

Market Applicability							
Market	DC	GA	KY	MD	NJ	NY	WA
Applicable	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

## Non-Preferred Short-Acting Beta-2 Agonist (SABA) Agents Step Therapy

Override(s)	Approval Duration
Prior Authorization	1 year

Medications	Comment	Quantity Limit
Albuterol HFA	Preferred	May be subject to quantity limit
Levalbuterol tartrate HFA	Non-Preferred	
ProAir Digihaler		
ProAir HFA		
ProAir Respiclick		
Proventil HFA		
Ventolin HFA		
Xopenex HFA		

### **APPROVAL CRITERIA**

Requests for a non-preferred short-acting beta-2 agonist (SABA) agent may be approved if the following criteria are met:

- I. Individual has had a trial (medication samples/coupons/discount cards are excluded from consideration as a trial) and inadequate response or intolerance to one preferred agent;

Preferred agents: albuterol HFA.

#### **OR**

- II. ProAir Digihaler, ProAir RespiClick (Dry Powder Inhalers [DPI<sup>^</sup>] SABA agent) may be approved for individuals who lack effective hand-breath coordination.

Market Applicability							
Market	DC	GA	KY	MD	NJ	NY	WA
Applicable	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

**^Note:**

MDI SABA agents: Albuterol sulfate HFA, Levalbuterol tartrate HFA, ProAir HFA, Proventil HFA, Ventolin HFA, Xopenex HFA.

DPI SABA agent: ProAir Digihaler, ProAir RespiClick.

**Key References:**

1. DailyMed. Package inserts. U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health website. <http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/about.cfm>. Accessed: January 7, 2020.
2. DrugPoints® System [electronic version]. Truven Health Analytics, Greenwood Village, CO. Updated periodically.
3. Fanta CH. An overview of asthma management. Last updated: October 5, 2017. In: UpToDate, Post TW (Ed), UpToDate, Waltham, MA. Accessed: January 16, 2020.
4. Fanta CH. Treatment of intermittent and mild persistent asthma in adolescents and adults. Last updated: October 16, 2019. In: UpToDate, Post TW (Ed), UpToDate, Waltham, MA. Accessed: January 16, 2020.
5. Global Initiative for Asthma. Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention, 2019. Available from: <http://ginasthma.org/gina-reports/>. Accessed on: January 8, 2020.
6. Lexi-Comp ONLINE™ with AHFS™, Hudson, Ohio: Lexi-Comp, Inc.; 2020; Updated periodically.

This policy does not apply to health plans or member categories that do not have pharmacy benefits, nor does it apply to Medicare. Note that market specific restrictions or transition-of-care benefit limitations may apply.