Mellitus: Health Leaders Network Medication Resource

(ST) step therapy (PA) prior auth

Humana	FMOLHS Plan	UHC	BCBS	Drug Class	Medication	Clinical Points	est. HgA1c lowering (added to Metformin)	CV outcomes
1(excluding 625mg)	\$0 (excluding 625mg)	1 ex-cluding 625mg)	\$0 (excluding 625mg)	Biguanides	Metformin	1. Weight loss possible 2. GI side effects (titrate to minimize) 3. Monitor for B12 deficiency, lactic acidosis risk 4. C/I with eGFR <30	1% as monotherapy	Metformin UKPDS trial showed possible CV mortality risk reduction
1-500mg, 750mg	\$0	1	\$0		Metformin ER (Glucoophage ER generic) 500mg, 750mg			
1	\$0	1- ex-cluding the 2.5mg	\$0	Sulfonylureas	Glipizide	1.Weight gain 2. Chlorpropamide, Glyburide, & Glimepiride not recommended for elderly due to hypoglycemia risk (Beers List)	0.7 to 1%	Linagliptin compared to Glimepiride showed a noninferior risk of composite CV outcomes in pts with DM and increased CV risk (CAROLINA)
1	\$0	1	\$0		Glipizide ER			
1	\$0	2	1		Glipizide / Metformin			
2	\$0	1	\$0		Glyburide			
2	\$0	1	\$0		Glyburide / Metformin			
1	\$0	1	\$0		Glimepiride			
1	\$0	1	\$0	TZDs	Pioglitazone	1. Weight gain 2. Risk of edema or heart failure (Beers List) 3. Risk of bone fracture	0.8 to 0.9%	Pioglitazone may reduce the risk of CV mortality, however the impact on an increased risk of heart failure needs to be considered
					Avandia			
3	\$0	2	3		Pioglitazone / Metformin			
		4			ActoPlus Met XR			
	\$0		1		Pioglit./Glimepiride			
3	\$0 (PA)	(ST)	2	DPP-4 Inhibitors	Januvia	1.Weight neutral 2. Possible acute pancreatitis 3. Low hypoglycemic risk when used as monotherapy 4. No renal adjustment necessary for Tradjenta 5. Not recommended for use with GLP-1r agonist	0.5 to 0.7%	Alogliptin (Nesina) & Saxagliptin (Onglyza) are associated with an increased risk of HF hospitalizations, Sitagliptin (Januvia) and Linagliptin (Tradjenta) are CV neutral (TECOS & CARMELINA trials), Linagliptin compared to Glimepiride showed a noninferior risk of composite CV outcomes in pts with DM and increased CV risk (CAROLINA)
3	\$0(PA)	(ST)	2		Janumet			
3	\$0(PA)	(ST)	2		Janumet XR			
3	\$0 (PA)	2			Saxagliptin			
	\$0 (PA)	2			Saxagliptin/Metformin XR			
		2	3(PA)		Alogliptin Nesina			
					Alogliptin/Pioglit. Oseni			
		2			Alogliptin / Metformin Kazano			
3		2	2		Tradjenta			
3		2	2		Jentadueto			
3		2	2		Jentadueto XR			

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				SGLT-2 Inhibitors	Brenzavvy (\$50)	1. Weight loss possible 2. May increase the risk of mycotic genital infections, including Fournier's gangrene 3. Risk of DKA, including euglycemic DKA 4. Standards of Diabetes Care 2023 states to use SGLT2i in people with an eGFR ≥ 20 ml/min per 1.73m^2 to reduce CKD progression 5. Removal of boxed warning with Invokana increasing the risk of amputation (toe / metatarsal), Aug 2020	0.4% to 0.7%	Jardiance is FDA approved for reducing CV mortality in DM pts with established CV disease, no decrease in the risk of nonfatal MI or stroke was found (EMPEROR-OUTCOME). Approved for risk reduction of CV mortality plus hospitalization for HFrEF (EMPEROR-Reduced). When added to usual therapy in pts with class II, III, or IV HFpEF, may reduce composite endpoint of CV death or HF-related hospitalizations (EMPEROR-Preserved) Inkovana is FDA approved for reducing combined endpoints CV mortality, nonfatal MI, or nonfatal stroke (CANVAS) in high-risk pts with established CV disease, and approved for risk reduction of combined endpoints ESRD, doubling SCr, CV death, and hospitalization for HF in pts with DM and diabetic nephropathy (urine albumin >300mg/day) (CRE-DENCE) Farxiga had neutral effects on combined endpoints CV mortality, MI or ischemic stroke but may reduce HF hospitalizations (DECLARE-TIMI58); Farxiga is FDA approved to reduce the risk of hospitalization for HF (reduced or preserved) in pts with DM or without DM and CV disease or multiple CV risks (DAPA-HF & DELIVER), Farxiga when added to ACE or ARB therapy in CKD pts may reduce the decline in eGFR of at least 50% and delay the progression to ESRD (DAPA-CKD), Steglatro has demonstrated noninferiority on the primary endpoint of major CV events (MACE) in DM pts with established CV disease (VERTIS CV)
3		(ST)			Invokana (\$700)			
3		(ST)			Invokamet (>\$700)			
3		(ST)			Invokamet XR (>\$700)			
			2		Dapagliflozin (>\$650)			
			2		Fargixa			
					Dapagliflozin/Metformin ER (>\$650)			
					Xigduo XR			
					Qtern (>\$675)			
3	\$0(PA)	2	2		Jardiance (>\$730)			
3	\$0(PA)	2	2		Synjardy (>\$730)			
3	\$0(PA)	2	2		Synjardy XR (>\$730)			
3	\$0(PA)	2	2		Trijardy XR (>\$730)			
3	\$0(PA)	2(ST)	2		Glyxambi (>\$730)			
	\$0 (PA)	(ST)			Steglatro (>\$425)			
	\$0(PA)				Segluromet (>\$425)			
					Steglujan (>\$660)			
3	\$0	2	1	Meglitinides	Nateglinide	1. Weight gain 2. Hypoglycemia possible 3. Consider if allergy to sulfa 4. Consider if late postprandial hypoglycemia or if an erratic meal schedule	0.7% to 1.1%	CV outcomes unknown
3	\$0	2	\$0		Repaglinide			
					Repaglinide/ Metformin			

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2	\$0	1	\$0	Alpha Gluc. Inhibitors	Acarbose	1. Weight neutral 2. GI side effects 3. Elevated serum transaminases / use caution in hepatic impairment	~ 0.7%	CV outcomes unknown
	\$0		1		Miglitol			
			3	Long Acting Insulins	Basaglar	1. Weight gain possible 2. Higher hypoglycemic risk 3. Toujeo & Tresiba may have lower hypoglycemic risk when used with orals	~ 1%	CV neutral effects
\$35		1	2		Lantus			
		(PA)	2		Levemir			
	\$0				Semglee			
\$35	\$0	2	2		Toujeo			
\$35	\$0		2		Tresiba			
			\$0	Intermediate Acting Insulin	Novolin N ReliOn vial, Pen <i>Cash price \$25, \$43</i>	1. Weight gain possible 2. Higher hypoglycemic risk	~ 1%	CV neutral effects
\$35		(ST)	2		Novolin N			
\$35	\$0	1-vial 2-pen			Humulin N			
			\$0	Regular & Rapid acting Insulins	Novolin R ReliOn vial, Pen <i>Cash price \$25, \$43</i>	1. Weight gain possible 2. Higher hypoglycemic risk	~ 1%	CV neutral effects
\$35		(ST)	2		Novolin R			
5 (U-500)	\$0	1-vial 2-pen	2 (U-500 only)		Humulin R			
			\$0		Novolin 70/30 ReliOn vial & flexpen <i>(Walmart Cash price per each \$25)</i>			
\$35		(ST)	2		Novolin 70/30			
\$35	\$0	1-vial 2-pen			Humulin 70/30			
\$35	\$0	1-vial 2-pen			Lyumjev			
\$35		(ST)	2		Novolog			
		(ST) (ST)	\$0		Novolog ReliOn vial & Pen (\$82 & \$85) Insulin aspart			

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\$35		(ST)	2		Novolog Mix 70/30 Novolog ReliOn Mix 70/30 (\$82 & \$85) Insulin aspart protamine/aspart			
		(ST) (ST)	\$0		Fiasp			
\$35	\$0	1-vial 2-Pen	3(PA)		Humalog			
\$35	\$0	1-vial 2-pen			Insulin lispro			
\$35	\$0	1-vial 2-pen	3(PA)		Humalog 50/50			
\$35	\$0	1-vial 2-Pen	3(PA)		Humalog 75/25			
		2-vial			Insulin lispro protamine / lispro 75/25			
					Admelog			
			3(PA)		Apidra			
		(PA)			Afrezza			
		4(ST)		GLP-1r agonists & Combos	Adlyxin (>\$800)	1. Weight loss possible 2. GI effects, do not use if severe GI disease 3. Risk of gallbladder disease or pancreatitis (acute and chronic) 4. C/I in patient or family history of medullary thyroid cancer or MEN2	~ 1-2%	Victoza is FDA approved for reducing the combined endpoints of CV death, MI, or stroke in DM pts with CV disease (LEADER) Bydureon was associated with a reduction in all-cause mortality in DM pts with or without CV disease (EXSCEL) Mounjaro is awaiting SURPASS CVOT trial results, SURPASS-4 post-hoc analysis showed a lower occurrence of the kidney composite (eGFR decline, ESRD, death due to kidney failure, & new onset macroalbuminuria) verses insulin glargine
\$35	\$0	2	2		Soliqua (>\$1,000)			
	\$0(PA)	2 (PA)			Byetta (>\$1,000)			
4	\$0(PA)	2 (PA)			Bydureon BCise (>\$1,000)			
3	\$0(PA)	2(PA)	2(PA)		Mounjaro (<\$1,300)			
3	\$0(PA)	2 (PA)	2(PA)		Ozempic (>\$1,500)			
3	\$0(PA)	2 (PA)	2(PA)		Rybelsus (>\$1,150)			
3	\$0(PA)	2 (PA)	2(PA)		Trulicity (>\$1,150)			
3		2(PA)- 2pk 3(PA)- 3pk			Liraglutide (>\$625- 2pk,>\$950 3pk)			

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\$35			2		Xultophy (>\$1,550)	5. Ozempic – monitor for worsening diabetic retinopathy		<p><u>Adlyxin</u> was found to have neutral effects on CV outcomes in DM pts with recent ASC (ELIXA)</p> <p><u>Ozempic</u> is FDA approved for the combined endpoints of CV mortality, nonfatal MI, or non-fatal stroke in DM pts with CV disease (SUSTAIN-6), In CV patients without DM, CV outcomes composite was reduced over 39.8 months (SELECT trial)</p> <p><u>Rybelsus</u> had neural effects on CV outcomes in pts with T2DM and CV disease, CKD, or CV risk factors (PIONEER 6 trial), pts with T2DM and CV disease and/or CKD, MACE reduction was reported in the SOUL trial</p> <p><u>Trulicity</u> is FDA approved for reducing the combined endpoints of CV death, MI, or stroke in DM patients with CV disease or at high CV risk (REWIND)</p>

References:

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- 3.) BCBS 2025 4-Tier covered Drugs, online [PDF file], accessed 12/04/24, [2025 Closed 4 Tier HCR](#)
- 4.) United Healthcare Prescription Drug List; online [PDF file], accessed 12/06/24, [Prescription Drug List - UnitedHealthcare Commercial Plans - Effective January 1, 2025](#)
- 5.) Expressscripts.com, accessed by S.Tripode on 12/04/24
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