



Audience: Apple Health Clients with fee-for-service coverage

For Your Health

Heartburn and stomach acid reflux disease

Proton pump inhibitors (PPI), such as Prilosec®, Nexium®, omeprazole, are prescribed to treat heartburn and stomach acid reflux disease, also called GERD. Using these medications for a long time can make it hard for your body to absorb nutrients from the food you eat or hard for your body to kill harmful bacteria, which can lead to health problems.

Has Washington Apple Health changed its coverage of PPIs?

Yes. Apple Health now limits coverage of PPIs to one tablet or capsule per day for two months during any 12-month period. This change took effect June 1, 2017. We made this change because extended use of these medications is not the best option for most people.

Exceptions: If you are taking certain other concurrent medications or if you have one of the chronic medical conditions we're listing here, we may authorize a higher dose or longer time.

Should I stop using my PPI?

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist first. If you abruptly stop using your PPI, your body will produce even more stomach acid, which can make your symptoms worse. This is called "rebound."

Rebound can be prevented if you gradually stop taking your PPI and use it with other medications to control stomach acid reflux. Your doctor can help you make this change safely, and address any issues that might come up.

Chronic medical conditions include:

- Barrett's esophagus
- Narrowing of your esophagus (diagnosis of stenosis, stricture, or Schatzki ring)
- Recent erosion or ulcer in your esophagus or a stomach ulcer
- History of GI bleed and taking low-dose aspirin
- Zollinger-Ellison syndrome or other pathological condition that produces too much gastric acid

Concurrent medications include:

- Antiplatelet or anticoagulant "blood thinners" (such as Plavix®, Aggrenox®, clopidogrel, Eliquis®, Pradaxa®)
- Bisphosphonates (such as Fosamax®, Actonel®, alendronate)
- Cancer therapies
- Chronic high-dose systemic steroid (such as prednisone)
- Chronic NSAID use (such as ibuprofen, naproxen, or more than 325 milligrams of aspirin per day)
- Pancreatic enzymes (such as Creon®, Viokace®, amylase-lipase-protease)

What do I do now?

Chronic condition or concurrent medication listed above?

► No

Talk to your doctor about how to stop using your PPI and what the best treatment is for your condition.

► Yes

Ask your pharmacy to request a prior authorization for approval from the Health Care Authority.

[English] Language assistance services, including interpreters and translation of printed materials, are available free of charge. Call 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).

[Amharic] የቋንቋ እገዛ አገልግሎት፣ አስተርጓሚ እና የሰነድ ጽሑፍ ትርጉም ለበጎ ደንብ። 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711) ይደውሉ።

[Arabic] خدمات المساعدة في اللغات، بما في ذلك المترجمين الفوريين وترجمة المواد المطبوعة، متوفرة مجاناً، اتصل على رقم (TRS: 711) 1-800-562-3022.

[Burmese] ဘာသာပြန်ဆိုသူများနှင့် ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသည့် စာရွက်စာတမ်းများဘာသာပြန်ခြင်းအပါအဝင် ဘာသာစကားအထောက်အကူဆောင်ရွက်မှုများကို အခမဲ့ရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။ 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711) ကိုဖုန်းခေါ်ဆိုပါ။

[Cambodian] សេវាជំនួយភាសា រួមមានទាំងអ្នកបកប្រែផ្ទាល់មាត់ និង ការបកប្រែឯកសារបោះពុម្ព គឺអាចរកបានដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ។ ហៅទូរស័ព្ទទៅលេខ 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711)។

[Chinese] 免费提供语言协助服务，包括口译员和印制资料翻译。请致电 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711)。

[Korean] 통역 서비스와 인쇄 자료 번역을 포함한 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711)번으로 전화하십시오.

[Laotian] ການບໍລິການດ້ານພາສາ, ລວມທັງມາຍແປພາສາ ແລະ ການແປເອກສານຕີພິມ, ມີໄວ້ໃຫ້ຝຣັ່ງໂດຍບໍ່ຄິດຄ່າ. ໂທຫາເລກ 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).

[Oromo] Tajajilli gargaarsa afaanii, nama afaan hiikuu fi ragaalee maxxanfaman hiikuun, kaffaltii malee ni argattu. 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711) irratti bilbilaa.

[Persian] خدمات کمک زبانی، از جمله مترجم شفاهی و ترجمه اسناد و مدارک (مطالب) چاپی، بصورت رایگان ارائه خواهد شد. یا شماره مدارک (مطالب) چاپی، بصورت رایگان ارائه خواهد شد. یا شماره 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711) تماس بگیرید.

[Punjabi] ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ—ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਿੰਟ ਕੀਤੀ ਹੋਈ ਸਮੱਗਰੀ ਦੇ ਅੰਨ੍ਹਵਾਦ ਸਮੇਤ—ਮੁਫ਼ਤ ਉਪਲੱਬਧ ਹਨ। 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711) 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।

[Romanian] Serviciile de asistență lingvistică, inclusiv cele de interpretariat și de traducere a materialelor imprimate, sunt disponibile gratuit. Apelați 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).

[Russian] Языковая поддержка, в том числе услуги переводчиков и перевод печатных материалов, доступна бесплатно. Позвоните по номеру 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).

[Somali] Adeego caawimaad luuqada ah, ay ku jirto turjubaano afka ah iyo turjumid lagu sameeyo waraaqaha la daabaco, ayaa lagu helayaa lacag la'aan. Wac 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).

[Spanish] Hay servicios de asistencia con idiomas, incluyendo intérpretes y traducción de materiales impresos, disponibles sin costo. Llame al 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).

[Swahili] Huduma za msaada wa lugha, ikiwa ni pamoja na wakalimani na tafsiri ya nyaraka zilizochapishwa, zinapatikana bure bila ya malipo. Piga 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).

[Tagalog] Mga serbisyong tulong sa wika, kabilang ang mga tagapagsalin at pagsasalin ng nakalimbag na mga kagamitan, ay magagamit ng walang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).

[Tigrigna] ተርጓሚትን ናይ ዝተፀሓፉ ማተርያላት ትርጉምን ሓዊሱ ናይ ቋንቋ ሓዝ ግልጋሎት፣ ብዘይ ምንም ክፍሊት ይርከቡ። ብ 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711) ደውሉ።

[Ukrainian] Мовна підтримка, у тому числі послуги перекладачів та переклад друкованих матеріалів, доступна безкоштовно. Зателефонуйте за номером 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).

[Vietnamese] Các dịch vụ trợ giúp ngôn ngữ, bao gồm thông dịch viên và bản dịch tài liệu in, hiện có miễn phí. Gọi 1-800-562-3022 (TRS: 711).