



MASSACHUSETTS

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Pharmacy Medical Policy Methotrexate Step Therapy

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Policy Number: 840

BCBSA Reference Number: None

Related Policies

- N/A

Policy

Commercial Members: Managed Care (HMO and POS), PPO, and Indemnity

Note: All requests for outpatient retail pharmacy for indications listed and not listed on the medical policy guidelines may be submitted to BCBSMA Clinical Pharmacy Operations by completing the Prior Authorization Form on the last page of this document. Physicians may also call BCBSMA Pharmacy Operations department at (800)366-7778 to request a prior authorization/formulary exception verbally. Patients must have pharmacy benefits under their subscriber certificates.

Please refer to the chart below for the formulary and step status of the medications affected by this policy.

Standard Formulary for Multiple Sclerosis Step Chart	
STEP 1	
methotrexate	Covered
STEP 2	
Otrexup® (methotrexate)	Prior use of one Step 1 Required
Rasuvo® (methotrexate)	

Step Therapy Criteria for Otrexup® and Rasuvo®

We may cover the following Methotrexate medications listed in the Step chart above for new starts* in the following stepped approach:

*New start is defined as no previous paid claim for the requested medication within the past 130 days.

Step 1: Formulary step 1 medications will be covered without prior authorization

Step 2: Formulary step 2 medications may be covered when one of the following criteria is met:

- There must be evidence of a BCBSMA paid claims in the Step 1 drug class within the previous 130 days.

OR

- There must be evidence of a BCBSMA paid claim by the patient of a Step 2 drug within the previous 130 days.

For non-formulary/non-covered medications, requests must meet criteria above and the member must have had a previous treatment failure with or a contraindication to two covered formulary alternatives when available.

We do not cover the medications listed above for other conditions not listed above.

CPT Codes / HCPCS Codes / ICD-9 Codes

The following codes are included below for informational purposes. Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement. Please refer to the member's contract benefits in effect at the time of service to determine coverage or non-coverage as it applies to an individual member.

Providers should report all services using the most up-to-date industry-standard procedure, revenue, and diagnosis codes, including modifiers where applicable.

CPT Codes

There is no specific CPT code for this service.

Individual Consideration

All our medical policies are written for the majority of people with a given condition. Each policy is based on medical science. For many of our medical policies, each individual's unique clinical circumstances may be considered in light of current scientific literature. Physicians may send relevant clinical information for individual patients for consideration to:

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
Pharmacy Operations Department
25 Technology Place
Hingham, MA 02043
Tel: 1-800-366-7778
Fax: 1-800-583-6289

Managed Care Authorization Information

- Physicians may call BCBSMA Pharmacy Operations department to request a review for prior authorization.
Pharmacy Operations: (800)366-7778
- Physicians may also fax or mail the attached form to the address above. The Formulary Exception/Prior Authorization form is included as part of this document for physicians to submit for patients.

PPO and Indemnity Authorization Information

- Physicians may call BCBSMA Pharmacy Operations department to request a review for prior authorization.
Pharmacy Operations: (800)366-7778
- Physicians may also fax or mail the attached form to the address above. The Formulary Exception/Prior Authorization form is included as part of this document for physicians to submit for patients.

Policy History

Date	Action
1/1/2022	Implement new step policy for Otrexup and Rasuvo..

References

1. Otrexup ® [package insert]. Ewing, NJ: Antares Pharma, Inc.: 11/2020.
2. Rasuvo ® [package insert]. Chicago, IL: Medexus Pharma Inc: 3/2020.

To request prior authorization using the Massachusetts Standard Form for Medication Prior Authorization Requests (eForm), click the link below:

http://www.bluecrossma.com/common/en_US/medical_policies/023%20E%20Form%20medication%20prior%20auth%20instruction%20prn.pdf