



NJ MEDICAID

APPROVAL MADE SIMPLE

Help your patients get the care they need. Use this guide to meet NJ Medicaid criteria and improve approval success.



ALL PLANS REQUIRE

- ✓ Prior Authorization (PA)
- ✓ Medical Necessity
- ✓ Step Therapy
- ✓ Moderate-to-Severe Psoriasis

NJ MEDICAID PLANS

HORIZON NJ HEALTH



- Most common plan in NJ.
- Strict on documentation.
- Clear systemic failure (especially methotrexate) helps approvals.

AETNA BETTER HEALTH



- Carefully reviews clinical information.
- May request additional history or labs.
- Strong focus on step therapy.

WELLPOINT



- PA required for all specialty meds.
- Strict on step edits.
- Be specific with treatment duration and outcomes.

FIDELIS CARE



- Similar criteria.
- Approval varies by line of business (standard vs MLTSS).
- Document all steps clearly.

WHAT PATIENTS NEED TO TRY & FAIL

1



TOPICAL THERAPIES (REQUIRED)

- High-potency topical corticosteroid (e.g., clobetasol, betamethasone)
- Vitamin D analog (e.g., calcipotriene)

≥ 4 weeks of therapy
Document inadequate response, intolerance, or disease too extensive for topicals.

2



PHOTOTHERAPY (OFTEN REQUIRED)

- NB-UVB preferred
 - ~ 8–12 weeks trial
- May be waived if:**
- Not feasible due to access/logistics
 - Work/transport barriers
 - Severe disease

3



SYSTEMIC THERAPY (REQUIRED)

Trial and failure, intolerance, or contraindication to at least ONE of the following:

- Methotrexate (preferred)
- Cyclosporine
- Acitretin

≥ 12 weeks of therapy
Unless contraindicated.

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BIOLOGIC ELIGIBILITY (ILUMYA® STAGE)

Moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis:

- BSA ≥ 10% OR
- Special areas involved (face, scalp, genitals, hands/feet)
- Impact on quality of life documented



DOCUMENTATION TIPS THAT WIN APPROVAL

- ✓ List ALL therapies tried with duration and outcome
- ✓ Address methotrexate specifically (tried/failed or contraindicated)
- ✓ Include BSA/IGA score and impact on quality of life
- ✓ Explain why phototherapy is not feasible (if applicable)



PRO TIP FOR CHARTS:

"Patient has failed high-potency topical steroids, is not a candidate for phototherapy due to access limitations, and has failed or has a contraindication to methotrexate."

This one sentence covers 90% of NJ Medicaid hurdles.



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