



# DIABETES RECOMMENDATIONS AND TIER COVERAGE CHART

The American Diabetes Association guidelines for 2023, suggests healthy lifestyle, self-management education and support, avoidance of clinical inertia, and social determinants of health should be considered in the management of type 2 diabetes. Pharmacological therapy should be based on patient-centered treatment factors considering cardiovascular and renal risk factors, efficacy, hypoglycemic risk, weight, cost and access, side-effects, and individual preferences.

For more detailed information regarding ADA recommendations for pharmacological agents to treat T2DM click [here](#).

- FDA Approved for CVD benefit:
  - **GLP-1RA's**: dulaglutide, liraglutide, and injectable semaglutide
  - **SGLT2i's**: canagliflozin and empagliflozin if adequate eGFR
- FDA Approved for HF indication:
  - **SGLT2i's**: empagliflozin and dapagliflozin (canagliflozin and ertugliflozin have also seen benefit in HF although not FDA approved)
- FDA Approved for CKD indication:
  - **SGLT2i's**: canagliflozin and dapagliflozin (empagliflozin has seen benefit in progression of diabetic kidney disease although not FDA approved)
  - **GLP-1RA's**: benefit on renal end point in CVOT's but not FDA approved are dulaglutide, liraglutide, and injectable semaglutide

The following chart is a list of oral and injectable diabetes medications listed by class with their respective A1C reduction and insurance coverage and/or coverage requirements for BCBS, HPHC, Tufts, TMP, and MassHealth.

| Medications                                               | BCBSMA            | HPHC            | Tufts                               | Tufts Medicare Preferred | MassHealth                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Biguanides</b>                                         |                   |                 |                                     |                          |                                              |
| A1C reduction: 1-1.5%                                     |                   |                 |                                     |                          |                                              |
| Metformin                                                 | <i>Tier 1;2*</i>  | <i>Tier 1</i>   | <i>Tier 1</i>                       | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                               |
| <b>Glucophage</b> (metformin)                             | -                 | NC              | NC                                  | NC                       | <i>Generic preferred</i>                     |
| metformin ER                                              | <i>Tier 1;2</i>   | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>                       | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                               |
| <b>Gluophage XR</b> (metformin extended release)          | -                 | NC              | NC                                  | NC                       | <i>Generic preferred</i>                     |
| metformin solution                                        | <i>Tier 1;2</i>   | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 2</i>                       | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>PA ≥ 13 years<br/>(Generic preferred)</i> |
| <b>Riomet</b> solution                                    | <i>Tier 2;3;4</i> | NC              | NC                                  | NC                       | <i>PA ≥ 13 years</i>                         |
| <b>Riomet ER</b> solution                                 | <i>Tier 2;3;4</i> | NC              | NC                                  | NC                       | <i>PA</i>                                    |
| metformin extended release (modified)                     | NC                | NC              | PA<br><i>(Tier 3 once approved)</i> | NC                       | <i>PA</i>                                    |
| <b>Glumetza</b> (metformin, modified release)             | NC                | NC              | NC                                  | NC                       | <i>PA<br/>(Brand preferred)</i>              |
| metformin extended release (osmotic)                      | NC                | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | PA<br><i>(Tier 3 once approved)</i> | NC                       | <i>PA</i>                                    |
| <b>Fortamet ER</b> (metformin, osmotic release)           | NC                | NC              | NC                                  | NC                       | <i>PA</i>                                    |
| <b>Sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 Inhibitors (SGLT2)</b> |                   |                 |                                     |                          |                                              |
| A1C reduction: 0.5-1%                                     |                   |                 |                                     |                          |                                              |



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| Medications                                                                                                                               | BCBSMA               | HPHC                                                                          | Tufts                            | Tufts Medicare Preferred | MassHealth                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Jardiance</b> (empagliflozin)                                                                                                          | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i> | <i>Tier 2;3</i>                                                               | <i>Tier 2</i>                    | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                   |
| <b>Invokana</b> (canagliflozin)                                                                                                           | <i>NC</i>            | <i>NC</i>                                                                     | <i>NC</i>                        | <i>NC</i>                | <i>Covered</i>                   |
| <b>Farxiga</b> (dapagliflozin)                                                                                                            | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i> | <i>Tier 2;3</i>                                                               | <i>Tier 2</i>                    | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                   |
| <b>Steglatro</b> (ertugliflozin)                                                                                                          | <i>NC</i>            | <i>NC</i>                                                                     | <i>NC</i>                        | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                        |
| <b>Glucagon-like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) Receptor Agonists*</b><br>A1C reduction: 1-1.5%                                                        |                      |                                                                               |                                  |                          |                                  |
| <b>Trulicity</b> (dulaglutide)                                                                                                            | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i> | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>                                                          | <i>Tier 2</i>                    | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered (Brand Preferred)</i> |
| <b>Ozempic</b> (semaglutide)                                                                                                              | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i> | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>                                                          | <i>Tier 2</i>                    | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>PA</i>                        |
| <b>Rybelsus</b> (oral semaglutide)                                                                                                        | <i>NC</i>            | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>                                                          | <i>Tier 2</i>                    | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>PA</i>                        |
| <b>Victoza</b> (liraglutide)                                                                                                              | <i>NC</i>            | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>                                                          | <i>Tier 2</i>                    | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                   |
| <b>Bydureon</b> (exenatide extended release)                                                                                              | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i> | <i>NC</i>                                                                     | <i>NC</i>                        | <i>NC</i>                | <i>Covered</i>                   |
| <b>Bydureon BCise</b>                                                                                                                     | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i> | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>                                                          | <i>NC</i>                        | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>PA</i>                        |
| <b>Byetta</b> (exenatide)                                                                                                                 | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i> | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>                                                          | <i>NC</i>                        | <i>Tier 4</i>            | <i>Covered (Brand preferred)</i> |
| <b>Adlyxin</b> (lixisenatide)                                                                                                             | <i>NC</i>            | <i>NC</i>                                                                     | <i>NC</i>                        | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                        |
| <b>Glucose-dependent Insulinotropic Polypeptide (GIP) and Glucagon-like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonist (GLP-1)</b><br>A1C reduction: 1.7-2.4% |                      |                                                                               |                                  |                          |                                  |
| <b>Mounjaro</b> (tirzepatide)                                                                                                             |                      |                                                                               |                                  |                          |                                  |
| <b>Long-acting Insulin/Glucagon-like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) Receptor Agonists</b><br>A1C reduction: 0.5-1% versus insulin alone                |                      |                                                                               |                                  |                          |                                  |
| <b>Xultophy</b> (insulin degludec/liraglutide)                                                                                            | <i>NC</i>            | <i>PA (Tier 3;4 once approved)</i>                                            | <i>PA (Tier 3 once approved)</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                        |
| <b>Soliqua</b> (insulin glargine/lixisenatide)                                                                                            | <i>NC</i>            | <i>Premium Formulary: PA (Tier 3;4 once approved)<br/>Value Formulary: NC</i> | <i>PA (Tier 3 once approved)</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                        |
| <b>Dipeptidyl Peptidase-4 (DPP-4) Inhibitors</b><br>A1C reduction: 0.5-1%                                                                 |                      |                                                                               |                                  |                          |                                  |
| <b>Januvia</b> (sitagliptin)                                                                                                              | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i> | <i>Tier 2;3</i>                                                               | <i>Tier 2</i>                    | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                   |
| <b>Tradjenta</b> (linagliptin)                                                                                                            | <i>NC</i>            | <i>Tier 2;3</i>                                                               | <i>NC</i>                        | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                   |
| alogliptin                                                                                                                                | <i>NC</i>            | <i>Premium Formulary: NC<br/>Value Formulary: Tier 3;4;5 (ST)</i>             | <i>Tier 1</i>                    | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                        |
| <b>Nesina</b> (alogliptin)                                                                                                                | <i>NC</i>            | <i>NC</i>                                                                     | <i>NC</i>                        | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA (Brand preferred)</i>      |



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|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Onglyza</b> (saxagliptin)                                 | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>   | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| <b>Sulfonylureas</b><br>A1C reduction: 1-1.5%                |                        |                 |               |                          |                                      |
| glimepiride                                                  | <i>Tier 1</i>          | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| <b>Amaryl</b> (glimepiride)                                  | <i>Tier 2;3;4</i>      | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                            |
| glipizide                                                    | <i>Tier 1</i>          | <i>Tier 1</i>   | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| <b>Glucotrol</b> (glipizide)                                 | <i>Tier 2;3;4</i>      | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                            |
| glipizide ER/XL extended release                             | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| <b>Glucotrol XL</b> (glipizide extended release)             | <i>Tier 2;3;4</i>      | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                            |
| glyburide                                                    | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| glyburide micronized tablets                                 | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| <b>Glynase Prestab</b> (glyburide micronized tablets)        | <i>Tier 2;3;4</i>      | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                            |
| <b>Meglitinides</b><br>A1C reduction: 0.5-1%                 |                        |                 |               |                          |                                      |
| repaglinide                                                  | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| nateglinide                                                  | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| <b>Thiazolidinediones</b><br>A1C reduction: 1-1.5%           |                        |                 |               |                          |                                      |
| pioglitazone                                                 | <i>Tier 1;2 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| <b>Actos</b> (pioglitazone)                                  | <i>Tier 2;3;4 (ST)</i> | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                            |
| <b>Alpha-Glucosidase Inhibitors</b><br>A1C reduction: 0.5-1% |                        |                 |               |                          |                                      |
| acarbose                                                     | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| <b>Precose</b> (acarbose)                                    | <i>Tier 2;3</i>        | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                            |
| miglitol                                                     | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>PA</i>                            |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b><br>A1C reduction: 0.5%                  |                        |                 |               |                          |                                      |
| <b>Cycloset</b> (bromocriptine)                              | <i>Tier 2;3;4</i>      | <i>Tier 3;4</i> | <i>Tier 2</i> | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| colesevelam                                                  | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>PA</i>                            |
| <b>Welchol</b> (colesevelam)                                 | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>Covered<br/>(Brand preferred)</i> |
| <b>SymlinPen</b> (pramlintide)                               | <i>Tier 2;3</i>        | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| <b>Combination Products</b>                                  |                        |                 |               |                          |                                      |
| metformin/glipizide                                          | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |
| metformin/glyburide                                          | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                       |



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| Medications                                                         | BCBSMA                 | HPHC            | Tufts         | Tufts Medicare Preferred | MassHealth                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| metformin/repaglinide                                               | <i>Tier 1;2</i>        | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                             |
| metformin/pioglitazone                                              | <i>Tier 1;2 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Actoplus Met</b> (pioglitazone/metformin)                        | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                             |
| <b>Actoplus Met XR</b><br>(pioglitazone/metformin extended release) | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>-</i>                              |
| alogliptin/metformin                                                | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                             |
| <b>Kazano</b> (alogliptin/metformin)                                | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i><br><i>(Brand preferred)</i> |
| <b>Janumet</b> (sitagliptin/metformin)                              | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>Tier 2</i> | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Janumet XR</b> (sitagliptin/metformin extended release)          | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>Tier 2</i> | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Jentadueto</b> (linagliptin/metformin)                           | <i>NC</i>              | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>NC</i>     | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Jentadueto XR</b> (linagliptin/metformin extended release)       | <i>NC</i>              | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>NC</i>     | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Kombiglyze XR</b> (saxagliptin/metformin extended release)       | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>   | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Invokamet</b> (canagliflozin/metformin)                          | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Invokamet XR</b> (canagliflozin/metformin extended release)      | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Xigduo XR</b> (dapagliflozin/metformin extended release)         | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>Tier 2</i> | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Synjardy</b> (empagliflozin/metformin)                           | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>Tier 2</i> | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Synjardy XR</b> (empagliflozin/metformin extended release)       | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>Tier 2</i> | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>Covered</i>                        |
| <b>Segluromet</b> (ertugliflozin/metformin)                         | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                             |
| pioglitazone/glimepiride                                            | <i>Tier 1;2 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 1;2</i> | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>Tier 1</i>            | <i>PA</i>                             |
| <b>Duetact</b> (pioglitazone/glimepiride)                           | <i>Tier 2;3;4 (ST)</i> | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 3</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i><br><i>(Brand preferred)</i> |
| alogliptin/pioglitazone                                             | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>Tier 1</i> | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                             |
| <b>Oseni</b> (alogliptin/pioglitazone)                              | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i><br><i>(Brand preferred)</i> |
| <b>Qtern</b> (dapagliflozin/saxagliptin)                            | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                             |
| <b>Glyxambi</b> (empagliflozin/linagliptin)                         | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>Tier 2</i> | <i>Tier 3</i>            | <i>PA</i>                             |
| <b>Steglujan</b> (ertugliflozin/sitagliptin)                        | <i>NC</i>              | <i>NC</i>       | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                             |
| <b>Trijardy XR</b> (empagliflozin/linagliptin/metformin)            | <i>Tier 2;3 (ST)</i>   | <i>Tier 2;3</i> | <i>NC</i>     | <i>NC</i>                | <i>PA</i>                             |

NC = not covered

PA = prior authorization

ST = step therapy required

+ Metformin 625 mg is not covered

\* Weight loss potency: semaglutide>liraglutide>dulaglutide>exenatide>lixisenatide

(-) = no information provided



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## **REFERENCES:**

Tier coverage based on the following:

- BCBS: <https://home.bluecrossma.com/medication/med-search>
- HPHC: <https://www.harvardpilgrim.org/provider/pharmacy/formulary-lookup-preventive-drug-lists/> NOTE: HPHC has 2 formularies (Premium and Value) with different tier plans
- Tufts: <https://tuftshealthplan.com/member/employer-individual-or-family-plans/plans-benefits/pharmacy-benefit/pharmacy-formularies>
- TMP: <https://www.tuftsmedicarepreferred.org/drug-coverage>
- MassHealth: <https://masshealthdruglist.ehs.state.ma.us/MHDL/pubdownloadpdfcurrent.do?id=45>

The Medical Letter: Drug's for Type 2 Diabetes, Issue 1584, Volume 61, November 4, 2019.

The American Diabetes Association. January 2022. Introduction: Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes-2022, Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.2337/cd22-as01>