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# 2003 Preferred Drug List Consumer Reference Guide



The Preferred Drug List identifies those Prescription Drug Products which are preferred by us for dispensing to Covered Persons when appropriate. This list is subject to our periodic (at least quarterly) review and modification.

## Preferred Drug List Consumer Reference Guide

### **Pharmacy customer**

UnitedHealthcare recognizes that choice is important to you. This booklet is a tool to assist you and your physician in selecting cost-effective medications for your care. We are committed to providing you with access to the medications you need at an acceptable cost. This booklet outlines your prescription drug benefit and contains an abbreviated version of the UnitedHealthcare Preferred Drug List (PDL) for 2003. The abbreviated PDL includes commonly prescribed generic and brand-name medications.

As you talk with your physician, you can use this information to help maximize your prescription drug program. Please keep in mind that not all drugs on the PDL may be covered under your pharmacy benefit plan. Also note that not all preferred drugs are listed in this booklet. Benefit coverage is defined in your pharmacy rider or other benefit document. For a complete listing of preferred drugs, please visit our web site at [www.myuhc.com/pharmacy](http://www.myuhc.com/pharmacy).

Your plan encourages the use of generic and preferred brand-name drugs, as described below.

### **Generic drugs**

Most generic drugs are included on the PDL. A generic drug is defined as a prescription drug product that: (1) is chemically equivalent to a Brand-name drug; or (2) that we identify as a generic product. The classification of a prescription drug product as a generic is determined by us and not by the manufacturer or pharmacy. We classify a prescription drug product as a generic based on available data resources, such as First DataBank, that classify drugs as either brand or generic based on a number of factors. You should know that all products identified as a "generic" by the manufacturer, pharmacy or your physician may not be classified as a generic by us. Also, the classification of a drug as brand or generic may change from time to time.

### **Preferred brand-name drugs**

There are many brand-name drugs on the UnitedHealthcare PDL. Our National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee reviews new and existing medications at least quarterly and recommends changes to be sure the PDL meets your needs and those of your physician. Throughout the year, drugs may be added or removed from the PDL without notice, unless otherwise restricted by law. You can access the most recent version of the PDL at [www.myuhc.com/pharmacy](http://www.myuhc.com/pharmacy).

### **Non-preferred brand-name drugs**

These brand-name drugs generally cost you the most.

If you are currently taking a non-preferred brand-name drug, ask your doctor if changing to a preferred brand-name or generic drug might be appropriate.

### **Other important information**

Check the PDL for drugs noted with N or QL. The definitions for these symbols are listed on each page of the listed drugs. In addition, for a small number of drugs, we request that you use higher strength tablets that are scored and break the tablets in half. If for any reason you, your pharmacist, or your physician want you to have the lower strength tablet, please call or have your physician call the 1-800 number on your ID card to request the lower strength.

## key things to remember

Your doctor can help you save money by prescribing generic and preferred drugs. Here are some practical suggestions for getting the most out of your pharmacy benefit.

- 1 Bring this booklet with you to every doctor visit.
- 2 Ask your doctor to refer to the PDL when prescribing medications. It is a tool that helps guide you and your doctor in choosing medications that allow the most effective use of your prescription drug benefit.
- 3 Inquire about the availability of a generic drug. Generics have the same therapeutic effects as their brand-name equivalents but are less expensive. As a result, nearly all generic drugs are available to you for the lowest payment.
- 4 Ask your doctor if there is an over-the-counter drug available to treat your condition.
- 5 Always refer to your benefit plan materials to determine your coverage for medications and your copayment. Some drugs listed may not be covered under your benefits.
- 6 If you would like to view a comprehensive version of the PDL, please visit us on-line at [www.myuhc.com/pharmacy](http://www.myuhc.com/pharmacy).
- 7 If you have questions about your prescription drug benefit, please call the customer service telephone number on your ID card. Representatives are available to serve you 24 hours a day, except Thanksgiving and Christmas.

You and your physician always make the decisions regarding your treatment.

This booklet lists the most commonly prescribed drugs for certain conditions in two ways. The first list is organized by treatment category (e.g., antibiotics); the second list is organized alphabetically by drug name. When a generic drug is available for a brand-name drug, this booklet lists the generic drug only.

# 2003 Consumer Preferred Drug List Reference Guide

*By Therapeutic Class*

## Infection Medications

### Antibiotics

- + amoxicillin
- + ampicillin
  - Augmentin, ES, XR
  - Biaxin<sup>QL</sup>, XL<sup>QL</sup>
- + cefaclor
- + cefadroxil
  - Cefzil
- + cephalexin
- + cephadrine
  - Cipro<sup>QL</sup>
  - Cleocin 75, 100mg
- + clindamycin
- + dicloxacillin
- + doxycycline
- + erythromycin
- + erythromycin w/sulfisoxazole
  - Floxin<sup>QL</sup>
  - Gantrisin
  - Levaquin<sup>QL</sup>
  - Macrobid
  - Macrodantin 25mg
- + metronidazole
- + minocycline
- + nitrofurantoin macrocrystal 50mg, 100 mg
- + penicillin VK
  - Priloprim 200mg
- + tetracycline
- + trimethoprim
- + trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole
  - Velosef 500mg
  - Zithromax<sup>QL</sup>

## Central Nervous System

### Insomnia

- + flurazepam
- + temazepam
- + trazodone
- + triazolam

### ADHD/ Stimulants

- Adderall XR<sup>QL</sup>
- + dextroamphetamine
- + dextroamphetamine/amphetamine
- + methylphenidate, SR

### Anxiety

- + alprazolam
- + buspirone
- + diazepam
- + lorazepam

### Depression

- + amitriptyline
- + bupropion<sup>QL</sup>
  - Celexa<sup>QL</sup> (20 & 40mg tabs scored for 1/2 tab use)
- + desipramine
- + doxepin
  - Effexor<sup>QL</sup>, XR<sup>QL</sup>
- + fluoxetine<sup>QL</sup>
- + imipramine
- + nortriptyline
  - Paxil<sup>QL</sup> (20mg tab scored for 1/2 tab use)
  - Paxil CR<sup>QL</sup>
  - Remeron SolTab<sup>QL</sup>
  - Serzone<sup>QL</sup>
  - Surmontil
- + trazodone
  - Wellbutrin SR<sup>QL, N</sup>
  - Zoloft<sup>QL</sup> (50 & 100mg tabs scored for 1/2 tab use)

### Seizures

- + clonazepam
- Depakote, ER
- Dilantin
- Neurontin
- Tegretol, XR
- Topamax

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*By Therapeutic Class*

### Central Nervous System – (continued)

#### **Migraine**

Axert<sup>QL</sup>  
Frova<sup>QL</sup>  
Imitrex<sup>QL</sup>  
Maxalt<sup>QL</sup>  
Zomig<sup>QL</sup>

### Pain Medications

#### **Non-narcotic Pain Medications**

+ diclofenac sodium  
+ etodolac  
+ ibuprofen  
+ indomethacin  
+ ketoprofen  
+ nabumetone  
+ naproxen  
+ oxaprozin

#### **Other**

+ propoxyphene w/acetaminophen

### Heart Medications

#### **Blood Pressure and Heart Failure**

Accupril  
Altace  
+ atenolol  
Benicar<sup>QL</sup>  
+ bisoprolol  
+ bisoprolol w/hydrochlorothiazide  
+ captopril  
+ captopril with hydrochlorothiazide  
Cardizem CD 360mg  
Cardizem LA  
Catapres-TTS<sup>QL</sup>  
+ clonidine  
Coreg  
Cozaar<sup>QL</sup>  
+ diltiazem long-acting  
Diovan<sup>QL</sup>, HCT<sup>QL</sup>  
+ doxazosin  
+ enalapril  
Hyzaar<sup>QL</sup>  
labetolol

### Heart Medications – (continued)

#### **Blood Pressure and Heart Failure**

Lanoxin  
+ lisinopril  
+ lisinopril with hydrochlorothiazide  
+ methyldopa  
+ metoprolol  
+ nifedipine extended-release  
Norvasc  
+ propranolol  
+ terazosin  
Toprol XL  
+ verapamil long-acting

#### **Cholesterol**

+ cholestyramine  
+ gemfibrozil  
Lipitor<sup>QL</sup>  
+ lovastatin<sup>QL</sup>  
Niaspan  
Pravachol<sup>QL</sup>  
Questran Light  
Tricor  
WelChol  
Zocor<sup>QL</sup>

### Ear, Nose and Throat Medications

#### **Nose**

Beconase<sup>QL</sup> AQ<sup>QL</sup>  
Flonase<sup>QL</sup>  
Nasonex<sup>QL</sup>  
Rhinocort<sup>QL</sup>

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*By Therapeutic Class*

## Endocrine Medications

### **Diabetes, Insulin**

Humalog  
Humulin  
Iletin  
Lantus  
Novolin  
Novolog  
Novolog Mix  
Velosulin

### **Diabetes, Oral Medications**

Actos<sup>QL</sup>  
Amaryl  
Avandia<sup>QL</sup>  
+ glipizide  
Glucophage XR  
Glucotrol XL  
Glucovance  
+ glyburide  
+ metformin  
Prandin<sup>QL</sup>  
Precose

### **Diabetes, Supplies**

Accu-Chek<sup>DS</sup>  
Chemstrip BG<sup>DS</sup>  
One Touch<sup>DS</sup>  
Profile<sup>DS</sup>  
Surestep<sup>DS</sup>  
Tracer<sup>DS</sup>

### **Thyroid**

Synthroid

## Stomach and Digestive System Medications

### **Ulcer and Reflux/Heartburn**

+ cimetidine  
+ famotidine  
Nexium<sup>QL</sup>  
Prilosec<sup>QL</sup>  
+ ranitidine

## Bone, Muscle and Joint Medications

### **Osteoporosis**

Actonel<sup>QL</sup>  
Actonel Weekly<sup>QL</sup> (35mg)  
Evista  
Fosamax<sup>QL</sup>  
Miacalcin Nasal<sup>QL</sup>

## Women's Health

### **Contraceptives**

Alesse  
Cyclessa  
Estrostep FE  
Loestrin, FE  
Lo Ovral  
Micronor  
Mircette  
Modicon  
Nuva Ring  
Ortho-Cyclen  
Ortho-Evra  
Ortho-Novum  
Ortho-Cept  
Ortho Tri-Cyclen  
Ovrette  
Tri-Cyclen Lo  
Triphasil  
Yasmin

### **Menopause**

Climara<sup>QL</sup>  
Esclim<sup>QL</sup>  
Estraderm<sup>QL</sup>  
Estratest, HS  
Estring<sup>QL</sup>  
+ estropipate  
Femhrt  
+ medroxyprogesterone  
Ortho-Prefest  
Premarin  
Premphase  
Prempro  
Prometrium  
Vivelle<sup>QL</sup>, Dot<sup>QL</sup>

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### *By Therapeutic Class*

#### **Eye Medications**

##### **Allergy**

Alocril  
Alomide  
Patanol

#### **Respiratory Tract Medications**

##### **Asthma**

Advair Diskus<sup>QL</sup>  
+ albuterol<sup>QL</sup>  
Alupent Inhaler<sup>QL</sup>  
Atrovent  
Azmacort<sup>QL</sup>  
Flovent<sup>QL</sup>  
Foradil  
Intal Inhaler<sup>QL</sup>  
Proventil Repetabs  
Pulmicort Turbuhaler<sup>QL</sup>, Respules<sup>QL</sup>  
Serevent<sup>QL</sup>  
Singular<sup>QL</sup>  
Tilade<sup>QL</sup>  
Vanceril<sup>QL</sup>, DS<sup>QL</sup>

##### **Allergy**

Astelin<sup>QL</sup>  
Clarinet<sup>QL</sup>  
Zyrtec<sup>QL</sup>  
Zyrtec D<sup>QL</sup>

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### *Commonly Prescribed Drugs*

#### A - E

Accu-Chek <sup>DS</sup>	+ cefadroxil
Accupril	Cefzil
Actonel <sup>QL</sup>	Celexa <sup>QL</sup> (20 & 40mg tabs scored for 1/2 tab use)
Actonel Weekly <sup>QL</sup> 35mg	+ cephalexin
Actos <sup>QL</sup>	+ cephradine
Adderall XR <sup>QL</sup>	Chemstrip BG <sup>DS</sup>
Advair Diskus <sup>QL</sup>	+ cholestyramine
+ albuterol <sup>QL</sup>	+ cimetidine
Alesse	Cipro <sup>QL</sup>
Alocril	Cleocin 75, 100mg
Alomide	Clarinet <sup>QL</sup>
+ alprazolam	Climara <sup>QL</sup>
Altace	+ clindamycin
Alupent Inhaler <sup>QL</sup>	+ clonazepam
Amaryl	+ clonidine
+ amitriptyline	Coreg
+ amoxicillin	Cozaar <sup>QL</sup>
+ ampicillin	Cyclessa
Astelina <sup>QL</sup>	Depakote, ER
+ atenolol	+ desipramine
Atrovent	+ dextroamphetamine
Augmentin, ES, XR	+ dextroamphetamine/amphetamine
Avandia <sup>QL</sup>	+ diazepam
Axert <sup>QL</sup>	+ diclofenac sodium
Azmacort <sup>QL</sup>	+ dicloxacillin
Beconase <sup>QL</sup> AQ <sup>QL</sup>	Dilantin
Benicar <sup>QL</sup>	+ diltiazem long-acting
Biaxin <sup>QL</sup> , XL <sup>QL</sup>	Diovan <sup>QL</sup> , HCT <sup>QL</sup>
+ bisoprolol	+ doxazosin
+ bisoprolol w/hydrochlorothiazide	+ doxepin
+ bupropion <sup>QL</sup>	+ doxycycline
+ bupirone	Effexor <sup>QL</sup> , XR <sup>QL</sup>
+ captopril	+ enalapril
+ captopril with hydrochlorothiazide	+ erythromycin
Cardizem CD 360 mg	+ erythromycin w/sulfisoxazole
Cardizem LA	Esclim <sup>QL</sup>
Catapres-TTS <sup>QL</sup>	Estraderm <sup>QL</sup>
+ cefaclor	

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### *Commonly Prescribed Drugs*

#### E-O

Estratest, HS	+lisinopril
Estring <sup>QL</sup>	+ lisinopril with hydrochlorothiazide
+ estropipate	Lo Ovral
Estrostep FE	Loestrin, FE
+ etodolac	+ lorazepam
Evista	+ lovastatin <sup>QL</sup>
+ famotidine	Macrobid
Femhrt	Macrodantin 25 mg
Flonase <sup>QL</sup>	Maxalt <sup>QL</sup>
Flovent <sup>QL</sup>	+ medroxyprogesterone
Floxin <sup>QL</sup>	+ metformin
+ fluoxetine <sup>QL</sup>	+ methylidopa
+ flurazepam	+ methylphenidate, SR
Foradil	+ metoprolol
Fosamax <sup>QL</sup>	+ metronidazole
Frova <sup>QL</sup>	Miacalcin Nasal <sup>QL</sup>
Gantrisin	Micronor
+ gemfibrozil	+ minocycline
+ glipizide	Mircette
Glucophage XR	Modicon
Glucotrol XL	+ nabumetone
Glucovance	+ naproxen
+ glyburide	Nasonex <sup>QL</sup>
Humalog	Neurontin
Humulin	Nexium <sup>QL</sup>
Hyzaar <sup>QL</sup>	Niaspan
+ ibuprofen	+ nifedipine extended-release
Iletin	+ nitrofurantoin macrocrystal 50mg, 100 mg
+ imipramine	+ nortriptyline
Imitrex <sup>QL</sup>	Norvasc
+ indomethacin	Novolin
Intal Inhaler <sup>QL</sup>	Novolog
+ ketoprofen	Novolog Mix
labetolol	Nuva Ring
Lanoxin	One Touch <sup>DS</sup>
Lantus	Ortho Tri-Cyclen
Levaquin <sup>QL</sup>	Ortho-Cept
Lipitor <sup>QL</sup>	Ortho-Cyclen

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### *Commonly Prescribed Drugs*

#### O-Z

Ortho-Evra	Topamax
Ortho-Novum	Toprol XL
Ortho-Prefest	Tracer <sup>DS</sup>
Ovrette	+ trazodone
+ oxaprozin	+ triazolam
Patanol	Tri-Cyclen Lo
Paxil <sup>QL</sup> (20mg tab scored for 1/2 tab use)	Tricor
Paxil CR <sup>QL</sup>	+ trimethoprim
+ penicillin VK	+ trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole
Prandin <sup>QL</sup>	Triphasil
Pravachol <sup>QL</sup>	Vanceril <sup>QL</sup> , DS <sup>QL</sup>
Precose	Velosef 500mg
Premarin	Velosulin
Premphase	+ verapamil long-acting
Prempo	Vivelle <sup>QL</sup> , Dot <sup>QL</sup>
Priloprim 200mg	WelChol
Prilosec <sup>QL</sup>	Wellbutrin SR <sup>QL, N</sup>
Profile <sup>DS</sup>	Yasmin
Prometrium	Zithromax <sup>QL</sup>
+ propoxyphene w/acetaminophen	Zocor <sup>QL</sup>
+ propranolol	Zolof <sup>QL</sup> (50 & 100mg tabs scored for 1/2 tab use)
Proventil Repetabs	Zomig <sup>QL</sup>
Pulmicort Turbuhaler <sup>QL</sup> , Respules <sup>QL</sup>	Zyrtec <sup>QL</sup>
Questran Light	Zyrtec D <sup>QL</sup>
+ ranitidine	
Remeron SolTab <sup>QL</sup>	
Rhinocort <sup>QL</sup>	
Serevent <sup>QL</sup>	
Serzone <sup>QL</sup>	
Singular <sup>QL</sup>	
Surestep <sup>QL</sup>	
Surmontil	
Synthroid	
Tegretol, XR	
+ temazepam	
+ terazosin	
+ tetracycline	
Tilade <sup>QL</sup>	

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### **Getting more information**

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This site is updated regularly to reflect any changes made by the National Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee.

You can request a copy of the Preferred Drug List and have it mailed directly to you by calling the Customer Service number on your ID card.

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