

## Commercial Claim Payment Bulletin - Pharmacy Benefit

**Title:** Cosmetic Policy  
**Policy #:** Rx.04.9

**Application of pharmacy policy is determined by benefits and contracts. Benefits may vary based on product line, group, or contract. Some medications may be subject to precertification, age, quantity, or formulary restrictions (ie limits on non-preferred drugs). Individual member benefits must be verified.**

**This pharmacy policy document describes the status of pharmaceutical information and/or technology at the time the document was developed. Since that time, new information relating to drug efficacy, interactions, contraindications, dosage, administration routes, safety, or FDA approval may have changed. This Pharmacy Policy will be regularly updated as scientific and medical literature becomes available. This information may include new FDA-approved indications, withdrawals, or other FDA alerts. This type of information is relevant not only when considering whether this policy should be updated, but also when applying it to current requests for coverage.**

**Members are advised to use participating pharmacies in order to receive the highest level of benefits.**

**Intent:**

The intent of this policy is to communicate the coverage of cosmetic drugs under the member's prescription drug benefit.

**Description:**

A cosmetic drug is intended to be used for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering the appearance of human body from which no significant improvement in physiologic function can be expected.

**Policy:**

**Coverage is subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations of the member's contract.**

Cosmetic drugs, or drugs prescribed for cosmetic purposes, are not covered under the pharmacy benefit.

Cosmetic drugs or drugs prescribed for cosmetic purposes are:

- Used for other than the treatment of illness, injuries, congenital birth defect or restoration of physiological function; and
- Used for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness or altering the appearance of any part of the human body

Examples of drugs prescribed for cosmetic use include, but are not limited to:

Brand Name	Generic Name	FDA Indication
Egrifta	Tesamorelin	Reduction of excess abdominal fat in HIV-infected patients with lipodystrophy.
Renova, Refissa (branded product only)	Tretinoin	Adjunctive agent for use in the mitigation (palliation) of fine wrinkles, mottled hyperpigmentation, and tactile roughness of facial skin in patients who do not achieve such palliation using comprehensive skin care and sun avoidance programs alone
Propecia 1mg	Finasteride 1mg	Male pattern alopecia
Multiple (e.g. Lustra)	Hydroquinone	Discoloration of skin; Hyperpigmentation of skin
Latisse 0.03% solution	Bimatoprost	Hypotrichosis of the eyelashes
Vaniqa 13.9% cream	Eflornithine	Reduction of unwanted facial hair in women
Multiple (e.g. Rogaine)	Minoxidil topical	Male pattern alopecia; hair regrowth in women
Avage	Tazarotene	Adjunctive agent for use in the mitigation (palliation) of fine wrinkles, mottled hyperpigmentation, and tactile roughness of facial skin in patients who do not achieve such palliation using comprehensive skin care and sun avoidance programs alone

**References:**

None

**Cross References:**

Applicable Age Edits Rx.01.2  
Off-Label Use Rx.01.33  
Prior Authorization Requirements for Select Drugs Rx.01.202  
Cosmetic Procedure medical policy 12.01.03a

**Policy Version Number:** 2.00  
**Policy Effective Date:** April 01, 2022  
**Next Required Review Date:** June 10, 2022

The Policy Bulletins on this web site were developed to assist the Company in administering the provisions of the respective benefit programs, and do not constitute a contract. If you have coverage through the Company, please refer to your specific benefit program for the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of your coverage. Company does not provide health care services, medical advice or treatment, or guarantee the outcome or results of any medical services/treatments. The facility and professional providers are responsible for providing medical advice and treatment. Facility and professional providers are independent contractors and are not employees or agents of the Company. If you have a specific medical condition, please consult with your doctor. The Company reserves the right at any time to change or update its Policy Bulletins.

