



# Improvements to Prior Authorization Requests Effective February 2015

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## ADVISOR COMMUNICATION

March 2015

(March 2018 – Updated links for: Request for Authorization and Prior Authorization Drug List)

### Announcing a New Approach to Prior Authorization

Effective February 2015, RWAM plan members using an Express Scripts Canada pay direct drug card will experience a new, more streamlined process for approval of Prior Authorization drug requests.

RWAM's Prior Authorization program will improve the Prior Authorization experience, while continuing to ensure high cost drugs are reserved for those members in need. The traditional paper-based process will become a verbal special authorization approval process.

The plan member's pharmacist or physician will have access to an Express Scripts Canada (ESC) representative via telephone so that Prior Authorization approvals can be requested and granted the same day. If granted, the plan member will typically leave the store with their preferred medication, avoiding unnecessary delays in getting started on the prescribed therapy. If the Prior Authorization request is of a more complex nature, it may require the prescriber to submit the traditional paper form to ESC by fax or mail.

Plan members will also benefit by receiving notification from ESC before their current Prior Authorization expires, giving them time to return to the physician and renew the Prior Authorization without incurring a disruption in therapy.

Below are links to the Prior Authorization forms and drug list:

Request for Prior Authorization

[http://www.express-scripts.ca/sites/default/files/Request\\_for\\_Prior\\_Authorization\\_EN\\_0.pdf](http://www.express-scripts.ca/sites/default/files/Request_for_Prior_Authorization_EN_0.pdf)

Prior Authorization Drug List

<http://www.express-scripts.ca/sites/default/files/CA-PA-LIST-EN%202018-02-23.pdf>

If you have questions, or need more information, please contact your RWAM Group Marketing Manager.