



Step Therapy in Medicaid  
Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee  
01/27/2016

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# Step Therapy Overview

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Step therapy is the practice of beginning drug therapy for a medical condition with the most cost-effective drug before progressing to other more costly drugs, if needed.

- Kansas statute currently prohibits step therapy in Medicaid
- SB 341 eliminates the prohibition against step therapy in KanCare

# Step Therapy Overview

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- Step therapy has been applied in commercial insurance for a number of years
- Step therapy is utilized in Medicare
- The dual population within KanCare, a shared population where Medicare is the first payer, already operates under step therapy

# Highlights of Step Therapy

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- Passing SB 341 will allow the implementation of step therapy for new prescriptions in Medicaid
- Step therapy will not apply to current medication regimens
- Step therapy will not require the prescriber to issue a prescription for a generic medication
- Provider can identify intent for prescription to be filled as written by signing prescription on the “Dispense as written” line