Insurance Coverage of Medical Food

- Typically, medical food is provided to the patient through the durable medical equipment part of the insurance plan, not the pharmacy.
- There are currently 17 states (Arizona, Connecticut, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Washington) that mandate insurance coverage in some form for amino-acid based elemental formula for fully insured plans. More states have legislation pending.1
- Some language used for mandated insurance coverage:

  o **ARIZONA, ARS § 20-2332:** A. Any health benefit plan that is offered by an accountable health plan and that contains a prescription drug benefit shall cover amino acid-based formula that is ordered by a physician or by a registered nurse practitioner if:

    - 1. The insured has been diagnosed with an eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorder.
    - 2. The insured is under the continuous supervision of a physician who is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 13 or 17 or a registered nurse practitioner who is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 15.
    - 3. There is risk of a mental or physical impairment without the use of the formula.
    - B. An accountable health plan shall cover at least seventy-five per cent of the cost of the formula. The accountable health plan may limit the maximum annual benefit for formula under this section to twenty thousand dollars.

  o **ILLINOIS - Language of Statute–215 ILCS 5/356z.10**

    - Amino acid-based elemental formulas

A group or individual major medical accident and health insurance policy or managed care plan amended, delivered, issued, or renewed after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly must provide coverage and reimbursement for amino acid-based elemental formulas, regardless of delivery method, for the diagnosis and treatment of (I) eosinophilic disorders and (ii) short bowel syndrome when the prescribing physician has issued a written order stating that the amino acid-based elemental formula is medically necessary.

---