

### New category for Sun Life's prior authorization program

If you have Sun Life's prior authorization program on your Pay Direct Drug plan, a new category will be added to the program, effective immediately. There will also be new drugs added to existing categories.

The category being added to your plan and the drug it includes is:

New drug category	Drug added
Heart Disease Therapy	Entresto

Drugs added to existing categories in the PA program are:

Existing drug categories	Drugs added
Biologic Response Modifiers	Cosentyx
Diabetes	Byetta
	Eperzan
Hepatitis	Daklinza
	Technivie
Multiple Sclerosis	Plegridy
Rare diseases	Jinarc
	Pheburane
	Strensiq
	Revestive

#### Why is there a new category?

The program continuously follows new drugs coming to market in Canada, as well as new prescription patterns (e.g. disruption in the prescribing pattern, or increased off-label use for certain products) and adapts the categories accordingly. This is all done with the aim to manage drug plan costs while providing plan members with coverage for the right treatment for them. The rapidly evolving specialty drug market has created a need for added vigilance in managing drug costs. Here's a [Bright Paper](#) that we published in November 2015 to help you understand these new trends and their impact on drug plan costs.

#### Grandfathering

When categories are added, we "grandfather" any plan members already taking any of the drugs being added to the prior authorization program. What that means is that a plan member who has already been reimbursed for the listed drug in the 120 days before the drug was added to the prior authorization program will not need to apply for prior authorization approval for their prescription.

#### Change to the approval process

Some drugs now have a limited approval period. If treatment is expected to continue beyond the initial approval period, the plan member will need to submit an approval form and meet the criteria for continued prior authorization as indicated on the form. If a drug's approval period is limited, it is clearly stated on the prior authorization form. Further, when an approval letter is sent to the plan member, it will include the termination date of the approval.

### Checking out the prior authorization program online

Simply go to [mysunlife.ca/priorauthorization](http://mysunlife.ca/priorauthorization) and enter your group contract number to find the list of prior authorization drugs and forms that are relevant to the prior authorization program. You can see the new category at the time it is added, as well as any drugs under the category.

### Sharing the news

We have attached a plan member [communication](#) for you to share this information with your plan members.

### Questions?

Contact your Sun Life Financial Group Benefits representative.