View this email in your browser

Dear Provider,

We are writing to you as a trusted partner in delivering high-quality, cost-effective care to our members. As a health plan, we share your commitment to ensuring patients receive the safest, most clinically appropriate treatments, and we also carry a shared responsibility to protect the long-term sustainability of the healthcare system we all depend on.

We do not take lightly the role we play in that balance, and we deeply respect the clinical judgment and dedication you bring to every patient encounter. This letter is not about telling you how to practice medicine. It is about sharing information we believe can help us in bringing our best to our patients and our community.

The Unsustainable Trajectory of Specialty Drug Costs

The cost of specialty biologic medications has increased at a pace that is becoming difficult to sustain. Brand-name drugs like Humira® (adalimumab) and Stelara® (ustekinumab) have seen price increases year after year that far outpace inflation, placing significant burden on patients, payers and the system as a whole. These are not isolated examples, and they represent a broader pattern across the specialty medication landscape.

The good news is that the FDA approval of biosimilar medications held to the same rigorous standards of safety, efficacy and quality as their reference products offers a meaningful path forward. These medications provide clinically equivalent outcomes while generating real savings that can be reinvested in care, benefits and access for our members.

Effective July 1, 2026, SummaCare will be making the following formulary transitions for our members. We want to give you as much lead time as possible, so you can plan accordingly for your patients:

1. Humira® (adalimumab) → Adalimumab-RYVK or Adalimumab-AATY

Change	**Humira® Brand (adalimumab) will be removed from the SummaCare Commercial and Marketplace formularies effective July 1, 2026.**
New Members	We respectfully request that any new SummaCare commercial members requiring adalimumab therapy be initiated on an FDA-approved adalimumab biosimilar rather than the branded Humira® product.
Existing Members	We are asking for your partnership in transitioning current stable patients on Humira® to an adalimumab biosimilar at your next clinically appropriate opportunity. We appreciate that timing and patient readiness matter, and we trust your judgment on how best to approach that conversation with each patient.
Biosimilar Options	FDA-approved adalimumab biosimilars that SummaCare provides include adalimumab-RYVK and adalimumab-AATY — all subcutaneous auto-injectors identical in route of administration to Humira®.

2. Stelara® (ustekinumab) → Ustekinumab-AEKN, Steqeyma or Yesintek

Change	**Stelara® brand (ustekinumab) will be removed from the SummaCare Commercial and Marketplace formularies effective July 1, 2026.**
New Members	We respectfully request that any new SummaCare commercial members requiring ustekinumab therapy be initiated on an FDA-approved biosimilar rather than the branded Stelara® product.
Existing Members	We are requesting your support in transitioning current Stelara® patients to ustekinumab-AEKN, Steqeyma or Yesintek at your next clinically appropriate visit.
Biosimilar Options	FDA-approved biosimilars that SummaCare provides include ustekinumab-AEKN, Steqeyma and Yesintek. These products carry the same FDA-approved indications as

A Broader Ask: Our Partnership in Sustainable Prescribing

Beyond Humira® and Stelara®, we want to share something candidly with you: the specialty medication pipeline is producing more biosimilars every year, and we believe that is universally good news for patients and for healthcare. When a biosimilar is FDA-approved as clinically equivalent to a reference product, it creates a meaningful opportunity to stretch every healthcare dollar further which ultimately means more access, more coverage and better benefits for the patients you see every day.

We are asking, not requiring, that when you are initiating a specialty biologic therapy for a SummaCare member, and a biosimilar is available and clinically appropriate, you consider the biosimilar first. We know that is not always the right call. We trust your expertise completely. But your willingness to have that conversation with patients, and to default toward biosimilars when all else is equal, makes a real difference.

Specialty areas where FDA-approved biosimilars are currently available include:

- Rheumatology (RA, PsA, AS): adalimumab, etanercept, abatacept, rituximab, infliximab biosimilars
- Dermatology / Gastroenterology: ustekinumab, adalimumab biosimilars
- Oncology supportive care: rituximab, trastuzumab, bevacizumab biosimilars
- Ophthalmology: ranibizumab, aflibercept biosimilars

We are committed to supporting you in this effort. If you have questions about formulary coverage, biosimilar contracting or prior authorization requirements for specific medications, our pharmacy team is here and happy to help.

Thank you for the extraordinary care you provide for our members each day, and for your continued partnership with SummaCare. We are genuinely grateful for your willingness to engage in these important issues.

For questions or concerns, please contact Provider Support Services at 330.996.8400 (TTY **711**) or email Provider Engagement at providerengagement@summacare.com.

1200 E. Market Street, Suite 400, Akron, Ohio 44305