

UPDATED 8/5/2025
AHCCCS BIOSIMILAR UPDATE
Effective Date for Changes: August 1, 2025

DATE: August 5, 2025

TO: AHCCCS Providers
AHCCCS Fee-For-Service
AHCCCS Division of Managed Care
AHCCCS MCO Contractors
AHCCCS Office of the Director

FROM: Suzi Berman, AHCCCS Pharmacy Director

SUBJECT: Biosimilars

The purpose of this memo is to provide clarification for the transition date from the branded products to the preferred biosimilar drug changes announced at the May P&T Committee meeting. These changes were effective on August 1, 2025. These changes were also posted on the AHCCCS website under the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee section under Pharmacy.

The AHCCCS MCO Contractors have been sending notices to providers over the last couple of months and began transitioning members from the brand name medications to the AHCCCS FDA approved preferred biosimilars on August 1, 2025.

For claims that are dispensed by a retail pharmacy, the brand name medication will be rejected at the pharmacy with messaging to use the biosimilar. When a biosimilar is approved by the FDA as interchangeable with the brand name product, the pharmacist can make this prescription change without contacting the prescribing clinician. When the preferred biosimilar medication does not have the interchangeable designation by the FDA, the pharmacist will have to contact the prescribing clinician for approval to dispense the preferred biosimilar.

For medical claims, the transition to the preferred biosimilars became effective on August 1, 2025. In the prior memo it was stated that the non-preferred codes, for both brand name products and biosimilars, will no longer be covered effective October 1, 2025. This was to allow for any potential outlier claims and was not meant to delay the transition of branded products to the preferred biosimilars. Providers should work with the MCO of the member to transition to one of the preferred biosimilars.

In addition, we were notified that the biosimilar, Cimerli, is no longer available through Sandoz. The preferred biosimilar for Lucentis has been changed to Byovoiz.

Attached for your perusal is a table of the preferred and non-preferred biosimilar product changes that will be effective beginning August 1, 2025. The table provides the following:

- Brand name product and generic name
- Preferred biosimilar brand name
- Preferred biosimilar chemical name
- Preferred biosimilar manufacturer
- Preferred biosimilar HCPCS Codes
- Preferred products and biosimilars moving to non-preferred
- Brand name and non-preferred biosimilar product HCPCS codes closing on September 30, 2025

As new biosimilars become available, the agency will evaluate them in accordance with the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual Policy 310-V Prescription Medications, to determine if the agency will be covering the biosimilar or continue to cover the brand name agent.

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at Suzanne.Berman@azahcccs.gov

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Brand Name Product	Generic Name	Preferred Biosimilar Label Name	Preferred Biosimilar Chemical Name	Preferred Biosimilar HCPCS Code(s)	Preferred Biosimilar Manufacturer	Preferred Products Moving to Non-Preferred Status	Non-Preferred Products HCPCS Code(s)
Eylea	Aflibercept	Pavblu	Aflibercept-ayyh	Q5147	Amgen	Eylea Opuviz Yesafili Ahzantive Enzeevu	J0178 Q5153 Unclassified Q5150 Q5149
Humira	Adalimumab	Unbranded Hadlima	Adalimumab-fjkg Adalimumab-bwwd	Q5140 Unclassified	Biocon Biologics Organon	Simlandi Adalimumab-abdm and all other Humira and biosimilar products	Q5140-45 Q5131 Q5103 Q5111 J0139
Avastin (for chemotherapy use only)	Bevacizumab	MVASI Zirabev	No Changes	Q5107 Q5118	Amgen Pfizer	Alymsys Vegzelma Avzivi Avastin	Q5126 Q5129 unclassified J9035
Soliris	Eculizumab	Epysqli	Eculizumab-aagh	Q5151	Teva	Soliris Bkemv	J1299 Q5152
Neupogen	Filgrastim	Releuko Nivestym	Filgrastim-ayow Filgrastim-aafi	Q5125 Q5110	Amneal Pfizer	Neupogen Nypozi Zarxio Granix	J1442 Q5148 Q5101
Neulasta	Pegfilgrastim	Fulphila Fylnetra	Pegfilgrastim-jmdb Pegfilgrastim-pbbk	Q5108 Q5130	Mylan Amneal	Neulasta Udenyca Ziextenzo Nyvepria Stimufend	J2506 Q5111 Q5120 Q5122 Q5127
Lucentis	Ranibizumab	Byooviz	ranibizumab-nuna	Q5128	Sandoz	Lucentis Cimerli	J2778 Q5124
Rituxan	Rituximab	Riabni Ruxience	Rituximab-arrr Rituximab-pvvr	Q5123 Q5119	Amgen Pfizer	Truxima	Q5115
Actemra	Tocilizumab	Tyenne	Tocilizumab-aazg	Q5135	Fresenius	Actemra Tofidence	J3262 Q5133
Herceptin	Trastuzumab	Ogivri	Trastuzumab-dkst	Q5114	Mylan- Biocon Biologics	Herceptin Kanjinti Hercessi Herzuma Ontruzant Trazimera	J9355 Q5117 Q5146 Q5113 Q5112 Q5116
Stelara	Ustekinumab	Yesintek	Ustekinumab-kfce	Q5100	Biocon Biologics	Stelara Otulfi Pyzchiva Selarsdi Steqeyma Wezlana Imuldosa	Q5100 Q9999 Q9996-7 Q9998 Q5099 Q5137-8