

## AB 2144: California Utilization Management Reform

To protect patients from the harmful impact of barriers to care that limit medically necessary access to vital medications prescribed by their health care providers, California lawmakers must pass AB 2144, which reforms this unfair & clinically burdensome process in 2020

### What is Utilization Management?

Utilization Management (UM) is a set of formal techniques designed to monitor the use of or evaluate the medical necessity, appropriateness, efficacy or efficiency of health care services, procedures or settings. UM protocols include prior authorization and step therapy protocol.

**Without proper guidelines, UM limits a health care provider's ability to tailor care to individual patient needs. For patients living with serious or chronic illnesses, prolonging ineffective treatment and delaying access to the right treatment may result in increased disease activity, loss of function, and possible irreversible progression of disability.**

### What are the barriers patients face?

UM protocols are becoming increasingly common across plans. An analysis focused on 12 medications used to treat arthritis, plaque psoriasis, Crohn's disease, and colitis found that between 2015 and 2016, employer plans increased the use of UM on these products from 18 % to 60%.

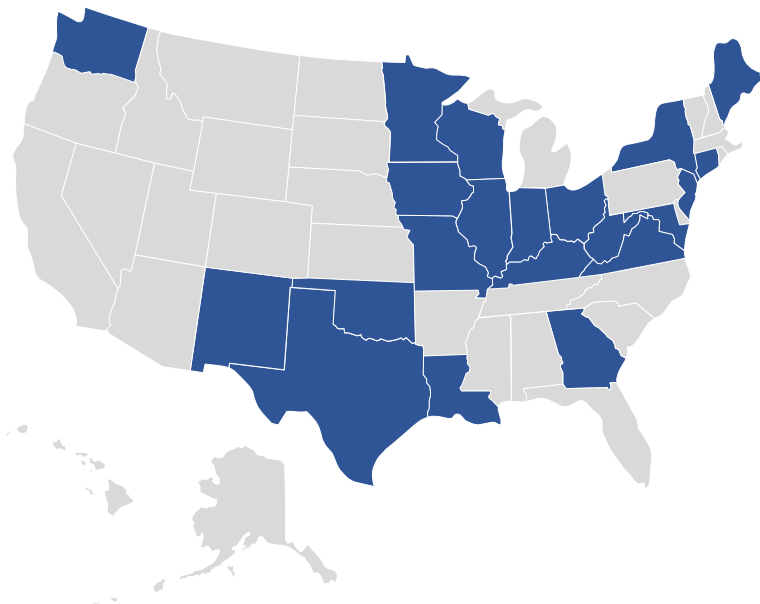
### What is AB 2144 looks to accomplish:

- Creates a transparent and standard utilization management process for prescribing health care providers and patients.
- Build upon past legislation by adding common sense guardrails to UM protocols
- Ensures that a clinical peer makes the utilization management decision on behalf of health plans.
- Requires reporting to departments concerning usage of UM protocols.

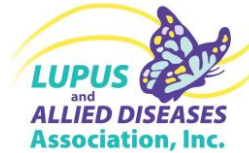
### What have other states and the US Congress done?

Currently, more than 20 states have implemented standard exceptions to step therapy.

In addition, Congress has introduced a bill to reform step therapy on the federal level for ERISA plans. The House version, HR 2279, was introduced by California Rep. Raul Ruiz and has more than 120 cosponsors. The Senate version, S.2546, has more than a dozen cosponsors.



# Organizations that support AB 2144: Utilization Management Reform in California



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