



Commercial/Healthcare Exchange PA Criteria
Effective: March 2008

Prior Authorization: Epoprostenol

Products Affected: Flolan (epoprostenol) intravenous solution, epoprostenol sodium intravenous solution

Medication Description:

Epoprostenol is also known as prostacyclin and PGI₂. It is a strong vasodilator of all vascular beds. In addition, it is a potent endogenous inhibitor of platelet aggregation. The reduction in platelet aggregation results from epoprostenol's activation of intracellular adenylate cyclase and the resultant increase in cyclic adenosine monophosphate concentrations within the platelets. Additionally, it is capable of decreasing thrombogenesis and platelet clumping in the lungs by inhibiting platelet aggregation.

Covered Uses: Treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) (WHO Group I) to improve exercise capacity.

Exclusion Criteria: Heart failure caused by reduced left ventricular ejection fraction.

Required Medical Information:

1. Diagnosis
2. World Health Organization (WHO) functional class
3. New York Heart association classification
4. Previous therapies tried/failed

Age Restrictions: N/A

Prescriber Restrictions: Prescribed by, or in consultation with, a pulmonologist or a cardiologist

Coverage Duration: 12 months

Other Criteria:

Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)

1. Patient has WHO group 1 PAH; **AND**
2. Patient exhibits New York Heart Association (NYHA) Class III or IV symptoms; **AND**
3. Patient has had an intolerance to, or treatment failure of a calcium channel blocker after favorable response to acute vasoreactivity testing OR failure to have a pulmonary vasodilator response to an acute challenge of a short acting vasodilator; **AND**
4. Patient has tried and failed, or has an intolerance to, contraindication*, or treatment failure to Tracleer (bosentan).

References:

1. Flolan (epoprostenol) [product monograph]. Mississauga, Ontario, Canada: GlaxoSmithKline Inc; September 2020.

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Policy Revision history

Rev #	Type of Change	Summary of Change	Sections Affected	Date
1	Update	Adopted EH template Removed from PAH CCI policy, previous revision history: 3/08, 6/10, 5/16, 11/12, 11/16, 11/17, 9/18, 11/18, 9/18, 10/18, 5/19	All	9/22/2020