

NAVIGATING PRESCRIPTION COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

So your patients may access WELLBUTRIN XL®
(bupropion hydrochloride) extended-release tablets

Your WELLBUTRIN XL Field Reimbursement Manager will PROVIDE LIVE SUPPORT AND EDUCATION REGARDING:

- Prior authorization (PA) process
- Requirements for a streamlined PA process
- How to avoid PA denials

INDICATION

WELLBUTRIN XL is indicated for the treatment of major depressive disorder (MDD), and for the prevention of seasonal major depressive episodes in patients with a diagnosis of seasonal affective disorder (SAD). Periodically reevaluate long-term usefulness for the individual patient.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: SUICIDAL THOUGHTS AND BEHAVIORS

SUICIDALITY AND ANTIDEPRESSANT DRUGS:

Antidepressants increased the risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior in children, adolescents, and young adults in short-term trials. These trials did not show an increase in the risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior with antidepressant use in subjects aged 65 and older.

In patients of all ages who are started on antidepressant therapy, monitor closely for worsening, and for emergence of suicidal thoughts and behaviors. Advise families and caregivers of the need for close observation and communication with the prescriber.

Contraindications

- patients with a seizure disorder
- patients with a current or prior diagnosis of bulimia or anorexia nervosa, due to a higher incidence of seizures
- patients undergoing abrupt discontinuation of alcohol, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, or antiepileptic drugs
- patients taking other bupropion products, including Zyban
- patients taking a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) or within 14 days of discontinuing MAOI treatment due to an increased risk of hypertensive reactions. Starting WELLBUTRIN XL in a patient treated with reversible MAOIs such as linezolid or intravenous methylene blue is contraindicated.
- patients with hypersensitivity to bupropion or other ingredients of WELLBUTRIN XL

Please click [here](#) for full Prescribing Information for WELLBUTRIN XL, including Boxed Warning regarding suicidal thoughts and behaviors.

Steps to Get a Prior Authorization (PA) Correct the First Time

Start It

- Obtain PA form through patient's health plan website, pharmacy, or CoverMyMeds (additional information regarding CoverMyMeds available on last page)
- Fill out PA form detailing the necessity of WELLBUTRIN XL
- Verify information is accurate and complete, including chart documentation

Submit It

- Submit PA form to patient's insurance plan for review
- Follow up with plan if you have not received a PA approval or denial in a timely manner
 - Electronic submission review may be immediate or take 2-3 days
 - Faxed submission review may take 10-14 days

Monitor It

- Contact your local Field Reimbursement Manager for help reviewing the PA outcome and next steps
- Inform the patient's pharmacy when PA is approved
- Make sure eligible* patient enrolls in the WELLBUTRIN XL savings program and uses copay card when filling his/her prescription

For additional resources to help you navigate the PA process, contact your local Field Reimbursement Manager

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Please visit <https://www.wellbutrinxl.com> for full eligibility criteria, and terms and conditions.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont)

Warnings and Precautions

- WELLBUTRIN XL is not approved for smoking cessation treatment; however, bupropion HCl sustained-release is approved for this use. Postmarketing reports of serious or clinically significant neuropsychiatric adverse events with smoking cessation treatment have included changes in mood (including depression and mania), psychosis, hallucinations, paranoia, delusions, homicidal ideation, aggression, hostility, agitation, anxiety, and panic, as well as suicidal ideation, suicide attempt, and completed suicide. Observe patients attempting to quit smoking with WELLBUTRIN XL for the occurrence of such symptoms and instruct them to discontinue WELLBUTRIN XL and contact a healthcare provider if they experience such adverse events.
- Bupropion is associated with a dose-related risk of seizures. The dose should not exceed 300 mg once daily. Increase the dose gradually. Discontinue WELLBUTRIN XL and do not restart treatment if the patient experiences a seizure. Use with extreme caution in patients with a history of seizure or cranial trauma, or in patients treated with other medications that lower the seizure threshold.

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Streamline PA Process

- **Check Specific Payer Requirements:**
 - PA criteria can differ between health plans—always verify patient’s insurance requirements
- **Clearly document the following:**
 - Appropriate ICD-10 code for major depressive disorder (MDD) or seasonal affective disorder (SAD).*
 - Previous antidepressant therapies, including drug name, duration on therapy and outcomes
 - Prescribed dosing and quantities. WELLBUTRIN XL is a once-daily, single tablet and is available in 150 mg and 300 mg strengths¹

Avoid Common Reasons for PA Denial

- PA not completed or incorrect
- Dosing does not match indication
- Invalid or inaccurate diagnosis (ICD-10) code
- Patient did not try and fail on formulary alternative
- WELLBUTRIN XL is not covered by patient’s formulary
- For PA renewals, missing documentation of clinical improvement

ICD-10 Codes for MDD or SAD^{2*}

F33 Major depressive disorder, recurrent	
Includes:	recurrent episodes of seasonal affective disorder recurrent episodes of seasonal depressive disorder
F33.0	Major depressive disorder, recurrent, mild
F33.1	Major depressive disorder, recurrent, moderate
F33.2	Major depressive disorder, recurrent, severe without psychotic features
F33.3	Major depressive disorder, recurrent, severe with psychotic symptoms
F33.4	Major depressive disorder, recurrent, in remission
F33.8	Other recurrent depressive disorders
F33.9	Major depressive disorder, recurrent, unspecified

As of October 2022, seasonal affective disorder is a recognized diagnosis in the CMS tabular index, enabling healthcare professionals to further clarify a SAD diagnosis and send all SAD diagnoses to one simple code: F33.

***Disclaimer:** The codes are for informational purposes only. It represents no statement, promise, or guarantee by Bausch Health Companies Inc. concerning coverage and/or levels of reimbursement, payment, or charge and is not intended to increase or maximize reimbursement by any payer. It is the responsibility of the healthcare provider to determine the appropriate code(s) for service provided to his or her patient.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont)

Warnings and Precautions (cont)

- Treatment with WELLBUTRIN XL can result in elevated blood pressure and hypertension. Assess blood pressure before initiating treatment with WELLBUTRIN XL and monitor periodically during treatment.
- Antidepressant treatment can precipitate a manic, mixed, or hypomanic manic episode. Prior to initiating WELLBUTRIN XL, screen patients for a history of bipolar disorder and the presence of risk factors for bipolar disorder (e.g., family history of bipolar disorder, suicide, or depression). WELLBUTRIN XL is not approved for the treatment of bipolar depression.
- Depressed patients treated with bupropion have had a variety of neuropsychiatric signs and symptoms, including delusions, hallucinations, psychosis, concentration disturbance, paranoia, and confusion. Some of these patients had a diagnosis of bipolar disorder. In some cases, these symptoms abated upon dose reduction and/or withdrawal of treatment. Discontinue WELLBUTRIN XL if these reactions occur.
- The pupillary dilation that occurs following use of many antidepressant drugs including WELLBUTRIN XL may trigger an angle closure attack (Angle-Closure Glaucoma) in a patient with anatomically narrow angles who does not have a patent iridectomy.
- Anaphylactoid/anaphylactic reactions have occurred during clinical trials with bupropion, as well as rare, postmarketing reports of erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, and anaphylactic shock associated with bupropion.

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covermymeds®

Through an online platform and robust network integrations with leading EHRs, more than 900,000 providers use CoverMyMeds to electronically submit PA requests to every health plan.³



Submit requests for any medication and all plans



Renew previously submitted PA requests



Receive faster PA determinations,* often in real time



Automatically notify patients of PA determination

GET STARTED IN THREE EASY STEPS

01

Create an account with **CoverMyMeds**, or log in to your existing account at covermymeds.com.

02

Start a **PA request** or access a pharmacy-initiated request. **Complete PA fields** including option, with consent, to enable auto-share of PA determination with your patient.

03

Electronically submit the request to any plan for determination.

Need help getting started?

1-866-452-5017 | go.covermymeds.com/help

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont)

Adverse Reactions

- The most common adverse reactions that occurred in at least 5% of patients treated with bupropion HCl sustained-release (300 mg and 400 mg per day) and at a rate at least twice the placebo rate were: anorexia, dry mouth, nausea, insomnia, dizziness, pharyngitis, abdominal pain, agitation, anxiety, tremor, palpitation, sweating, tinnitus, myalgia, urinary frequency, and rash.

Drug Interactions

- An increased dose of bupropion may be necessary if co-administered with CYP2B6 inducers based on clinical exposure but should not exceed the maximum recommended dose. Bupropion inhibits CYP2D6 and can increase concentrations of: antidepressants, antipsychotics, beta-blockers, and Type 1C antiarrhythmics. Consider dose reduction when using with bupropion. Dose bupropion with caution when used with drugs that lower seizure threshold. CNS toxicity can occur when bupropion is used concomitantly with dopaminergic drugs.
- WELLBUTRIN XL can cause false-positive urine test results for amphetamines.

Use in Special Populations

- Pregnancy: Use only if benefit outweighs potential risk to the fetus. Healthcare providers are encouraged to register patients in the Pregnancy Exposure Registry by calling 1-844-405-6185 or visiting <https://womensmentalhealth.org/research/pregnancyregistry/>.
- In patients with moderate to severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score: 7 to 15), the maximum dose is 150 mg every other day. In patients with mild hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh score: 5 to 6) or renal impairment (glomerular filtration rate <90 mL/min), consider reducing the dose and/or frequency of dosing.
- Advise patients to read the FDA-approved patient labeling (Medication Guide).

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Bausch Health at 1-800-321-4576 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch.

Please click [here](#) for full Prescribing Information for WELLBUTRIN XL, including Boxed Warning regarding suicidal thoughts and behaviors.

References: 1. WELLBUTRIN XL. Prescribing Information. Bausch Health Companies Inc; 2024. 2. ICD10Data.com. Major depressive disorder, recurrent F33-. <https://www.icd10data.com/ICD10CM/Codes/F01-F99/F30-F39/F33->. Accessed March 20, 2025. 3. CoverMyMeds Data on File. Bausch Health; 2025.