



07-16

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
ALL-EMPLOYEES MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 4, 2016

**EMPLOYEE MEDICAL HEALTH PLAN (EMHP) OF  
SUFFOLK COUNTY**

**IMPORTANT UPDATES - PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS  
ADDITION OF ATTENTION DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER  
(ADHD) TO THE STEP THERAPY PROGRAM**

***Note:** These changes only apply to Active and Non-Medicare eligible retirees/dependent survivors and their eligible dependents, not Medicare eligible retirees/dependent survivors enrolled in the Express Scripts Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.*

As part of our continuing effort to provide our members with important updates regarding the Employee Medical Health Plan of Suffolk County (EMHP), the Labor/Management Committee, which oversees the EMHP, would like to provide you with important information regarding the prescription drug benefits program; specifically, the addition of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) category to the Step Therapy Program. Please see list below.

Effective, July 1, 2016, the coverage of ADHD medications will be subject to the step therapy program guidelines, which is a program designed exclusively for people who have certain conditions that require medications to be taken regularly. Step Therapy medications are grouped into two categories:

- **Step One Drugs** are generic drugs proven safe, effective and affordable. These drugs must be tried first because they can provide the same health benefit as more expensive drugs, but at a lower cost.
- **Step Two Drugs** are usually brand name drugs or brand name drugs with the same therapeutic exchange and typically cost more than Step One Drugs.

If you are currently taking an ADHD medication listed in the Step One Drug category, you will not be impacted by this change and will continue to pay the applicable co-payment.

If you are currently taking an ADHD medication listed in the Step Two Drug category, you may continue to take this medication after July 1, 2016, and may have no change in copay. However,

if when refilling your medication there is a lapse of more than 180 days, you will have to abide by the new Step Therapy guidelines effective July 1, 2016.

Effective July 1, 2016, any new utilizers of ADHD medications will be required to follow the below Step Therapy guidelines. If your doctor prescribes a Step Two drug and you have not tried and failed a drug in the Step One category, the drug will not be covered under your prescription benefits and you will be responsible for the full cost. Your doctor can contact WellDyneRx directly to request a Prior Authorization (PA) override to obtain the Step Two drug. If the override is approved, you will pay the applicable copay. If the PA is not approved, the drug will not be covered under your prescription benefits and you will be responsible for the full cost.

Therapeutic Category	Step One Drugs	Step Two Drugs
Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder-amphetamines	amphetamine/dextroamphetamine er, amphetamine/dextroamphetamine, dexmethylphenidate, dexmethylphenidate er, methylphenidate, methylphenidate er, dextroamphetamine, dextroamphetamine er, methamphetamine, Vyvanse, Daytrana	Adderall, Adderall XR, Focalin, Focalin XR, Concerta, Metadate CD, Metadate ER, Aptensio XR, Methylin, Ritalin LA, Ritalin, Quilivant XR, Quillichew, Evekeo, Dexedrine, Zenzedi, Procentra, Desoxyn, Dyanavel XR

The Step Therapy list is continually updated as new drugs and generic drugs become available. Therefore, please periodically check the WellDyneRx website, [emhp.welldynernx.com](http://emhp.welldynernx.com), or contact WellDyneRx directly at 1-855-799-6831 for the most current information.

We recommend that you share this list, and any updates to it, with your physicians. Your physician may refer to these lists when prescribing medication.



**Dennis M. Cohen**  
**Chief Deputy County Executive**

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 One copy per employee/retiree