

October 18, 2024



RE: Changes for Medicare Patients Taking Phosphate-Lowering Medication

Dear Northwest Kidney Centers Patient:

Beginning Jan. 1, 2025, if you are currently covered by Medicare, you will be required to have your prescription for phosphate-lowering medications (aka, phosphate binders) provided by the Northwest Kidney Centers pharmacy. This change is a result of a new requirement from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Specifically, this new requirement applies to the following medications:

- Sevelamer carbonate (Renvela)
- Sevelamer hydrochloride (Renagel)
- Calcium Acetate (Phoslo)
- Sucroferric oxyhydroxide (Velphoro)
- Lanthanum carbonate (Fosrenol)
- Ferric Citrate (Auryxia)
- Tenapanor (Xphozah)

We have notified your physician of this change and asked them to send your next order for phosphate-lowering medication to the Northwest Kidney Centers pharmacy. We ask that you confirm with your doctor that they are aware of the change and have already sent your prescription to Northwest Kidney Centers. The deadline for making this change is Dec. 30, 2024.

Getting medications from the Northwest Kidney Centers pharmacy is easy. If you dialyze at one of our clinics, your medication will be delivered to your clinic. For patients who live in skilled nursing facilities or who dialyze at home, your medications will be delivered to your place of residence. For information on how to fill or refill a prescription, visit our website at <https://www.nwkidney.org/refill-a-prescription/>.

If you have questions, please speak with your clinic's dietitian.

Sincerely,
Matt Rivara, MD
Chief Medical Officer