

EPOCRATES

The Upper Peninsula Health Plan's pharmacy formulary for Medicaid and MIChild members is available through Epocrates® drug-reference software at www.epocrates.com. Epocrates is a software vendor that integrates clinical drug information with drug-formulary information.

Once you access or download the database, you can check formulary status, prior-authorization requirements, formulary alternatives, generic substitutions, and quantity limits.

The following formulary status codes provide detailed drug information in Epocrates.

- **Y:** Yes, this is on the formulary.
- **N:** Nonformulary
- **GP:** Generic preferred: The generic product will be dispensed.
- **PA:** Prior authorization is required.
- **NC:** Not covered: Please choose from among others in the category.

The basic Epocrates Rx® product for a handheld personal digital assistant (PDA) is free. It includes drug monographs, formulary information, multiple checks for drug interactions, automated updates, and DocAlert® messages. Epocrates also offers expanded products for a fee. Visit www.epocrates.com for details.

Epocrates Rx Software

The Epocrates Rx software:

- Helps to manage the rising cost of drugs, through the increased use of generics and formulary compliance.
- Provides drug information to more than 3,300 brand and generic drugs.
- Saves time associated with pharmacy-related administrative tasks.
- Improves the safety of prescribing with a multiple-drug interaction checker.
- Improves patient satisfaction by providing updated formulary information.
- Provides “DocAlert” messaging to keep you up-to-date on relevant clinical and specialty news.
- Provides a MedMath-brand medical calculator (for BMI, CrCl, etc.).
- Provides drug monographs and up-to-date formulary information at the point of care:
 - ✓ Adult and pediatric dosing
 - ✓ Adverse drug reactions and interactions
 - ✓ Indications and mechanism of action
 - ✓ Contraindications
 - ✓ Pricing and packaging

Downloading Epocrates Rx Software

Device Compatibility

To meet the technical requirements of Epocrates Rx, you need at least:

- Palm OS 3.5 or higher with 3 MB of available memory using Palm Desktop 3.1 or higher. (Additional memory is required for formularies and MedTools.)
- Microsoft Pocket PC 2002/2003 with 2.8 MB of available memory using an “active sync” of 3.5 or higher. (Additional memory is required for formularies and MedTools.)
- Windows 98/2002/ME/XP with Internet access. [If you use a Macintosh (Mac) device, you need to purchase the premium version: Epocrates Rx Pro™.]

Steps To Download

- Go to www.epocrates.com.
- Click on *Epocrates Rx Free*.
- Click on your PDA type.
- Click on *Download* (Windows or Mac).
- A “Special Offer” message will appear. Click on “Yes” or “No, please continue with Epocrates Rx.”
- New users must register. If you are already registered, enter your information.
- Before your software download, you will have an opportunity to add some free Epocrates MedTools. Make sure that you have the memory available for these added features. Check the MedTools that you want.
- Click on either wireless or cable installation and continue with the site directions.

Adding the UPHP Formulary

- Click on *My Account* (top right corner).
- Click on the *Formulary Profile (Handheld)* link under the *Additional Profile Information* section.
- From the drop-down menus:
 - ✓ Select *Michigan*.
 - ✓ Select *Health Plans*.
 - ✓ Select UPHP and any other formularies that you use often. Click on “Add to List” and “Done” when complete.
- Select *HotSync* for formularies to appear in your PDA.
- Select *HotSync* weekly to receive updates to Epocrates drug formularies and monographs.

Contacting Epocrates for Technical Assistance

- For answers to frequently asked questions, go to www.epocrates.com/support.
- For electronic-mail support, write to support@epocrates.com.