

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

Non-Preferred Angiotensin Receptor Blocker (ARB) Agents Step Therapy

Override(s)	Approval Duration
Prior Authorization Quantity Limit	1 year

Medications	Comments
Atacand (candesartan cilexetil) - brand Avapro (irbesartan) - brand Benicar (olmesartan medoxomil) – brand and generic Cozaar (losartan potassium) - brand Diovan (valsartan) - brand Edarbi (azilsartan medoxomil) eprosartan Micardis (telmisartan) - brand and generic	Non-Preferred
candesartan irbesartan losartan valsartan	Preferred

APPROVAL CRITERIA

Requests for a non-preferred ARB agent may be approved if the following criteria are met:

- I. Individual has been receiving and is maintained on a stable dose of the requested non-preferred agent;

OR

- II. Individual has had a trial (medication samples/coupons/discount cards are excluded from consideration as a trial) and inadequate response or intolerance of two (2) preferred agents;

Preferred agents: candesartan, irbesartan, losartan, valsartan

Non-preferred agents: Atacand, Avapro, olmesartan (Benicar), Cozaar, Diovan, Edarbi, eprosartan, telmisartan (Micardis)

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OR

- III. The preferred agents are not FDA-approved for the prescribed indication and the requested non-preferred agent is.

State Specific Mandates		
State name	Date effective	Mandate details (including specific bill if applicable)
N/A	N/A	N/A

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: April 12, 2019.
2. Drug Facts and Comparisons. Facts and Comparisons [database online]. St. Louis, MO: Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc; 2019. Updated periodically.
3. DrugPoints® System [electronic version]. Truven Health Analytics, Greenwood Village, CO. 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.