



ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Policy #:	222	
Subject:	Retail-90, Mail Order, and Specialty Pharmacy Services	
Section:	Pharmacy	
Initial Effective Date:	11/1/2021	
Revision Effective Date(s):	07/22, 7/23	
Review Effective Date(s):		
Responsible Parties:	Health Plan Pharmacist	
Responsible Department(s):	P&T Committee, Clinical Operations	
Regulatory References:	COMAR: 10.67.06.04(F-I)	
Approved:	Carol Attia, MBA, BSN, RN Vice President, Clinical Care and Quality	Karyn Wills, MD Chief Medical Officer

Purpose: To define the MedStar Family Choice (MFC) Policy for Coverage of Mail Order Prescriptions and Specialty Medications.

Scope: MedStar Family Choice Maryland members.

Procedure:

Retail-90 and Mail Order Pharmacy

MedStar Family Choice members may obtain 90-day supplies of certain chronic medications from any in-network retail pharmacy, through the CVS Caremark Mail Order Pharmacy, or through any in-network specialty pharmacy. Members are never required to use Mail Order Pharmacy Services for any reason.

Medications available for 90-day supply are selected by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee because they are indicated for chronic conditions and have favorable safety profiles. An updated list of medications available for 90-day supply is maintained on the medstarfamilychoice.com website in Provider and Member sections. This list is reviewed annually by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee. Additionally, as the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee adds new medications to the formulary, a decision is also made regarding inclusion on the 90-day supply list, again based on indication for a chronic condition and favorable safety profiles.

Specialty Pharmacy

According to COMAR 10.67.06.04H, a “specialty drug” is a prescription drug that:

- Is prescribed for an individual with a complex, chronic or rare medical condition.
- Costs \$600 or more for up to a 30-day supply.
- Is not typically stocked at retail pharmacies; and
- Requires a difficult or unusual process of delivery to the patient in the preparation, handling storage, inventory, or distribution of the drug; or
- Requires enhanced patient education, management, or support, beyond those required for traditional dispensing, before or after administration of the drug.

Some specialty drugs are only available from specialty pharmacies. Other specialty drugs are available at both specialty and retail pharmacies. MedStar Family Choice does not restrict the type of pharmacy members must use for specialty medications as long as members use an in-network pharmacy (retail or specialty). Specialty medications can be filled at any in-network pharmacy (retail or specialty) that stocks the requested medicine.

Summary of Changes:	07/23: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responsible Parties changed to Health Plan Pharmacist• Updated Approved by to: Dr Wills and C. Attia• Updated COMAR reference for definition of specialty drug 07/22 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responsible Parties changed to Dr. Gregory Dohmeier• Removed from Responsible Parties: Dr. Gerry and Dr. Toye 11/21: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New policy.
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