

Pharmacy Management Drug Policy

SUBJECT: Clinical Review Prior Authorization (CRPA) Medical

POLICY NUMBER: PHARMACY-63

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/2004

LAST REVIEW DATE: 09/12/2023

If the member's subscriber contract excludes coverage for a specific service or prescription drug, it is not covered under that contract. In such cases, medical or drug policy criteria are not applied. This drug policy applies to the following line/s of business:

Policy Application

Category:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial Group (e.g., EPO, HMO, POS, PPO)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicare Advantage
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Exchange Qualified Health Plans (QHP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicare Part D
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Off Exchange Direct Pay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Essential Plan (EP)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicaid & Health and Recovery Plans (MMC/HARP)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Health Plus (CHP)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Employee Program (FEP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ancillary Services
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (D-SNP)	

POLICY:

The drug Clinical Review Prior-Authorization (CRPA) process is designed to ensure that newly approved (FDA) prescription drugs are used appropriately in cases where a drug poses potential efficacy, quality, toxicity, or utilization concerns for the members and the Health Plan. In addition, this policy may be used for medications that have significant concerns about safety or inappropriate use, but do not warrant a stand-alone policy. The Pharmacy Management clinical team reviews the drugs found in this policy. A Letter of Medical Necessity (LOMN), Exception Form, or Prior Authorization Form completion is required for consideration of drug coverage under this policy.

Drug Name – generic name (Medical benefit)

Authorization Criteria

Briumvi - ublituximab-xiyy (Medical)

****Prior Authorization only applies to Managed Medicaid (MMC)/Child Health Plus (CHP)/Essential Plan; no prior authorization is requested for lines of business other than MMC/CHP/EP****

1. Must be at least 18 years of age **AND**
2. Must be prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist **AND**
3. Must have a diagnosis of a relapsing form of multiple sclerosis which includes clinically isolated syndrome, relapsing-remitting disease, or active secondary progressive disease **AND**
4. Step Therapy Applies - The patient must have had serious side effects or drug failure of two or more medications (oral or self-injectable) indicated for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (minimum 12-week trials) **AND**
 - a. The use of Briumvi as a first line therapy for the treatment of multiple sclerosis will be assessed on a case-by-case basis through a letter of medical necessity based on severity of the disease. Coverage will be considered if any of the following are met: >2 attacks within the last 18 months, brain stem/cerebellar/or spinal cord disease, greater than 3 gadolinium enhancing lesions with significant clinical exacerbations and/or motor involvement, bilateral optic neuritis, and/or rapid cognitive decline.
5. The patient must not currently be on combination therapy with any other multiple sclerosis disease modifying agent such as Avonex, Rebif, Ocrevus, Betaseron, Extavia, Copaxone, Aubagio, Tecfidera, Gilenya, Tysabri, or Lemtrada
6. Briumvi will not be approved in patients with an active hepatitis B virus infection
7. See the Briumvi Prescribing Information for approved dosage and administration

HCPCS: J2329 (effective July 1st, 2023)

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Cablivi – caplacizumab-yhdp (Medical & Rx)

1. The medication must be prescribed by, or in consultation with, a hematologist **AND**
2. The patient must be at least 18 years of age or older **AND**
3. Must have a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of acquired thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (aTTP) **AND**
4. Must be used in combination with plasma exchange and immunosuppressive therapy (such as systemic corticosteroids or a rituximab-containing product)
5. If the above criteria are met, Cablivi will be approved under the medical benefit for administration while the patient is receiving plasma exchange.
6. Continued coverage post-plasma exchange, under the pharmacy benefit, will require the following:
 - a. Documentation confirming a diagnosis of aTTP (i.e., suppressed ADAMTS13 activity levels, etc.) **AND**
 - b. Documentation confirming the patient has not had more than 2 recurrences of aTTP while on therapy with Cablivi (a recurrence is defined as thrombocytopenia occurring after initial recovery of platelet count that requires re-initiation of daily plasma exchange) **AND**
 - c. The date of last plasma exchange treatment **AND**
 - d. The number of remaining doses (dosed once daily) needed to complete the post-plasma exchange treatment phase (maximum 30 days of treatment post-plasma exchange is allowed for the initial treatment course)
 - i. Cablivi will be approved under the pharmacy benefit in accordance with the number of remaining doses required to complete the initial treatment course (up to 30 days post-plasma exchange). For example, for a patient needing 24 doses to complete the initial treatment course will be approved for 24 days of treatment
7. Requests for additional therapy (after 30 days of treatment post-plasma exchange) will be approved for a maximum of 28 additional days if the provider submits the following:
 - a. Documentation of remaining signs of persistent underlying disease (such as suppressed ADAMTS13 activity levels) **AND**
 - b. Documentation confirming the patient has not had more than 2 recurrences of aTTP while on therapy with Cablivi (a recurrence is defined as thrombocytopenia occurring after initial recovery of platelet count that requires re-initiation of daily plasma exchange)

Ceproin - Protein C Concentrate, Human (Medical)

1. Must be followed by a hematologist
2. Have a diagnosis of severe congenital protein C deficiency confirmed by antigenic and functional plasma coagulation assays

HCPCS: J2724

Eylea HD – aflibercept (Medical)

1. Must be 18 years and older **AND**
2. Must be prescribed by ophthalmologist **AND**
3. Based on comparable efficacy and safety profiles, for a diagnosis of Neovascular (Wet) Age-Related Macular Degeneration (nAMD), Diabetic Macular Edema (DME), or Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) use of Eylea HD will not be authorized unless there is adequate justification as to why Eylea (J0178) cannot be used
4. Use of Eylea HD due to convenience of administration will not be considered medically necessary and will not be authorized
5. Eylea HD will not be covered for any non-FDA approved diagnoses (i.e., Retinopathy of Prematurity [ROP], Macular Edema following Retinal Vein Occlusion [RVO])
6. Refer to the Eylea HD prescribing information for approved dosing

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Gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) Analogs

Fensolvi (leuprolide acetate), Triptodur (triptorelin), Supprelin LA (histrelin acetate) (Medical)

1. The patient must meet one of the following (a, b, c):
 - a. The patient must have a diagnosis of Central Precocious Puberty (CPP) **AND**
 - i. Treatment must be prescribed by an Endocrinologist or Pediatrician **AND**
 - ii. Step Therapy Applies – The patient must use Lupron Depot-Ped (J1950) unless there is adequate medical justification as to why Lupron Depot-Ped cannot be used
 - b. The patient must have a diagnosis of Gender Dysphoria (GD) that meets the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-5 (DSM-5) criteria for Gender Dysphoria **AND**
 - i. The diagnosis must be confirmed by an experienced mental health professional **AND**
 - ii. The patient must be an adolescent that has reached tanner stage 2 of puberty **AND**
 - iii. May be used with or without gender affirming hormones
 - c. Any other off-label, compendia supported diagnosis (other than Gender Dysphoria [see criterion 1.b.]) will be reviewed using in the Off-Label Use of FDA Approved Drugs policy (Pharmacy-32)
2. Prior Authorization applies to all lines of business except Medicare
3. See prescribing information for determination of approved dose and dosing frequency

HCPCS: Fensolvi – J1951, Triptodur – J3316, Supprelin LA – J9226

Hydroxyprogesterone Caproate Injection (Medical)

1. The patient must have a diagnosis of advanced adenocarcinoma of the uterine corpus (Stage III or IV) **OR**
2. The patient must have a diagnosis of amenorrhea (primary and secondary) and abnormal uterine bleeding due to hormonal imbalance in the absence of organic pathology, such as submucous fibroids or uterine cancer **OR**
3. The medication must be used as a test for endogenous estrogen production and for the production of secretory endometrium and desquamation.
4. Hydroxyprogesterone Caproate Injection USP (J1729) is only indicated for use in non-pregnant women and **will not** be approved to reduce the risk of preterm birth in women with a singleton pregnancy who have a history of singleton spontaneous preterm birth.

HCPCS: J1729

Krystexxa - pegloticase (Medical)

1. The patient must be 18 years of age or older **AND**
2. The patient must have a diagnosis of chronic gout refractory to conventional therapy
 - a. Please note: Krystexxa is NOT recommended for the treatment of asymptomatic hyperuricemia **AND**
3. The patient must have been evaluated by a rheumatologist **AND**
4. The patient must have had failure of the highest therapeutic dose of either allopurinol or febuxostat in combination with either probenecid or losartan for a minimum 3-month trial unless contraindicated or serious side effects were experienced
5. Serum uric acid level must be > 6mg/dL at the time of request
6. The patient must have symptomatic gout defined by one of the following:
 - a. 3 or more flares in the past 18 months
 - b. 1 or more tophus
 - c. chronic gouty arthritis
7. Individuals with a known glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency will be excluded from coverage
8. The recommended dosage is Krystexxa 8 mg given as an intravenous (IV) infusion every two weeks, co-administered with weekly oral methotrexate 15 mg and folic acid or folinic acid supplementation.

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- a. Krystexxa alone may be used in patients for whom methotrexate is contraindicated or not clinically appropriate
- 9. Initial approval will be for 1 year
- 10. Recertification will require documentation of a clinical response to therapy (such as a serum uric acid level <6 mg/dL, a decrease in tophus size, a decrease in the number of affected joints)

HCPCS: J2507

Lemtrada - alemtuzumab (Medical)

- 1. The patient must be 18 years of age or older **AND**
- 2. The medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist **AND**
- 3. The patient must have a diagnosis of a relapsing form of multiple sclerosis (MS), including relapsing-remitting disease or active secondary progressive disease **AND**
- 4. The patient must have had serious side effects or drug failure of two or more medications (oral or self-injectable) indicated for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (minimum 12-week trials) **AND**
- 5. The patient must not have concurrent infection with Human Immunodeficiency Virus or any other uncontrolled active infection
- 6. The approved dosage of Lemtrada is for intravenous infusion over 4 hours for 2 or more treatment courses: 12mg/day on 5 consecutive days for the first course and 12mg/day on 3 consecutive days for a second course 12 months after the first treatment course
- 7. Following the second treatment course, subsequent treatment courses of 12 mg/day on 3 consecutive days (36 mg total dose) may be administered, as needed, at least 12 months after the last dose of any prior treatment courses
- 8. Lemtrada must be administered in a setting with appropriate equipment and personnel to manage anaphylaxis or serious infusion reactions. Patients should be monitored for 2 hours after each infusion
- 9. Coverage will be limited to 5 injections for the first year. Recertification for future courses with 3 injections will require documentation supporting disease response to Lemtrada without adverse effect. If recertification request is approved, the additional course of therapy will be approved to start 366 days after the date that the first dose of the most recent course of Lemtrada was administered.

HCPCS: J0202

Leqvio - inclisiran (Medical)

- 1. The medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with a cardiologist, endocrinologist, lipidologist, nephrologist
- 2. The patient must be 18 years of age or older
- 3. The patient must have one of the following diagnoses:
 - a. Clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD)
 - i. a history of acute coronary syndrome, myocardial infarction (MI), stable or unstable angina, coronary/other arterial revascularization, stroke, TIA, peripheral arterial disease, or other documented atherosclerotic disease (such as coronary atherosclerosis, renal atherosclerosis, aortic aneurysm secondary to atherosclerosis, or Carotid plaque with $\geq 50\%$ stenosis)
 - b. Heterozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia (HeFH)
 - i. Molecular genetic testing must demonstrate evidence of an LDL-R mutation, LDLRAP1 mutation, familial defective apo B100, or a PCSK9 mutation **OR**
 - ii. Diagnosis must be confirmed as “definite” according to the World Health Organization Criteria (Dutch Lipid Network) **OR** Simon-Broome Register Diagnostic Criteria [Refer to table 1 and table 2 in the appendix]. Documentation of the following must be provided to calculate an accurate score:
 - A. Patient’s first-degree relatives with ANY of the following:
 - a) Tendon xanthoma

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- b) Corneal arcus
 - c) Known LDL-C >95th percentile by age and gender for country
 - d) Known premature (<55 years, men <60 years, women) coronary heart disease (CHD)
 - B. Patient's child(ren) <18 years with LDL-C >95th percentile by age and gender for country
 - C. Patient's baseline LDL-C level prior to use of ALL-cholesterol lowering medications
 - D. Patient's history of CHD
 - E. Patient's history of cerebral or peripheral vascular disease
 - F. Physical exam finding of tendon xanthoma
 - G. Physical exam finding of corneal arcus
4. The provider must attest that a discussion with the patient has taken place regarding lifestyle modifications (i.e., a heart healthy diet, the importance of exercise, and smoking cessation [if applicable])
 5. Documentation of baseline LDL-C level must be provided- measurement must occur within 60 days prior to treatment.
 6. The patient must have failed to reach target LDL-C while receiving treatment with high-intensity statin therapy (i.e., atorvastatin 80 mg/day or rosuvastatin 40 mg/day), or maximally tolerated statin therapy, for at least 8 weeks
 - a. For patients with ASCVD, LDL –C must be $\geq 70\text{mg/dL}$ **OR** for patients with HeFH without ASCVD, LDL-C must be $\geq 100\text{mg/dL}$
 - b. If patient is unable to tolerate statin therapy, documentation in progress notes must include:
 - i. A contraindication to statin therapy according to FDA labeling **OR**
 - ii. History of statin-related rhabdomyolysis:
 - A. Must have symptoms consistent with rhabdomyolysis (i.e., muscle pain, swelling, and weakness, dark urine) **AND**
 - B. Must have creatine kinase (CK) level > 10 times upper limit of normal, myoglobinuria, or acute renal failure (increase in serum creatinine >0.5 mg/dL) **AND**
 - C. Patient was receiving a statin at the time of the event and symptoms resolved upon discontinuation of the statin **OR**
 - iii. History of statin intolerance. Documentation must include the following:
 - A. Inability to tolerate at least 2 different statins
 - a) At least 1 statin must be hydrophilic (such as pravastatin, fluvastatin or rosuvastatin) starting at the lowest starting average daily dose **AND**
 - b) Intolerance associated with confirmed, intolerable statin-related adverse effects (i.e., muscle related symptoms) or significant biomarker abnormalities (i.e., ALT/AST > 3 times the upper limit of normal accompanied by increase in total bilirubin > 2 times the upper limit of normal) **AND**
 - c) Non-statin causes of muscle symptoms or biomarker abnormalities have been ruled out (for example, hypothyroidism, reduced renal function, reduced hepatic function, rheumatologic disorders such as polymyalgia rheumatic, steroid myopathy, vitamin D deficiency, or primary muscle disease)
 7. The patient must have an inability to self-inject
 - a. The provider must submit documentation that confirms the patient's inability to self-inject
 8. If patient can tolerate statins, Leqvio must be prescribed in combination with the maximum tolerated dose of a statin
 9. Leqvio will not be approved in combination with Praluent, Repatha, Nexletol, or Nexlizet as current medical literature does not support this
 10. Approval timeframes: 6 months for initial, 12 months for all recertifications
 - a. Initial recertification requires:

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- i. Documentation of adequate reduction in LDL cholesterol defined as:
 - A. $\geq 40\%$ reduction in LDL as compared to baseline LDL level or reduction to LDL goal for patients with a diagnosis of ASCVD **OR**
 - B. Reduction in LDL level as compared to baseline LDL level for patients with a diagnosis of HeFH **AND**
 - ii. Continued adherence to a high intensity statin at maximum tolerated dose (if patient is able to tolerate) **AND**
 - iii. Continued adherence to lifestyle modifications (non-smoker, diet, and exercise)
 - b. Subsequent recertification requires:
 - i. Documentation that confirms the patient has maintained an adequate reduction in LDL cholesterol compared to baseline
 - ii. Continued adherence to a high intensity statin at maximum tolerated dose (if patient is able to tolerate) **AND**
 - iii. Continued adherence to lifestyle modifications (non-smoker, diet, and exercise)
11. Approved dosing: 284 mg administered as a single subcutaneous injection initially, again at 3 months, and then every 6 months thereafter

Nplate - romiplostim (Medical)

- 1. The medication must be used for one of the following (a or b):
 - a. The medication must be used to treat **hematopoietic subsyndrome of acute radiation syndrome** to increase survival in adults and in pediatric patients (including term neonates) acutely exposed to myelosuppressive doses of radiation
 - i. The medication must be given as a single dose of 10 mcg/kg **OR**
 - b. The patient must have a diagnosis of immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenia purpura (ITP) **AND**
 - i. The medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with a hematologist **AND**
 - ii. Must have a current platelet count less than $30 \times 10^9/L$ **AND**
 - iii. Must have had an insufficient response (defined as a platelet count of less than $30 \times 10^9/L$, or greater but with bleeding symptoms) to corticosteroids **OR** immunoglobulins (IVIG)
 - a) Patients who are dependent on corticosteroids (i.e., the need for continuous use or the need for frequent courses) to maintain a platelet count of $\geq 30 \times 10^9/L$ will not require documentation of an insufficient response to corticosteroids as defined above
 - iv. Nplate should not be used to attempt to normalize platelet count
 - v. Nplate may be used in combination with other medical ITP therapies such as, corticosteroids, danazol, azathioprine, intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG), and anti-D immunoglobulin.
 - vi. If the patient's platelet count is greater than or equal to $50 \times 10^9/L$, medical ITP therapies may be reduced or discontinued.
 - vii. The approved dose is 1 mcg/kg once weekly (subcutaneously). The dose may be adjusted in increments of 1 mcg/kg to achieve platelet counts of $\geq 50 \times 10^9/L$. Max weekly dose of 10 mcg/kg.

HCPCS: J2796

Ocrevus – ocrelizumab (Medical)

- **Prior Authorization only applies to Managed Medicaid (MMC)/Child Health Plus (CHP)/Essential Plan; no prior authorization is requested for lines of business other than MMC/CHP/EP****
- 1. Must be 18 years of age or older
 - 2. Must be prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist
 - 3. Must have a diagnosis of primary progressive disease **OR**
 - 4. Must have a diagnosis of a relapsing form of multiple sclerosis which includes clinically isolated syndrome, relapsing-remitting disease, or active secondary progressive disease

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- a. The patient must have had serious side effects or drug failure of two or more medications (oral or self-injectable) indicated for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (minimum 12-week trials)
 - b. The use of Ocrevus as a first line therapy for the treatment of multiple sclerosis will be assessed on a case-by-case basis through a letter of medical necessity based on severity of the disease. Coverage will be considered if any of the following are met: >2 attacks within the last 18 months, brain stem/cerebellar/or spinal cord disease, greater than 3 gadolinium enhancing lesions with significant clinical exacerbations and/or motor involvement, bilateral optic neuritis, and/or rapid cognitive decline.
 - c. For patients who have had an adequate trial (minimum 12 weeks) of either Tysabri or Rituxan and have experienced drug failure or who have experienced an adverse reaction at any time, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Trial and failure of a preferred agent (Avonex, Copaxone, Gilenya, Rebif, Tecfidera or Plegridy), may be required.
5. The patient must not currently be on combination therapy with any other multiple sclerosis disease modifying agent such as Avonex, Rebif, Briumvi, Betaseron, Extavia, Copaxone, Aubagio, Tecfidera, Gilenya, Tysabri, or Lemtrada
 6. Ocrevus will not be approved in patients with active hepatitis B virus infection
 7. The approved dosage is 300mg via intravenous infusion, followed 2 weeks later by a second 300mg IV infusion and then 600mg via IV infusion every 6 months.

HCPCS: J2350

Rebyota - fecal microbiota, live-isl (Medical)

1. The patient must be at least 18 years of age **AND**
2. Rebyota must be used to *prevent* the recurrence of Clostridioides difficile infection (CDI) **AND**
3. The patient must have a recurrent episode of Clostridioides difficile infection (CDI) **AND**
4. The patient must have had a positive stool test for the presence of toxigenic Clostridioides difficile within the past 30 days **AND**
5. Administration must take place within 24-72 hours following the completion of an antibiotic course used for CDI treatment **AND**
6. Patients with a high risk of recurrence must have had a trial of Zinplava (bezlotoxumab)
 - a. High risk of recurrence is defined as:
 - i. 65 years of age or older **OR**
 - ii. Experiencing their second episode of CDI within the past 6 months **OR**
 - iii. Severe CDI (defined as having a white blood cell (WBC) count of $\geq 15,000$ cells/mm³ **OR** serum creatinine (SCr) > 1.5 mg/dL at the time of diagnosis **OR** hospitalized due to CDI) **AND**
7. Patient must not be immune compromised
8. Retreatment with Rebyota for the same CDI will not be covered
9. Rebyota will not be covered for the treatment of Clostridioides difficile infection (CDI) or any other non-FDA approved indications
10. Approval will be granted for 1 month to allow for administration of a single dose
11. Approved dosing: 150 mL single dose

HCPCS: J1440 (effective July 1st, 2023)

Saphnelo – anifrolumab-fnia (Medical)

1. Must be 18 years of age or older **AND**
2. Must be followed by a rheumatologist **AND**
3. Must have a confirmed diagnosis of active Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)
 - a. A diagnosis of SLE is confirmed by the presence of autoantibodies (such as antinuclear antibodies [ANA], anti-double-stranded DNA [anti-dsDNA] antibodies, anti-Smith [anti-Sm] antibodies)

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- i. Due to lab variability in standards for positive values, values reported as “positive” from that lab are acceptable **AND**
- 4. The patient must have had a trial of standard-of-care therapy (i.e., prednisone, hydroxychloroquine, azathioprine, mycophenolate mofetil, methotrexate) **AND**
- 5. The patient must not have severe active lupus nephritis or severe active central nervous system (CNS) lupus
- 6. Saphnelo will not be approved for use in combination with Benlysta
- 7. Initial approval will be for 6 months. Recertification will require documentation of a decrease in disease signs and symptoms (including reduction in disease flares). Recertifications will be approved for 2 years.
- 8. The approved dose is 300 mg IV (intravenous) once every 4 weeks

HCPCS: J0491

Spravato – esketamine nasal spray (Medical)

- 1. Must have ONE of the following diagnoses:
 - a. The patient must have a diagnosis of **treatment-resistant Single Episode or treatment-resistant Recurrent Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) without psychotic features**
 - i. If Single Episode MDD, the episode must have lasted at least 2 years
 - ii. The diagnosis must be confirmed by a mental health provider (psychiatrist, psychiatric nurse practitioner) using the DSM-5 criteria **OR**
 - b. The patient must have a diagnosis of **moderate-to-severe Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) with Acute Suicidal Ideation or Behavior**
 - i. Patient must have had recent suicidal behavior or be at imminent high risk of suicide
 - ii. The diagnosis must be confirmed by a mental health provider (psychiatrist, psychiatric nurse practitioner) using the DSM-5 criteria
- 2. Must be at least 18 years old
- 3. Spravato must be prescribed or recommended by a mental health provider
- 4. For a diagnosis of **treatment-resistant Single Episode or treatment-resistant Recurrent Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) without psychotic features**, the patient must have had serious side effects or drug failure with at least 4 separate trials for MDD including:
 - a. Two antidepressants from different drug classes
 - b. Two evidence-based augmentation treatments (may be an antidepressant and a non-antidepressant used together **OR** two antidepressants used together)
 - c. All medications must be taken compliantly based on pharmacy fill history and each trial must last a sufficient period of time (usually 4-6 weeks) and must be tried at the maximum dose or the maximum tolerated dose
 - d. Progress notes will be REQUIRED to document the patient’s diagnosis of treatment-resistant Major Depressive Disorder, all previous therapies failed, and the medical necessity of Spravato
- 5. For a diagnosis of **moderate-to-severe Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) with Acute Suicidal Ideation or Behavior**, Spravato must be used in combination with standard of care treatment which includes:
 - a. an initial inpatient psychiatric hospitalization
 - i. Spravato will only be approved in the outpatient setting as continuation of care. Treatment with Spravato must have been initiated in an inpatient setting to be considered for coverage
 - b. a newly initiated or optimized oral antidepressant (either monotherapy or an antidepressant plus augmentation therapy [such as lithium])
- 6. Spravato must be used in combination with an oral antidepressant
- 7. The patient’s baseline depression symptoms must be measured and documented with an appropriate rating scale (such as PHQ-9, Clinically Useful Depression Outcome Scale, Quick Inventory of Depressive Symptomatology-Self Report 16 Item, MADRS, or HAM-D) as a tool for monitoring

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- response to therapy
8. Spravato will not be covered in patients with a current or prior diagnosis of psychosis
 9. The prescriber must attest that Spravato will be administered at a treatment facility that is certified through the REMS program and that the patient has been enrolled in the REMS program
 10. Initial approval:
 - a. for **treatment-resistant Single Episode or treatment-resistant Recurrent Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) without psychotic features** will be for 2 months
 - b. for **moderate-to-severe Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) with Acute Suicidal Ideation or Behavior** will be for 1 month
 11. Recertification:
 - a. for **treatment-resistant Single Episode or treatment-resistant Recurrent Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) without psychotic features** will require improvement in depression symptoms measured after 4-8 weeks of therapy with Spravato by the same rating scale used at baseline. Recertification will be approved for 1 year if improvement in symptoms is demonstrated and the REMS protocol continues to be followed.
 - b. for **moderate-to-severe Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) with Acute Suicidal Ideation or Behavior** will not be approved for this indication. According to the prescribing information: “The use of Spravato, in conjunction with an oral antidepressant, beyond 4 weeks has not been systematically evaluated in the treatment of depressive symptoms in patients with MDD with acute suicidal ideation or behavior”. For continued treatment, please refer to the medical necessity criteria for treatment-resistant Single Episode or treatment-resistant Recurrent Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) without psychotic features.

HCPCS: S0013

Sunlenca – lenacapavir (Rx and Medical)

1. Must be prescribed by an infectious disease specialist or certified human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) provider **AND**
2. Must be using Sunlenca (lenacapavir) to treat human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection **AND**
3. Must be on current, stable antiretroviral (ARV) therapy for at least 6 months consisting of 2 agents from different classes **AND**
4. Must have documented resistance (defined as laboratory confirmation or intolerable toxicities) to at least three different classes of ARV agents (of the 4 main classes [NRTI, NNRTI, PI, INSTI]) and at least two ARVs from each of the three different classes
 - a. Examples:
 - i. 2 NRTIs, 2 NNRTIs, 2 PIs
 - ii. 2 NRTIs, 2 NNRTIs, 2 INSTIs
 - iii. 2 NRTIs, 2 PIs, 2 INSTIs
 - iv. 2 NNRTIs, 2 PIs, 2 INSTIs **AND**
5. Must demonstrate inability to achieve or maintain suppression of viral replication on current ARV regimen, defined as persistent HIV RNA level of > 200 copies/mL **AND**
6. Must have full laboratory confirmed susceptibility to at least one, fully active, ARV agent (other than lenacapavir) that will be used concomitantly in the patient’s optimized background ARV regimen **AND**
7. See the Sunlenca (lenacapavir) prescribing information for approved dosing
8. Upon approval of Sunlenca (lenacapavir), a 30-day authorization of the Sunlenca (lenacapavir) oral tablets will be granted under the pharmacy benefit to allow for administration of initial dosing
 - a. Sunlenca (lenacapavir) oral tablet quantity limit:
 - i. 4-tablet blister pack: 4 tablets/365 days
 - ii. 5-tablet blister pack: 5 tablets/365 days

HCPCS: J1961 (effective July 1st, 2023)

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Syfovre - pegcetacoplan injection (Medical)

1. The patient must be 50 years of age or older **AND**
2. Syfovre must be prescribed by an ophthalmologist **AND**
3. The patient must have a diagnosis of geographic atrophy (GA) secondary to age-related macular degeneration (AMD)
 - a. GA must be confirmed by an appropriate imaging test (such as fundus autofluorescence [FAF], retinal fundus photography, optical coherence tomography [OCT]) **AND**
4. The patient must have best-corrected visual acuity (BCVA) of 20/320 or better using the Snellen Eye Chart
5. Initial approval will be for 1 year
 - a. Recertifications will require provider attestation that the patient has not experienced severe vision loss (to the level of hand motion [HM] or worse range) or unacceptable toxicity to the drug
6. Documentation must be submitted confirming which eye (left or right), if not both, is being treated
7. See Prescribing Information for approved dosing

HCPCS: J2781 (effective 10/1/2023)

Trogarzo – ibalizumab-uiyk (Medical)

1. Must be prescribed by an infectious disease specialist or certified human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) provider **AND**
2. Must be using Trogarzo (ibalizumab-uiyk) to treat human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection **AND**
3. Must be on current, stable antiretroviral (ARV) therapy for at least 6 months consisting of 2 agents from different classes **AND**
4. Must have documented resistance (defined as laboratory confirmation or intolerable toxicities) to at least one ARV from each of three classes (NRTI, NNRTI, PI) **AND**
5. Must demonstrate inability to achieve or maintain suppression of viral replication on current ARV regimen, defined as persistent HIV RNA level of > 200 copies/mL **AND**
6. Must have full laboratory confirmed susceptibility to at least one, fully active, ARV agent (other than ibalizumab) that will be used concomitantly in the patient's optimized background ARV regimen **AND**
7. Must not have used immunomodulatory therapy, systemic steroids, or systemic chemotherapy within the previous 12 weeks
8. Dosing is a 2000 mg IV loading dose followed by 800 mg every 14 days, starting 14 days after the loading dose

HCPCS: J1746

Tysabri – natalizumab (Medical)

****Prior Authorization only applies to Managed Medicaid (MMC)/Child Health Plus (CHP)/Essential Plan; no prior authorization is requested for lines of business other than MMC/CHP/EP****

1. Must have a diagnosis of **Multiple Sclerosis**:
 - a. The patient must have a diagnosis of relapsing-remitting or active secondary progressive multiple sclerosis **AND**
 - b. The patient must have had serious side effects or drug failure of two or more medications (oral or self-injectable) indicated for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (minimum 12-week trials)
 - c. Patients must not be on concurrent immunosuppressive therapy, including mycophenolate, azathioprine, steroids, and/or IVIG due to increased risk of side effects
 - d. Approved Dose: 300 mg IV every 4 weeks
 - e. Approval will be for 3 years **OR**
2. Must have a diagnosis of **Crohn's Disease**:
 - a. Must have a diagnosis of moderately to severely active Crohn's disease made by a gastroenterologist
 - i. Moderate to severe disease Crohn's Disease is defined as having a Crohn's Disease Activity

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Index (CDAI) score of 220-450 and is typically described as having more prominent symptoms of fever, significant weight loss, abdominal pain or tenderness, intermittent nausea or vomiting or significant anemia **AND**

- b. There must be documentation that azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurine, or methotrexate is ineffective, contraindicated or not tolerated **AND**
 - c. The patient must have had serious side effects or drug failure of Entyvio **AND** Inflectra or Avsola
 - d. Approved Dose: 300 mg IV every 4 weeks
 - e. Approval will be for 1 year
3. Patients who are approved for coverage of Tysabri under the medical benefit will be excluded from the concomitant use of biologics (such as Humira, Cimzia, infliximab) under the pharmacy or medical benefit
4. Tysabri is not to be used in immunocompromised patients due to the possible risk of serious infection
5. Tysabri is contraindicated in patients with current PML or a history of PML
6. The use of Tysabri as a first line therapy for the treatment of multiple sclerosis will be assessed on a case-by-case basis through a letter of medical necessity based on severity of the disease. Coverage will be considered if any of the following are met: >2 attacks within the last 18 months, brain stem/cerebellar/or spinal cord disease, greater than 3 gadolinium enhancing lesions with significant clinical exacerbations and/or motor involvement, bilateral optic neuritis, and/or rapid cognitive decline
7. Patient must be enrolled in the TOUCH program (Tysabri Outreach: Unified Commitment to Health)
8. Physician office must be approved by the manufacturer (Biogen Idec) to have met the risk management criteria

HCPCS: J2323

Vabysmo - faricimab-svoa (Medical)

- 1. Must be 18 years and older **AND**
- 2. Must be prescribed by ophthalmologist **AND**
- 3. Must have diagnosis of Neovascular (Wet) Age-Related Macular Degeneration (nAMD) or Diabetic Macular Edema (DME) **AND**
- 4. Must have had an adequate trial (defined as at least 3 injections) of **ONE** of the three following medications: Eylea (afibercept), a ranibizumab-containing product, or a bevacizumab-containing product
 - a. Applies to ALL lines of business
- 5. Refer to the Vabysmo prescribing information for approved dosing

HCPCS: J2777

Zilretta – triamcinolone acetonide extended-release (Medical)

- 1. The patient must have a diagnosis of osteoarthritis of the knee confirmed by **ONE** of the following (a or b):
 - a. Radiologic evidence of osteoarthritis of the knee such as joint space narrowing, subchondral sclerosis, osteophytes, and sub-chondral cysts **OR**
 - b. Documentation of at least 5 of the following American College of Rheumatology (ACR) clinical and laboratory criteria to confirm symptomatic osteoarthritis of the knee:
 - i. Bony enlargement
 - ii. Bony tenderness
 - iii. Crepitus (noisy, grating sound) on active motion
 - iv. Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) <40 mm/hour
 - v. Less than 30 minutes of morning stiffness (>45 minutes may indicate rheumatoid arthritis)
 - vi. No palpable warmth of the synovium
 - vii. Over 50 years of age

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- viii. Rheumatoid factor (RF) <1:40 titer (agglutination method)
- ix. Synovial fluid signs (clear fluid of normal viscosity and white blood cell [WBC] count <2000/mm³ **AND**

- 2. The patient must have attempted all of the following:
 - a. Nonpharmacologic therapy (i.e., weight loss, exercise) **AND**
 - b. Must have had serious side effects or drug failure of a 3-month trial of a prescription strength oral nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)
 - i. For individuals with a medical reason why oral NSAID therapy cannot be used, a 3-month trial of a topical NSAID is appropriate **AND**
 - c. Step Therapy Applies - Must have had serious side effects or drug failure to **TWO** injectable corticosteroids (triamcinolone acetonide [Kenalog], methylprednisolone acetate [Depo-Medrol])
- 3. Zilretta has not been evaluated for the treatment of osteoarthritis-related shoulder or hip pain and will not be covered for any non-Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved indications
- 4. Coverage of Zilretta will be limited to 1-32 mg injection per knee per lifetime
 - a. Documentation confirming the knee that is being treated is required
 - i. Zilretta will not be covered for repeat administration to the same knee as the safety and efficacy of repeat administration has not been demonstrated
- 5. Approval timeframe: 3-months to allow for a one-time administration of Zilretta

HCPCS: J3304

Zoladex – goserelin implant (Medical)

****Prior Authorization only applies to Managed Medicaid (MMC); no prior authorization is requested for lines of business other than MMC****

Pursuant to Social Security Law Sec. 1927. [42 U.S.C. 1396r–8] (a), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requires drug manufacturers to participate in the (MDRP) for their drugs to be eligible for coverage under Medicaid, except in certain circumstances. See Table 3 in the appendix section for additional information.

Coverage of Zoladex for Medicaid/HARP members will require the following criteria:

New Starts

- 1. The patient must be unable to obtain Zoladex through the Zoladex Patient Assistance Program
 - a. The Zoladex Patient Assistance Program is managed by the drug company (TerSera Therapeutics) and offers coverage of the drug Zoladex free of charge for patients who qualify. To apply for patient assistance please visit <https://www.zoladexhcp.com/access-support/> or contact TerSera Support Source at 855-686-8725 **AND**
- 2. The patient must be using for palliation of advanced breast cancer in pre- and peri-menopausal women **OR**
- 3. The patient must be using for a diagnosis of abnormal uterine bleeding

Existing Users

- 1. The patient must be unable to obtain Zoladex through the Zoladex Patient Assistance Program **AND**
- 2. The patient must have one of the following FDA approved or compendia supported diagnoses
 - a. Palliation of advanced breast cancer in pre- and peri-menopausal women or men **OR**
 - b. Hormone receptor-positive breast cancer in pre-menopausal women or men **OR**
 - c. Endometriosis **OR**
 - d. Uterine hypoplasia **OR**
 - e. Abnormal uterine bleeding **OR**
 - f. Gender dysphoria **OR**
 - g. Central precocious puberty **OR**

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<p>h. Prostate Cancer AND</p> <p>3. The patient must have had serious side effects or drug failure of a gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH)</p> <p>a. This require does not apply to existing users with a diagnosis of abnormal uterine bleeding or for those using as palliative therapy for advanced breast cancer in pre- and peri-menopausal women or men</p> <p>HCPCS: J9202</p>
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POLICY GUIDELINES:

1. Unless otherwise stated above within the individual drug criteria, approval time-period will be as follows:

Line of Business	Medical Initial approval	Medical Recert
Commercial/Exchange and SafetyNet (Medicaid, HARP, CHP, Essential Plan)	All sites of service: 2 years	All sites of service: 2 years
Medicare Advantage	All sites of service: 2 years	All sites of service: 2 years

- Continued approval at time of recertification will require documentation that the drug is providing ongoing benefit to the patient in terms of improvement or stability in disease state or condition. Such documentation may include progress notes, imaging or laboratory findings, and other objective or subjective measures of benefit which support that continued use of the requested product is medically necessary. Also, ongoing use of the requested product must continue to reflect the current policy's preferred formulary. Recertification reviews may result in the requirement to try more cost-effective treatment alternatives as they become available (i.e., generics, biosimilars, or other guideline-supported treatment options). Requested dosing must continue to be consistent with FDA-approved or off-label/guideline-supported dosing recommendations.
2. Not all contracts cover all Medical Infusible drugs. Refer to specific contract/benefit plan language for exclusions of Injectable Medications.
3. For contracts where Insurance Law § 4903(c-1), and Public Health Law § 4903(3-a) are applicable, if trial of preferred drug(s) is the only criterion that is not met for a given condition, and one of the following circumstances can be substantiated by the requesting provider, then trial of the preferred drug(s) will not be required.
- The required prescription drug(s) is (are) contraindicated or will likely cause an adverse reaction or physical or mental harm to the member;
 - The required prescription drug is expected to be ineffective based on the known clinical history and conditions and concurrent drug regimen;
 - The required prescription drug(s) was (were) previously tried while under the current or a previous health plan, or another prescription drug or drugs in the same pharmacologic class or with the same mechanism of action was (were) previously tried and such prescription drug(s) was (were) discontinued due to lack of efficacy or effectiveness, diminished effect, or an adverse event;
 - The required prescription drug(s) is (are) not in the patient's best interest because it will likely cause a significant barrier to adherence to or compliance with the plan of care, will likely worsen a comorbid condition, or will likely decrease the ability to achieve or maintain reasonable functional ability in performing daily activities.
 - The individual is stable on the requested prescription drug. The medical profile of the individual (age, disease state, comorbidities), along with the rationale for deeming stability as it

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relates to standard medical practice and evidence-based practice protocols for the disease state will be taken into consideration.

- The above criteria are not applicable to requests for brand name medications that have an AB rated generic. We can require a trial of an AB-rated generic equivalent prior to providing coverage for the equivalent brand name prescription drug.
4. This policy is applicable to drugs that are included on a specific drug formulary. If a drug referenced in this policy is non-formulary, please reference the Non-Formulary Medication Exception Review Policy for review guidelines.
 5. Prescription homeopathic medications including, but not limited to: Arnica Gel, Psorizide Forte, Sleep Medicine, Hylira Gel and Vertigoheel are only covered when they are FDA approved for safety and efficacy. Most prescription homeopathic medications have their sales regulated by the FDA but are not FDA approved for safety and efficacy for any particular condition.
 6. This policy is subject to frequent revisions as new medications come onto the market. Some drugs will require prior authorization prior to criteria being added to the policy.
 7. Supportive documentation of previous drug use must be submitted for any criteria that require a trial of a preferred agent if the preferred drug is not found in claims history.
 8. Dose and frequency should be in accordance with the FDA label or recognized compendia (for off-label uses). When services are performed in excess of established parameters, they may be subject to review for medical necessity.

UPDATES:

Date	Revision
09/12/2023	Revised
08/24/2023	Revised
07/07/2023	Revised
05/18/2023	Revised
04/11/2023	Revised
03/15/2023	Revised
03/03/2023	Revised
02/09/2023	P&T Committee Approval
02/01/2023	Revised
01/19/2023	Revised
10/2022	Revised
09/2022	Revised
05/2022	Revised
03/2022	Revised
02/2022	Revised / P&T Committee Approval
01/2022	Revised
11/2021	Revised
08/2021	Revised
04/2021	Revised
02/2021	Revised & P&T Approval
10/2020	Revised
09/2020	Revised
07/2020	Revised
06/2020	Revised
05/2020	P&T Approval
03/2020	Revised

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02/2020	Revised & P&T Approval
12/2019	Revised
11/2019	Revised/P&T Approval
08/2019	Revised
06/2019	Revised
05/2019	Revised/P&T Approval
02/2019	Revised/P&T Approval
01/2019	Revised
12/2018	Revised
11/2018	Revised/P&T Approval
09/2018	Revised/P&T Approval
08/2018	Revised
03/2018	Revised
01/2018	Revised
11/2017	Revised/P&T Approval
08/2017	Revised
06/2017	Revised
05/2017	Revised
04/2017	Revised
03/2017	Revised
02/2017	Revised

APPENDIX:

Table 1: Diagnostic Criteria for the Clinical Diagnosis of HeFH (WHO)

	Criteria	Score
Family history	First-degree relative known with premature CAD ^a and/or first-degree relative with LDL-C >95th percentile	1
	First-degree relative with tendon xanthomata and/or children <18 y with LDL-C >95th percentile	2
Clinical history	Patient has premature CAD ^a	2
	Patient has premature cerebral/peripheral vascular disease	1
Physical examination	Tendon xanthomata	6
LDL-C	Arcus cornealis age <45 y	4
	>8.5 mmol/L (> ≈330 mg/dL)	8
	6.5-8.4 mmol/L (≈250-329 mg/dL)	5
	5.0-6.4 mmol/L (≈190-249 mg/dL)	3
	4.0-4.9 mmol/L (≈155-189 mg/dL)	1
Definite FH		Score >8
Probable FH		Score 6-8
Possible FH		Score 3-5
No diagnosis		Score <3

CAD: coronary artery disease; FH: familial hypercholesterolemia; HeFH: heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia; LDL-C: low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; WHO: World Health Organization.

^a Premature CAD: male before age 55, women before age 60.

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Table 2: Simone-Broome Criteria for Diagnosis of FH

FH	Criteria
Definite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TC >6.7 mmol/L or LDL-C >4.0 mmol/L in a child aged <16 y OR • TC >7.5 mmol/L or LDL-C >4.9 mmol/L in an adult (levels either pretreatment or highest on-treatment) PLUS Tendon xanthomas in patient, or in first-degree relative (parent, sibling or child), or in second-degree relative (grandparent, uncle, or aunt) OR • DNA-based evidence of an LDL-R mutation, familial defective apo B₁₀₀, or a PCSK9 mutation.
Possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TC >6.7 mmol/L or LDL-C >4.0 mmol/L in a child aged <16 y OR • TC >7.5 mmol/L or LDL-C >4.9 mmol/L in an adult (levels either pretreatment or highest on-treatment) AND AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING • Family history of myocardial infarction: <50 y of age in second-degree relative or <60 y of age in first-degree relative • Family history of raised TC: >7.5 mmol/L in adult first- or second-degree relative or >6.7 mmol/L in child or sibling aged <16 y.

apo: apolipoprotein; FH: familial hypercholesterolemia; LDL-C: low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL-R: low-density lipoprotein receptor; PCSK9: proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9; TC: total cholesterol.

Table 3: Medicaid Managed Care – [TerSera Therapeutics Coverage](#)

Discontinued Coverage for TerSera Therapeutics LLC Drugs

Effective October 1, 2021, TerSera Therapeutics LLC voluntarily withdrew from participation in the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program (MDRP). As a result, New York State (NYS) Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) and Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) will no longer provide coverage for most drugs manufactured by TerSera Therapeutics LLC.

Pursuant to Social Security Law Sec. 1927 [42 U.S.C. 1396r–8] (a), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requires drug manufacturers to participate in the MDRP for their drugs to be eligible for coverage under Medicaid, except in certain circumstances. ZOLADEX® (goserelin implant) is a practitioner-administered drug manufactured by TerSera Therapeutics LLC which is available through a Patient Assistance Program (PAP) from the manufacturer free of charge for those who qualify. For program applications and additional information, providers must visit the ZOLADEX® “Access and support” web page, located at: <https://www.zoladexhcp.com/access-support/>, or contact TerSera Support Source at (855) 686-8725.

Coverage of ZOLADEX® will continue to be provided for Medicaid members who are unable to obtain the medication through the PAP and when used under the following conditions:

- for a Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved indication for which there are no alternative options **and**
- as a continuation of established therapy if another gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) product has been tried and failed or if transition to another GnRH is medically contraindicated.

Effective April 14, 2022, providers are to follow the “By Report” billing process for ZOLADEX® and claims will be manually reviewed to validate the above criteria. Additional instructions can be found on the NYS Department of Health (DOH) “New York State Medicaid Fee-for-Service Practitioner Administered Drug Policies and Billing Guidance” web page, located at: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/practitioner_administered/ffs_practitioner_administer.htm.

Questions and Additional Information:

- FFS claim questions should be directed to the eMedNY Call Center at (800) 343-9000.
- FFS coverage and policy questions should be directed to the Medicaid Pharmacy Policy Unit by telephone at (518) 486-3209 or by email at PPNO@health.ny.gov.
- MMC reimbursement, billing, and/or documentation requirement questions should be directed to enrollee’s MMC Plan.
- MMC Plan contact information can be found in the eMedNY *New York State Medicaid Program Information for All Providers Managed Care Information* document, located at: https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/AllProviders/PDFS/Information_for_All_Providers_Managed_Care_Information.pdf.

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REFERENCES:

In addition to the full prescribing information for each individual drug, the following references have been utilized in creating drug specific criteria