

**PharmaLogic®
Spotlight 2026**
Edition 1

January 20, 2026



Brown & Brown’s PharmaLogic® Spotlight communications review evolving pharmacy dynamics and trends driving prescription drug use and cost to guide benefits decision-making.

**Inside this
PharmaLogic® Spotlight:**

- 2025 Drug Approvals Influencing Benefits
- Lipid Lowering Drug Trends
- Vaccine Guideline Revisions
- Biosimilar Use
- Injectable Drug Growth
- GLP-1 Update

2025 Drug Approvals Influencing Benefits

The pace of new drug approvals picked up during the second half of 2025, bringing the total to more than 50 new drugs and biologics for the year. Many offer new therapeutic approaches to challenging diseases. Cancer remains the most represented condition for new drugs. Drugs for several rare diseases, with many being first-in-class treatments, offer new hope for those patients. Cardiovascular drug approvals include new lipid lowering options and therapies to treat arrhythmias and cardiomyopathy. A new HIV pre-exposure prevention (PrEP) drug, drugs for dry eye and presbyopia (farsightedness), an every 6-month injectable for asthma, an antibiotic to treat sexually transmitted infections, a non-opioid pain medication and the first oral GLP-1 to for weight loss also received approval from the FDA.

“

The pace of new drug approvals picked up during the second half of 2025 ... Many offer new therapeutic approaches to challenging diseases.



FDA Approved

Cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avmapki™, Hynuo®, Komzifti™, Zegfrovy™, Emrelis™, Romvimza™, Inluriyo™, Hernexeos® and Modeyso™
Rare Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andembry® and Dawnzera™ to prevent and Ekterly® to treat hereditary angioedema (HAE) attacks • Imaavy™ for myasthenia gravis • Jascayd® for pulmonary fibrosis • Qfitlia™ for hemophilia A or B • Forzinity™ for Barth syndrome
Gene / Cell Therapies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waskyra™, Itvisma®, Zevaskyn™, Encelto™
Anti-infective / Antiviral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yeztugo® for HIV PrEP • Bluejepa™ for urinary tract infections • Nuzolvence® for gonorrhea
Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journavx®, a non-opioid medication for acute pain
Cardiovascular	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lerochol™ and Redemplo® to lower lipids • Myqorzo™ for cardiomyopathy • Cardamyst™ for paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia arrhythmia
Eye	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vizz® for presbyopia or farsightedness • Tryptyr® for dry eye
New indications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment of MASH (metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis), a form of fatty liver disease for Wegovy® • Treatment of COPD for Dupixent® and Nucala®
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brinsupri™ for bronchiectasis, a chronic lung disease • Wegovy® oral for weight loss



Pending FDA Review

- Oncology drugs for various cancers
- Additional GLP-1 medications including another oral option
- Cardiovascular drugs to inhibit platelets and lower triglycerides
- Once-a-week insulin for diabetes patients
- New gene therapies

Lipid Lowering Drug Trends

HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, commonly known as statins, continue to be the foundation of therapy to manage cholesterol levels. Statins include Crestor®, Lipitor®, Zocor® and their generic equivalents. Extensive use of generics in the past few years has created savings for most plans in this frequently used class of drugs.

97%

of prescriptions for lipid lowering drugs were filled with generics in 2025.

PharmaLogic® Data

Prescribers also use other medications to block absorption of lipids and target other functions to decrease LDL (bad cholesterol), increase HDL (good cholesterol) and lower triglyceride levels. Some patients require additional medications that block or inhibit certain lipid proteins to achieve optimal cholesterol levels. These medications include Repatha®, Praluent®, Leqvio®, Redempro® and Lerochol™ - all branded medications are under patent, with no generics currently available. Another new lipid protein blocker may receive FDA approval in 2026.

Use of lipid protein blockers has increased over the past 3 years, accounting for 42% of costs in the lipid lowering category during 2025.

Vaccine Guideline Revisions

Recent decisions made by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the FDA signaled new directions in vaccine policy.

Updates include:

- **COVID-19** vaccinations are now recommended only for people age 65 and over and patients 6 months and older with conditions that put them at high risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19. The decision to vaccinate anyone six months and older is now based on shared clinical decision making between the patient and provider after discussing the risks vs. the benefits
- Separate MMR (**measles, mumps, rubella**) and **varicella** (chickenpox) shots are now recommended for a child’s first dose rather than the combined MMRV shot that combined all 4 vaccines
- Birth vaccination for **hepatitis B** has shifted away from a universal recommendation to a decision made by parents and their doctor. Birth vaccination does remain recommended for babies born to mothers with hepatitis B infection

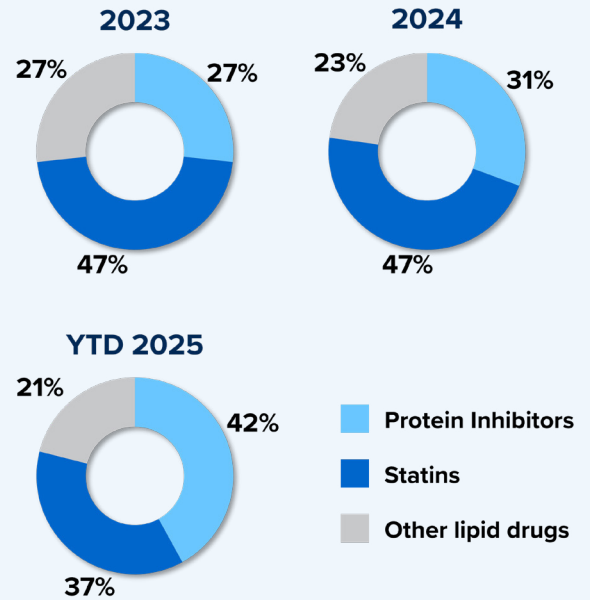
Influenza vaccination guidance has not changed. Annual influenza vaccines remain recommended for everyone 6 months and older.

Influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations rates within pharmacy benefits were lower in 2025, declining 7% for influenza and 30% for COVID-19.

Portion of Costs by Type of Lipid Lowering Drug

% Gross Cost for Lipid Lowering Drugs

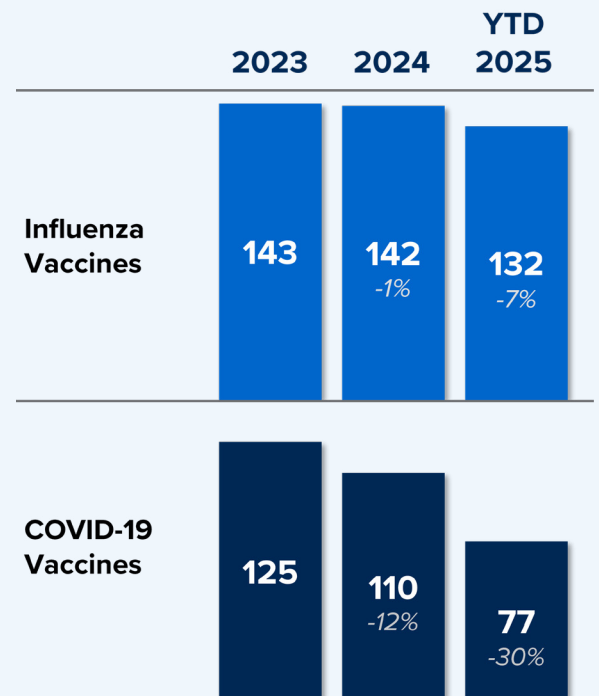
PharmaLogic® Data



Vaccination Rates in Rx Benefit

Vaccine patients per 1000 Rx Patients and % change

PharmaLogic® Data



Biosimilar Use

As patents for brand biologic drugs have expired, lower cost biosimilar options have become available. Meaningful use of lower cost Humira® biosimilars was realized in most plans in late 2024 and 2025. New biosimilars for Stelara® and Prolia® became available in 2025 and use is increasing.

Formulary strategies preferring biosimilars and excluding coverage of original brands when supplies of biosimilars are stable are key to achieving savings.

Injectable Drug Growth

Injectables account for a larger portion of prescription benefit costs. Use of injectable anti-inflammatory, rare disease, respiratory, weight loss, migraine, lipid lowering and insulin drugs has grown.

Injectable drugs in 2025 account for 53% of costs.

47%
of non-specialty and
53%
of specialty drug costs are related to injectables.

PharmaLogic® Data

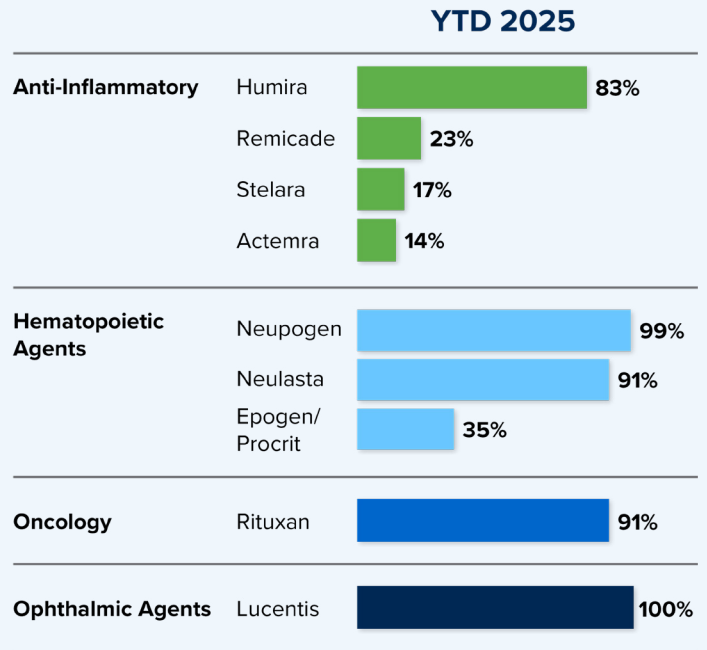
Explore injectable drug use:

- Review your pharmacy plan’s use of injectables
- Consider discussions with medical carriers and pharmacy benefit managers to review use of injectables
- This type of investigation may elicit opportunities for more efficient care delivery and possible savings for the overall health benefit

Specialty Biosimilar Substitution Rates

% of claims dispensed as biosimilar when they are available

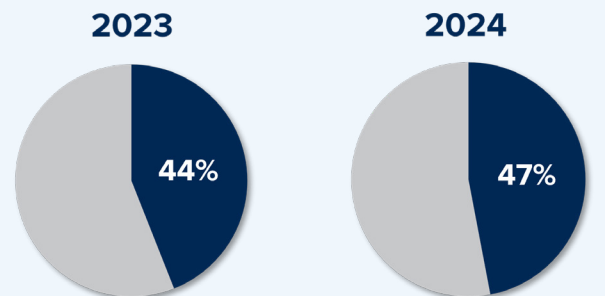
PharmaLogic® Data



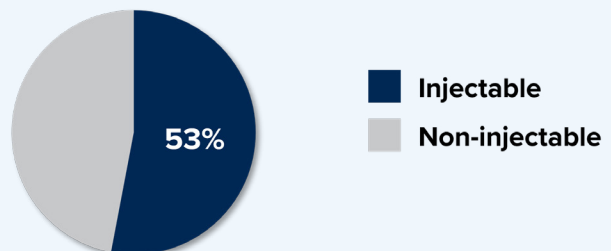
Rates will vary by plan and formulary strategy in place.

Injectables as Percent of Total Cost

PharmaLogic® Data



YTD 2025





GLP-1 Update

The first oral GLP-1 for weight loss was approved in December 2025. An increase in patients using GLP-1s for weight loss is expected as the new tablet form of Wegovy enters the market. More GLP-1s, including another oral option, are pending FDA approval.

The availability of new GLP-1 drugs, supply and demand changes, competition, the entrance of many

direct-to-consumer online vendors and governmental pressures have contributed to price volatility. Net cost reductions are possible for GLP-1s, but increased use will likely still continue to stress benefit plan budgets.

Brown & Brown will assist you in discussions with PBMs and disease management providers to refine your benefit approach to weight loss and other uses for GLP-1 drugs.

GLP-1 Drugs	for Diabetes		for Weight Loss	
	Daily	Weekly	Daily	Weekly
<i>semaglutide</i>	Rybelsus® oral	Ozempic® injection	Wegovy® oral ^{NEW}	Wegovy® injection
<i>tirzepatide</i>		Mounjaro® injection		Zepbound® injection
<i>liraglutide</i>	Victoza® injection		Saxenda® injection	
<i>dulaglutide</i>		Trulicity® injection		



About PharmaLogic®

PharmaLogic® is Brown & Brown's proprietary pharmacy data analytics platform that enables millions of dollars of annual financial savings and provides intelligent clinical analytics that positively impact individual medication access and improve overall population health. PharmaLogic® is leveraged for PBM contract modeling, PBM RFPs and/or negotiation, ongoing claims monitoring, advocacy and management, and consulting services to ensure that customers understand plan design, trends, forecasts, and issues that impact spend and population management.

Brown & Brown is ready to assist you as you face new prescription benefit challenges and contemplate benefit changes and potential solutions. Together, we can review strategies with PBMs, including optimizing formulary incentives to support biosimilar use and utilization and behavioral management related to new and continuing drug therapies.



Find Your Solution at [BBrown.com](https://www.bbrownc.com)

Please be advised that any and all information, comments, analysis, and/or recommendations set forth above relative to the possible impact of COVID-19 on potential insurance coverage or other policy implications are intended solely for informational purposes and should not be relied upon as legal or medical advice. As an insurance broker, we have no authority to make coverage decisions as that ability rests solely with the issuing carrier. Therefore, all claims should be submitted to the carrier for evaluation. The positions expressed herein are opinions only and are not to be construed as any form of guarantee or warranty. Finally, given the extremely dynamic and rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation, comments above do not take into account any applicable pending or future legislation introduced with the intent to override, alter or amend current policy language.

Brown & Brown, Inc. and all its affiliates, do not provide legal, regulatory or tax guidance, or advice. If legal advice counsel or representation is needed, the services of a legal professional should be sought. The information in this document is intended to provide a general overview of the topics and services contained herein. Brown & Brown, Inc. and all its affiliates, make no representation or warranty as to the accuracy or completeness of the document and undertakes no obligation to update or revise the document based upon new information or future changes.