

PKU Formulas & Special Foods

Benefit Coverage

Enteral formulas, related medical supplies, and Special Food Products for the dietary treatment of phenylketonuria (PKU) are covered. All formulas and Special Food Products must be prescribed and ordered through the appropriate health care professional.

Copayment

See the *Benefit Summary Member Copayment Matrix* for:

Home Health Care Services and PKU

Benefit Exclusions

- Grocery store foods that are part of a standard diet and used by the general population.
- Food that is naturally low in protein unless specially formulated to have less than one gram of protein per serving.

Benefit Limitations

Enteral formulas and special food products are covered for the treatment of PKU when:

1. They are consistent with the recommendations and best practices of appropriately licensed or certified health care professionals that are recognized experts in the treatment of PKU; and
2. They are used in place of standard food products, such as grocery food products used by the general population.

Although coverage does not include a food naturally low in protein, a food product that is specially formulated to have less than one gram of protein per serving may be covered.

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Examples of Covered Services

- PKU food products specially formulated to have less than one gram of protein per serving, such as baking mixes, cookies, rice starch bread, and low protein flour, and that are not a standard food used by the general population.

Examples of Non-Covered Services

- Grocery store items used by the general population, such as fruit, cereals, jams and jellies, and ketchup.

References

Evidence of Coverage

IFP Evidence of Coverage and Health Service Agreement

Blue Shield HMO IPA/Medical Group Procedures Manual