

Commercial/Healthcare Exchange PA Criteria

Effective: November 13, 2019

Prior Authorization: Katerzia

Products Affected: Katerzia (amlodipine) oral suspension

Medication Description: Amlodipine is a dihydropyridine calcium antagonist (calcium ion antagonist or slow-channel blocker) that inhibits the transmembrane influx of calcium ions into vascular smooth muscle and cardiac muscle. Experimental data suggest that amlodipine binds to both dihydropyridine and nondihydropyridine binding sites. The contractile processes of cardiac muscle and vascular smooth muscle are dependent upon the movement of extracellular calcium ions into these cells through specific ion channels. Amlodipine inhibits calcium ion influx across cell membranes selectively, with a greater effect on vascular smooth muscle cells than on cardiac muscle cells.

Covered Uses:

1. Hypertension
2. Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) including chronic stable angina, vasospastic angina (Prinzmetal's or variant angina), and angiographically documented CAD.

Exclusion Criteria:

1. Patients with known sensitivity to amlodipine

Required Medical Information:

1. Diagnosis
2. Previous therapies tried
3. Blood pressure

Age Restrictions: 6 years of age and older

Prescriber Restrictions: N/A

Coverage Duration: 12 months

Other Criteria:

- A. Patient has a diagnosis of hypertension or Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) (chronic stable angina, vasospastic angina [Prinzmetal's or variant angina], and angiographically documented CAD); AND
- B. The patient is unable to ingest amlodipine oral tablets due to one of the following:
 - a. Oral/motor difficulties; OR
 - b. Dysphagia

References:

1. Katerzia [product insert]. Silvergate Pharmaceuticals Inc. Greenwood Village, CO. July 2019.
2. Katerzia. Lexicomp Online [Internet database], Hudson, Ohio: Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc; November 1, 2019.

Policy Revision history

Rev #	Type of Change	Summary of Change	Sections Affected	Date
1	New Policy	New Policy	All	11/08/2019