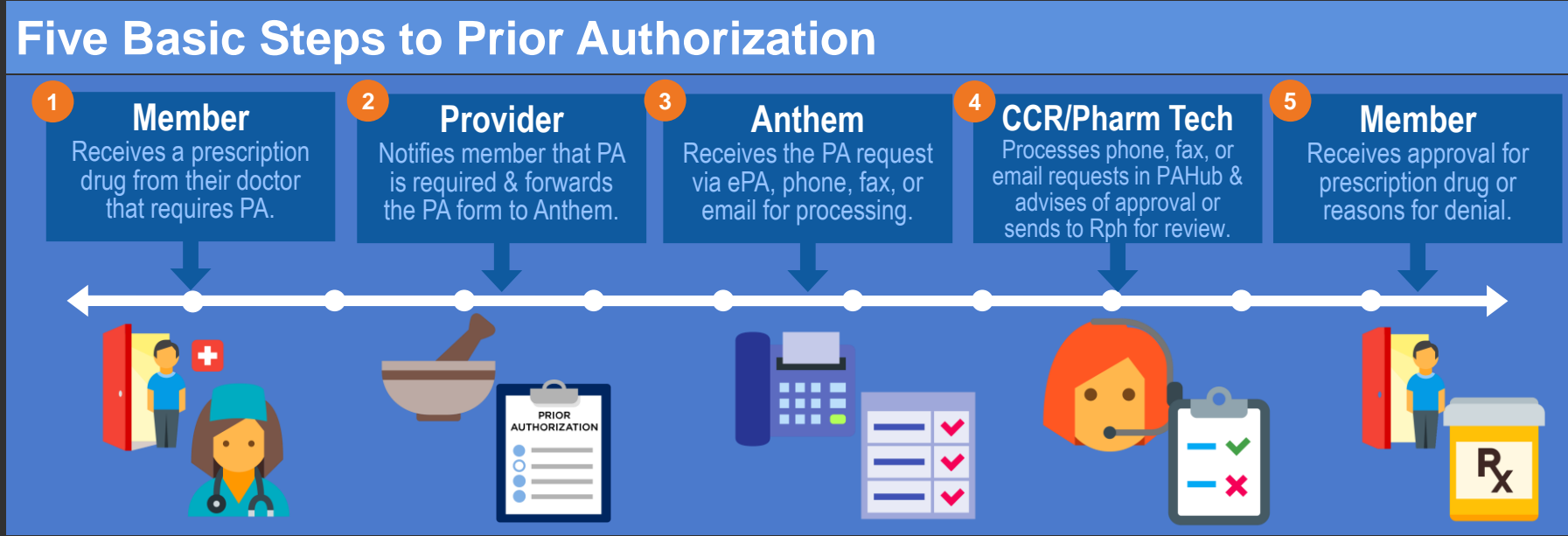


# WHAT IS PRIOR AUTHORIZATION (PA)?



### Definition

Prior Authorization (PA) is a basic component of managed care providing a control point for quality of care and cost effectiveness. One of the strongest Rx utilization management tools we have.



### Non-PA Drugs

Most prescriptions get filled right away when a member takes them to the pharmacy. This is typically applicable to non-specialty drugs that *do not* require a review process.

### PA Drugs

However, certain drugs need to be reviewed and approved by the member's health plan before they are covered. This process is called **Prior Authorization**.