

## Healthcare Exchange PA Criteria

*Effective: February 2016*

**Prior Authorization:** Freedom Calcium Channel Blockers

**Products Affected:** Cardizem LA (diltiazem HCl coated beads), Matzim LA (diltiazem HCl coated beads)

**Medication Description:** Calcium channel blockers block calcium ion influx during depolarization of cardiac and vascular smooth muscle. They decrease peripheral vascular resistance and cause relaxation of the vascular smooth muscle resulting in a decrease of both systolic and diastolic blood pressure.

**Covered Uses:** Hypertension, or high blood pressure, as well as the management of chronic stable angina.

**Exclusion Criteria:**

1. Patients with sick sinus syndrome except in the presence of a functioning ventricular pacemaker.
2. Patients with second- or third-degree AV block except in the presence of a functioning ventricular pacemaker.
3. Patients with hypotension (less than 90 mm Hg systolic).
4. Patients with acute myocardial infarction and pulmonary.

**Required Medical Information:**

1. Diagnosis
2. Previous medication tried/failed

**Age Restrictions:** 18 years of age and older

**Prescriber Restrictions:** N/A

**Coverage Duration:** 12 months

**Other Criteria:**

- A. Patient has clinically documented hypertension or angina; **AND**
- B. An intolerance to, or treatment failure with, a trial of **TWO (2)** of the following medications
  1. amlodipine (Norvasc)
  2. Cardene SR
  3. diltiazem (Cardizem)
  4. diltiazem er/sr/xr (Cardizem CD/Cartia XT/ Diltiazem CD)
  5. Dynacirc CR
  6. felodipine/er (Plendil)
  7. nicardipine (Cardene)
  8. nifedipine (Procardia)
  9. nifedipine er/xl (Procardia XL)
  10. nisoldipine (Sular)
  11. verapamil (Calan)
  12. verapamil sr (Calan SR)

**References:**

1. Product Information: CARDIZEM(R) LA oral extended-release tablets, diltiazem HCl oral extended-release tablets. Valeant Pharmaceuticals North America LLC (per FDA), Bridgewater, NJ, 2016.
2. Product Information: Matzim(R) LA oral extended-release tablets, diltiazem HCl oral extended-release tablets. Actavis Pharma, Inc. (per DailyMed), Parsippany, NJ, 2014.

**Policy Revision history**

| <b>Rev #</b> | <b>Type of Change</b> | <b>Summary of Change</b>  | <b>Sections Affected</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1            | New Policy            | New Policy                | All                      | 02/2016     |
| 2            | Update                | Moved to updated Template | All                      | 02/03/2020  |

