

## **Empire BlueCross BlueShield HealthPlus (Empire)** **Hot Tip: Asthma**

Your Empire patients on nonpreferred products may experience a pharmacy claim rejection. To avoid additional steps or delays at the pharmacy, consider prescribing preferred products whenever possible. Prior authorization and step therapy may apply to select preferred products. Coverage should be verified by reviewing the [\*Preferred Drug List \(PDL\)\*](#) on the Empire provider website. The *PDL* is subject to change quarterly.

Therapeutic class	Nonpreferred products	Preferred products
Asthma — Controller	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alvesco (ciclesonide)</li> <li>• ArmonAir Digihaler and RespiClick (fluticasone propionate)</li> <li>• Asmanex HFA and Twisthaler<sup>1</sup> (mometasone furoate)</li> <li>• Azmacort (triamcinolone)</li> <li>• Pulmicort Flexhaler (budesonide)</li> <li>• Qvar Redihaler (beclomethasone)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arnuity Ellipta (fluticasone furoate)</li> <li>• Budesonide suspension nebules (generic Pulmicort Respules suspension)</li> <li>• Flovent Diskus and HFA (fluticasone propionate)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advair HFA<sup>2</sup> and Diskus (fluticasone/ salmeterol)</li> <li>• AirDuo Digihaler and Respiclick (fluticasone/ salmeterol)</li> <li>• Breo Ellipta (fluticasone/ vilanterol)</li> <li>• Dulera (mometasone/ formoterol)</li> <li>• Symbicort (budesonide/ formoterol)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budesonide/formoterol (generic Symbicort)</li> <li>• Fluticasone/salmeterol (generic AirDuo Respiclick)</li> <li>• Fluticasone/salmeterol (authorized generic Advair Diskus)</li> <li>• Wixela Inhub (fluticasone/salmeterol)</li> </ul>
Asthma — Rescue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Levalbuterol HFA and nebules (generic Xopenex)</li> <li>• Proair HFA and Respiclick (albuterol)</li> <li>• Proventil HFA (albuterol)</li> <li>• Ventolin HFA (albuterol)</li> <li>• Xopenex HFA and nebules (levalbuterol)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Albuterol nebules</li> <li>• Albuterol HFA (generic Proair, Proventil, Ventolin)</li> <li>• Combivent Respimat (ipratropium/albuterol)</li> <li>• Ipratropium/albuterol nebules</li> </ul>
<p>1 No step therapy required for children younger than 6 requesting Asmanex Twisthaler.                  2 No step therapy required for children younger than 12 requesting Advair HFA.                  Notes: Members can fill 90-day supply at retail pharmacy for controller products. Preferred controller products that may be used with spacer: Advair HFA (for children under 12) and Flovent HFA.</p>		

If you have questions regarding this *Hot Tip*, call Provider Services at **800-450-8753**.

<https://providerpublic.empireblue.com>

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