

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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 1 (excluding 625mg) | \$0 (excluding 625mg) | 1 (excluding 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 (Glucophage ER generic) 500mg, 750mg | | | | 1 | \$0 | 1- excluding 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 |
| 1 | \$0 | 1- excluding 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

3 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 |
|-----------|-------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------|
| 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) (ST) (ST) | 2 \$0 | | Novolog <i>Novolog ReliOn vial & Pen (\$82 & \$85)</i> Insulin aspart | | | |

4 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 |
|--------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------|---|--|--|--|--|
| \$35 | | (ST) | 2 | | Novolog Mix 70/30 Novolog ReliOn Mix 70/30 (\$82 & \$85) Insulin aspart protamine/aspart | | | |
| | | (ST) (ST) | \$0 | | Fiasp | | | |
| \$35 | | | 2 | | Humalog | | | |
| \$35 | \$0 | 1-vial 2-Pen | 3(PA) | | 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) | | | | |

(ST) step therapy (PA) prior auth

| Humana | FMOLHS Plan | UHC | BCBS | Drug Class | Medication | Clinical Points | est. HgA1c lowering (added to Metformin) | CV outcomes |
|--------|-------------|-----|------|------------|---------------------|---|--|---|
| \$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> |

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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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