



## PCSK9 Inhibitors: Michigan

### PCSK9 Inhibitors

PCSK9 inhibitors are designed for patients with extremely high LDL, or “bad,” cholesterol. The drugs work by preventing the PCSK9 protein from destroying a receptor on the liver that clears bad cholesterol. The receptor “lives” longer, clearing more LDL cholesterol for the patient.

PCSK9 inhibitors are approved by the Food and Drug Administration to treat:

- **Heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia**, an inherited condition that causes high levels of LDL cholesterol
- **Clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease**, such as heart attacks or strokes.

### Analysis of Health Plan Coverage & Access

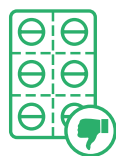
A national data supplier reviewed PCSK9 inhibitor claims for managed care organizations in Michigan from August 27, 2015 to July 21, 2016.

#### Key Michigan Findings



Rejection Rate:

**47%**



Total rejections:

**1,123**



Total appeals:

**361**

Of health plans that received at least 50 claims for PCSK9 inhibitors, the following had **the highest rates of rejections:**

Cigna **64%** | UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust **59%**  
United Health Group **56%** | Health Alliance Plan of MI HAP **56%**

The following had **the lowest rates of rejection:**

BCBS MI **45%** | Michigan State Employees **40%**  
Humana Health Plan **35%** | Aetna US Healthcare **23%**

The following table details claims data for the Michigan managed care organizations that received at least 50 claims for PCSK9 inhibitors.

MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION	Rejection %	Total Claims	Approvals	Rejections	Reversals
Cigna Healthcare	64.62%	65	22	42	1
UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust	59.69%	129	37	77	15
United Health Group	56.79%	162	50	92	20
Health Alliance Plan of MI HAP	56.30%	119	47	67	5
Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System	54.32%	81	19	44	18
Spectrum Priority Health	51.90%	79	33	41	5
CVS Health	51.85%	135	54	70	11
Express Scripts	49.28%	209	85	103	21
BCBS MI	45.50%	367	154	167	46
Michigan State Employees	40.63%	64	35	26	3
Humana Health Plan	35.03%	334	160	117	57
Aetna US Healthcare	23.29%	146	84	34	28

Data source: National data supplier; Medicare, Medicaid managed care and commercial plans; August 27, 2015-July 21, 2016.



The Institute for Patient Access is a physician led nonprofit 501(c)(3) research organization promoting the benefits of the physician-patient relationship in the provision of quality healthcare.

