



MASSACHUSETTS

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Pharmacy Medical Policy Drugs for Cystic Fibrosis

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Policy Number: 408

BCBSA Reference Number: None

Policy

Commercial Members: Managed Care (HMO and POS), PPO, and Indemnity

Note: All requests for outpatient retail pharmacy for indications listed and not listed on the medical policy guidelines may be submitted to BCBSMA Clinical Pharmacy Operations by completing the Prior Authorization Form on the last page of this document. Physicians may also call BCBSMA Pharmacy Operations department at (800)366-7778 to request a prior authorization/formulary exception verbally. Physicians may also submit requests for retail pharmacy exceptions via the web using Express PAtH which can be found on the BCBSMA provider website or directly on the web at <https://provider.express-path.com>. Patients must have pharmacy benefits under their subscriber certificates.

Prior Authorization Information

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior Authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Step Therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Quality Care Dosing		Pharmacy Operations: Tel: 1-800-366-7778 Fax: 1-800-583-6289 Policy last updated 4/2025
Pharmacy (Rx) or Medical (MED) benefit coverage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rx <input type="checkbox"/> MED	To request for coverage: Physicians may call, fax, or mail the attached form (Formulary Exception/Prior Authorization form) to the address below. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Pharmacy Operations Department 25 Technology Place Hingham, MA 02043 Individual Consideration: Policy for requests that do not meet clinical criteria of this policy, see section labeled Individual Consideration
Policy applies to Commercial Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed Care (HMO and POS), • PPO and Indemnity • MEDEX with Rx plan • Managed Major Medical with Custom BCBSMA Formulary • Comprehensive Managed Major Medical with Custom BCBSMA Formulary • Managed Blue for Seniors with Custom BCBSMA Formulary 		

Please refer to the chart below for the formulary and step status of the medications affected by this policy.

Drug	Formulary Information
	Standard
	Formulary Status
Alyftrek™ (vanzacaftor / tezacaftor / deutivacaftor)	PA Required
Kalydeco™ (ivacaftor)	PA Required
Orkambi™ (lumacaftor / ivacaftor)	PA Required
Symdeko™ (tezacaftor / ivacaftor)	PA Required
Trikafta™ (elexacaftor / tezacaftor / ivacaftor)	PA Required

We may cover **Alyftrek™** (vanzacaftor / tezacaftor / deutivacaftor) for the treatment of cystic fibrosis when **all** of the following criteria are met:

- Age 6 years of age or older, **AND**
- Concurrent use of **Symdeko™** or **Kalydeco™** or **Orkambi™** or **Trikafta™** must be discontinued, **AND**
- Documentation for at least one F508del mutation in the CFTR gene as confirmed by an FDA- cleared cystic fibrosis mutation test **OR**
- Documentation of one mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene that is responsive to vanzacaftor / tezacaftor / deutivacaftor based on in vitro data and/or clinical evidence as noted in table 1 below:
- Table 1 lists *CFTR* mutations responsive to ALYFTREK based on clinical response, and/or in vitro data in FRT or HBE cells, or based on extrapolation of efficacy

Table 1: List of <i>CFTR</i> Gene Mutations Responsive to ALYFTREK						
Based on Clinical Data*						
A455E	G551D	L1077P†	R352Q	S549N	V754M	
D1152H	G85E†	L206W	R75Q	S549R	W1098C†	
F508del†	H1054D	M1101K†	S1159F	S945L	W1282R	
G1244E	I336K	R1066H	S1251N	V562I	Y563N†	
Based on in vitro Data‡						
1507_1515del9	E116Q	G424S	I556V	P140S	R334L	T1053I
2183A→G	E193K	G463V	I601F	P205S	R334Q	T1086I
3141del9	E292K	G480C	I618T	P499A	R347H	T1246I
3195del6	E403D	G480S	I807M	P5L	R347L	T1299I
3199del6	E474K	G551A	I980K	P574H	R347P	T338I
546insCTA	E56K	G551S	K1060T	P67L	R352W	T351I
A1006E	E588V	G576A	K162E	P750L	R516G	T604I
A1067P	E60K	G576A;R668C §	K464E	P99L	R516S	V1153E
A1067T	E822K	G622D	L1011S	Q1100P	R553Q	V1240G
A107G	E92K	G628R	L102R	Q1291R	R555G	V1293G
A120T	F1016S	G91R	L1065P	Q1313K	R560S	V201M
A234D	F1052V	G970D	L1324P	Q237E	R560T	V232D
A309D	F1074L	G970S	L1335P	Q237H	R668C	V392G
A349V	F1099L	H1085P	L137P	Q359R	R709Q	V456A
A46D	F1107L	H1085R	L1480P	Q372H	R74Q	V456F
A554E	F191V	H1375P	L15P	Q452P	R74W	V520F
A559T	F200I	H139R	L165S	Q493R	R74W;D1270N §	V603F
A559V	F311del	H199R	L320V	Q552P	R74W;V201M§	W361R
A561E	F311L	H199Y	L333F	Q98R	R74W;V201M; D 1270N§	Y1014C

A613T	F508C	H609R	L333H	R1048G	R75L	Y1032C
A62P	F508C;S1251N §	H620P	L346P	R1066C	R751L	Y109N
A72D	F575Y	H620Q	L441P	R1066L	R792G	Y161D
C491R	F587I	H939R	L453S	R1066M	R933G	Y161S
D110E	G1047R	H939R;H949L	L619S	R1070Q	S1045Y	Y301C
D110H	G1061R	I1027T	L967S	R1070W	S108F	Y569C
D1270N	G1069R	I105N	L997F	R1162L	S1118F	Y913C
D1445N	G1123R	I1139V	M1101R	R117C	S1159P	
D192G	G1247R	I1234Vdel6aa	M1137V	R117C;G576A; R 668C	S1235R	
D443Y	G1249R	I125T	M150K	R117G	S1255P	
D443Y;G576A; R 668C§	G126D	I1269N	M152V	R117H	S13F	
D513G	G1349D	I331N	M265R	R117L	S341P	
D565G	G149R	I1366N	M952I	R117P	S364P	
D579G	G178E	I1398S	M952T	R1283M	S492F	
D614G	G178R	I148N	N1088D	R1283S	S549I	
D836Y	G194R	I148T	N1303I	R170H	S589N	
D924N	G194V	I175V	N1303K†	R258G	S737F	
D979V	G27E	I502T	N186K	R297Q	S912L	
D993Y	G27R	I506L	N187K	R31C	S977F	
E116K	G314E	I506T	N418S	R31L	T1036N	
Based on Extrapolation[¶]						
1341G→A	2789+2insA	3041-15T→G	3849+10kbC→ T	3850-3T→G	5T;TG13	711+3A→ G
1898+3A→G	2789+5G→A	3272-26A→G	3849+4A→G	4005+2T→C	621+3A→G	E831X
2752-26A→G	296+28A→G	3600G→A	3849+40A→G	5T;TG12		
* Clinical data is obtained from Trials 1 and 2.						
† This mutation is also predicted to be responsive by FRT assay with ALYFTREK.						
‡ The N1303K mutation is predicted to be responsive only by HBE assay. All other mutations predicted to be responsive with in vitro data are supported by FRT assay.						
§ Complex/compound mutations where a single allele of the CFTR gene has multiple mutations; these exist independent of the presence of mutations on the other allele.						
¶ Efficacy is extrapolated to certain non-canonical splice mutations because clinical trials in all mutations in this subgroup are infeasible and these mutations are not amenable to interrogation by FRT system.						

We may cover Kalydeco™ (ivacaftor) for the treatment of cystic fibrosis when all of the following criteria are met¹:

- Age 4 months of age or older **AND**
- Concurrent use of **Alyftrek™ or Symdeko™ or Trikafta™ or Orkambi™** must be discontinued. **AND**
- Documentation of a mutation of the CFTR gene as confirmed by an FDA- cleared cystic fibrosis mutation test. In Table 2 below.

Table 2 (Kalydeco Mutations)

711+3A→G *	F311del	I148T	R75Q	S589N
2789+5G→A *	F311L	I175V	R117C *	S737F
3272-26A→G *	F508C	I807M	R117G	S945L *
3849+10kbC→T *	F508C;S1251N ‡	I1027T	R117H *	S977F *
A120T	F1052V	I1139V	R117L	S1159F

<i>A234D</i>	<i>F1074L</i>	<i>K1060T</i>	<i>R117P</i>	<i>S1159P</i>
<i>A349V</i>	<i>G178E</i>	<i>L206W</i> *	<i>R170H</i>	<i>S1251N</i> *
<i>A455E</i> *	<i>G178R</i> *	<i>L320V</i>	<i>R347H</i> *	<i>S1255P</i> *
<i>A1067T</i>	<i>G194R</i>	<i>L967S</i>	<i>R347L</i>	<i>T338I</i>
<i>D110E</i>	<i>G314E</i>	<i>L997F</i>	<i>R352Q</i> *	<i>T1053I</i>
<i>D110H</i>	<i>G551D</i> *	<i>L1480P</i>	<i>R553Q</i>	<i>V232D</i>
<i>D192G</i>	<i>G551S</i> *	<i>M152V</i>	<i>R668C</i>	<i>V562I</i>
<i>D579G</i> *	<i>G576A</i>	<i>M952I</i>	<i>R792G</i>	<i>V754M</i>
<i>D924N</i>	<i>G970D</i>	<i>M952T</i>	<i>R933G</i>	<i>V1293G</i>
<i>D1152H</i> *	<i>G1069R</i>	<i>P67L</i> *	<i>R1070Q</i>	<i>W1282R</i>
<i>D1270N</i>	<i>G1244E</i> *	<i>Q237E</i>	<i>R1070W</i> *	<i>Y1014C</i>
<i>E56K</i>	<i>G1249R</i>	<i>Q237H</i>	<i>R1162L</i>	<i>Y1032C</i>
<i>E193K</i>	<i>G1349D</i> *	<i>Q359R</i>	<i>R1283M</i>	
<i>E822K</i>	<i>H939R</i>	<i>Q1291R</i>	<i>S549N</i> *	
<i>E831X</i> *	<i>H1375P</i>	<i>R74W</i>	<i>S549R</i> *	

*Clinical data exist for these mutations.

†Complex/compound mutations where a single allele of the CFTR gene has multiple mutations; these exist independent of the presence of mutations on the other allele.

We may cover Orkambi™ (lumacaftor and ivacaftor) for the treatment of cystic fibrosis when all of the following criteria are met:

- Age 1 years of age or older **AND**
- Documentation of **TWO** copies of the F508del mutation in the CFTR gene as confirmed by an FDA- cleared cystic fibrosis mutation test **AND**
- Concurrent use of **Alyftrek™ or Symdeko™ or Trikafta™ or Kalydeco™** must be discontinued.

We may cover Symdeko™ (tezacaftor and ivacaftor) for the treatment of cystic fibrosis when all of the following criteria are met:

- Age 6 years of age or older, **AND**
- Documentation of Homozygous for the F508del mutation in the CFTR gene as confirmed by an FDA- cleared cystic fibrosis mutation test

OR

- Documentation of one mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene that is responsive to tezacaftor/ivacaftor based on in vitro data and/or clinical evidence as noted in table 3 below:

AND

- Concurrent use of **Kalydeco™ or Orkambi™ or Alyftrek™ or Trikafta™** must be discontinued.

Table 3: List of CFTR Gene Mutations that Produce CFTR Protein and are Responsive to SYMDEKO

<i>546insCTA</i>	<i>E92K</i>	<i>G576A</i>	<i>L346P</i>	<i>R117G</i>	<i>S589N</i>
<i>711+3A→G</i> *	<i>E116K</i>	<i>G576A;R668C</i> †	<i>L967S</i>	<i>R117H</i>	<i>S737F</i>
<i>2789+5G→A</i> *	<i>E193K</i>	<i>G622D</i>	<i>L997F</i>	<i>R117L</i>	<i>S912L</i>
<i>3272-26A→G</i> *	<i>E403D</i>	<i>G970D</i>	<i>L1324P</i>	<i>R117P</i>	<i>S945L</i> *

3849+10kbC→T [*]	E588V	G1069R	L1335P	R170H	S977F [*]
A120T	E822K	G1244E	L1480P	R258G	S1159F
A234D	E831X	G1249R	M152V	R334L	S1159P
A349V	F191V	G1349D	M265R	R334Q	S1251N
A455E [*]	F311del	H939R	M952I	R347H [*]	S1255P
A554E	F311L	H1054D	M952T	R347L	T338I
A1006E	F508C	H1375P	P5L	R347P	T1036N
A1067T	F508C;S1251N [±]	I148T	P67L [*]	R352Q [*]	T1053I
A120T	E822K	G1244E	L1480P	R258G	S1159F
A234D	E831X	G1249R	M152V	R334L	S1159P
A349V	F191V	G1349D	M265R	R334Q	S1251N
A455E [*]	F311del	H939R	M952I	R347H [*]	S1255P
A554E	F311L	H1054D	M952T	R347L	T338I
A1006E	F508C	H1375P	P5L	R347P	T1036N
A1067T	F508C;S1251N [±]	I148T	P67L [*]	R352Q [*]	T1053I
D110E	F508del [±]	I175V	P205S	R352W	V201M
D110H [*]	F575Y	I336K	Q98R	R553Q	V232D
D192G	F1016S	I601F	Q237E	R668C	V562I
D443Y	F1052V	I618T	Q237H	R751L	V754M
D443Y;G576A;R668C [†]	F1074L	I807M	Q359R	R792G	V1153E
D579G [*]	F1099L	I980K	Q1291R	R933G	V1240G
D614G	G126D	I1027T	R31L	R1066H	V1293G
D836Y	G178E	I1139V	R74Q	R1070Q	W1282R
D924N	G178R	I1269N	R74W	R1070W [*]	Y109N
D979V	G194R	I1366N	R74W;D1270N [±]	R1162L	Y161S
D1152H [*]	G194V	K1060T	R74W;V201M [±]	R1283M	Y1014C
D1270N	G314E	L15P	R74W;V201M;D1270N [±]	R1283S	Y1032C
E56K	G551D	L206W [*]	R75Q	S549N	
E60K	G551S	L320V	R117C [*]	S549R	

- * Clinical data for these mutations in Clinical Studies [see [CLINICAL STUDIES \(14.1 and 14.2\)](#)].
- † Complex/compound mutations where a single allele of the *CFTR* gene has multiple mutations; these exist independent of the presence of mutations on the other allele.
- ‡ A patient must have two copies of the *F508del* mutation or at least one copy of a responsive mutation presented in Table 6 to be indicated.

We may cover Trikafta™ (elexacaftor, tezacaftor and ivacaftor) for the treatment of cystic fibrosis when **all** of the following criteria are met¹:

- Age 2 years of age or older, **AND**
- Concurrent use of **Symdeko™** or **Kalydeco™** or **Orkambi™** or **Alyftrek™** must be discontinued, **AND**
- Documentation for at least one F508del mutation in the CFTR gene as confirmed by an FDA- cleared cystic fibrosis mutation test in table 4 below.

Table 4: List of CFTR Gene Mutations Responsive to TRIKAFTA

Mutations responsive to TRIKAFTA based on clinical data*				
2789+5G→A	D1152H†	L206W†	R1066H†	S945L†
3272-26A→G	F508del†	L997F†	R117C†	T338I†
3849+10kbC→T	G85E†	M1101K†	R347H†	V232D†
A455E†	L1077P†	P5L†	R347P†	
Mutations responsive to TRIKAFTA based on in vitro data‡				
N1303K	F200I	I1139V	P574H	S1045Y
1507_1515del9	F311del	I125T	P67L	S108F
2183A→G	F311L	I1269N	P750L	S1118F
3141del9	F508C	I1366N	Q1291R	S1159F
546insCTA	F508C;S1251N	I148N	Q1313K	S1159P
A1006E	F575Y	I148T	Q237E	S1235R
A1067P	F587I	I175V	Q237H	S1251N
A1067T	G1047R	I331N	Q359R	S1255P
A107G	G1061R	I336K	Q372H	S13F
A120T	G1069R	I502T	Q493R	S341P
A234D	G1123R	I506L	Q552P	S364P
A309D	G1244E	I556V	Q98R	S492F
A349V	G1247R	I601F	R1048G	S549I
A46D	G1249R	I618T	R1070Q	S549N
A554E	G126D	I807M	R1070W	S549R
A62P	G1349D	I980K	R1162L	S589N

<i>C491R</i>	<i>G178E</i>	<i>K1060T</i>	<i>R117C;G576A;R668C</i>	<i>S737F</i>
<i>D110E</i>	<i>G178R</i>	<i>K162E</i>	<i>R117G</i>	<i>S912L</i>
<i>D110H</i>	<i>G194R</i>	<i>K464E</i>	<i>R117H</i>	<i>S977F</i>
<i>D1270N</i>	<i>G194V</i>	<i>L1011S</i>	<i>R117L</i>	<i>T1036N</i>
<i>D1445N</i>	<i>G27E</i>	<i>L1324P</i>	<i>R117P</i>	<i>T1053I</i>
<i>D192G</i>	<i>G27R</i>	<i>L1335P</i>	<i>R1283M</i>	<i>T1086I</i>
<i>D443Y</i>	<i>G314E</i>	<i>L137P</i>	<i>R1283S</i>	<i>T1246I</i>
<i>D443Y;G576A;R668C</i>	<i>G424S</i>	<i>L1480P</i>	<i>R170H</i>	<i>T1299I</i>
<i>D565G</i>	<i>G463V</i>	<i>L15P</i>	<i>R258G</i>	<i>T351I</i>
<i>D579G</i>	<i>G480C</i>	<i>L165S</i>	<i>R297Q</i>	<i>V1153E</i>
<i>D614G</i>	<i>G480S</i>	<i>L320V</i>	<i>R31C</i>	<i>V1240G</i>
<i>D836Y</i>	<i>G551A</i>	<i>L333F</i>	<i>R31L</i>	<i>V1293G</i>
<i>D924N</i>	<i>G551D</i>	<i>L333H</i>	<i>R334L</i>	<i>V201M</i>
<i>D979V</i>	<i>G551S</i>	<i>L346P</i>	<i>R334Q</i>	<i>V392G</i>
<i>D993Y</i>	<i>G576A</i>	<i>L441P</i>	<i>R347L</i>	<i>V456A</i>
<i>E116K</i>	<i>G576A;R668C</i>	<i>L453S</i>	<i>R352Q</i>	<i>V456F</i>
<i>E116Q</i>	<i>G622D</i>	<i>L619S</i>	<i>R352W</i>	<i>V562I</i>
<i>E193K</i>	<i>G628R</i>	<i>L967S</i>	<i>R516S</i>	<i>V603F</i>
<i>E292K</i>	<i>G970D</i>	<i>M1137V</i>	<i>R553Q</i>	<i>V754M</i>
<i>E403D</i>	<i>G970S</i>	<i>M150K</i>	<i>R555G</i>	<i>W1098C</i>
<i>E474K</i>	<i>H1054D</i>	<i>M152V</i>	<i>R668C</i>	<i>W1282R</i>
<i>E56K</i>	<i>H1085P</i>	<i>M265R</i>	<i>R709Q</i>	<i>W361R</i>
<i>E588V</i>	<i>H1085R</i>	<i>M952I</i>	<i>R74Q</i>	<i>Y1014C</i>
<i>E60K</i>	<i>H1375P</i>	<i>M952T</i>	<i>R74W</i>	<i>Y1032C</i>
<i>E822K</i>	<i>H139R</i>	<i>N1088D</i>	<i>R74W;D1270N</i>	<i>Y109N</i>
<i>E92K</i>	<i>H199Y</i>	<i>N1303I</i>	<i>R74W;V201M</i>	<i>Y161D</i>
<i>F1016S</i>	<i>H620P</i>	<i>N186K</i>	<i>R74W;V201M;D1270N</i>	<i>Y161S</i>
<i>F1052V</i>	<i>H620Q</i>	<i>N187K</i>	<i>R751L</i>	<i>Y301C</i>
<i>F1074L</i>	<i>H939R</i>	<i>N418S</i>	<i>R75L</i>	<i>Y563N</i>
<i>F1099L</i>	<i>H939R;H949L</i>	<i>P140S</i>	<i>R75Q</i>	
<i>F1107L</i>	<i>I1027T</i>	<i>P205S</i>	<i>R792G</i>	
<i>F191V</i>	<i>I105N</i>	<i>P499A</i>	<i>R933G</i>	

Mutations responsive to TRIKAFTA based on extrapolation from Trial 5 [§]				
4005+2T→C	2789+2insA	3849+40A→G	5T;TG13	
1341G→A	296+28A→G	3849+4A→G	621+3A→G	
1898+3A→G	3041-15T→G	3850-3T→G	711+3A→G	
2752-26A→G	3600G→A	5T;TG12	E831X	

- * Clinical data obtained from Trials 1, 2, and 5.
- ‡ This mutation is also predicted to be responsive by FRT assay.
- ‡ The N1303K mutation is predicted to be responsive by HBE assay. All other mutations predicted to be responsive with in vitro data are supported by FRT assay.

§ Efficacy is extrapolated from Trial 5 to non-canonical splice mutations because clinical trials in all mutations of this subgroup are infeasible and these mutations are not amenable to interrogation by FRT system.

We do not cover the above drugs for other conditions not listed above.

Other Information

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (BCBSMA*) members (other than Medex®; Blue MedicareRx, Medicare Advantage plans that include prescription drug coverage) will be required to fill their prescriptions for the above medications at one of the providers in our retail specialty pharmacy network, see link below:

[Link to Specialty Pharmacy List](#)

Individual Consideration

All our medical policies are written for the majority of people with a given condition. Each policy is based on medical science. For many of our medical policies, each individual's unique clinical circumstances may be considered in light of current scientific literature. Physicians may send relevant clinical information for individual patients for consideration to:

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
 Pharmacy Operations Department
 25 Technology Place
 Hingham, MA 02043
 Tel: 1-800-366-7778
 Fax: 1-800-583-6289

Policy History

Date	Action
6/2025	Updated to add Alyftrek
5/2023	Updated additional mutations for Trikafta
7/2023	Updated Age for Trikafta.
11/2022	Updated new age for Orkambi™ for homozygous F508del mutation criteria.
7/2021	Updated to include age update for Trikafta™
2/2021	Updated to add New eligible mutations to the policy.
10/2020	Updated to include new age edit for Kalydeco™.
2/2020	Updated to add Trikafta™ to the policy.
8/2019	Updated to include new age range for Symdeko™.
9/2018	Updated to include new age range for Orkambi™ & Kalydeco™.

6/2018	Updated to include Symdeko™ and to add Specialty Pharmacy Link.
10/2017	Updated to change Walgreens Specialty Name.
7/2017	Updated to include additional genes and add AllCare to Specialty pharmacy list.
6/2017	Updated address for Pharmacy Operations.
11/2016	Updated to include new age indication for Orkambi™.
4/2016	Updated to include Orkambi™ & add Walgreens Specialty.
4/2015	Updated for new FDA approved ages.
2/2015	Updated new gene types which were FDA approved.
4/2014	Updated new gene types which were FDA approved.
2/2014	Removal of Curascript from Specialty Pharmacy section.
1/2014	Updated to remove Blue Value.
1/2013	New Policy, effective 1/1/2013.

References

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9. Symdeco™ [package insert]. Cambridge, MA: Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.: Feb 2018.
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Endnotes

1. Based on BCBSA Technology Evaluation Center Specialty Pharmacy Combined Capacity (SPCC) Report #3-2012 Ivacaftor (Kalydeco™), reviewed March 2012.

To request prior authorization using the Massachusetts Standard Form for Medication Prior Authorization Requests (eForm), click the link below:

<http://www.bluecrossma.org/medical-policies/sites/g/files/csphws2091/files/acquiadam-assets/023%20E%20Form%20medication%20prior%20auth%20instruction%20prn.pdf>