

Commercial/Healthcare Exchange Step Criteria

Effective: January 1, 2020

Step Therapy Name: Ophthalmic Steroids

Step 1 Agent(s): dexamethasone sodium phosphate, fluorometholone, loteprednol etabonate, prednisolone acetate, prednisolone sodium phosphate

Step 2 Agent(s): FML Forte, FML S.O.P., Flarex, Pred Mild, Inveltys, Lotemax Ophthalmic Drops Gel, Lotemax Ophthalmic Ointment, Lotemax SM, Maxidex, Durezol

Medication/Class Description: Ophthalmic steroids inhibit the inflammatory response to inciting agents. They inhibit edema, fibrin deposition, capillary dilation and leukocyte migration, capillary proliferation, deposition of collagen, and scar formation.

Required Medical Information:

1. Diagnosis
2. Previously therapies tried/failed

Age Restrictions: N/A

Prescriber Restrictions: N/A

Coverage Duration: 12 months

Exceptions for Stepped Medications:

1. Patient has had a trial and failure of at least TWO Step 1 Agents, defined as:
 - a. Failure to decrease/improve symptoms; **OR**
2. Patient has an intolerance or contraindication to at least TWO Step 1 Agents, defined as (but not limited to):
 - a. Allergic reaction;
 - b. Adverse drug reactions.

References:

1. DEXAMETHASONE SODIUM PHOSPHATE ophthalmic solution drops, dexamethasone sodium phosphate ophthalmic solution drops. Bausch & Lomb Inc. (per DailyMed), Tampa, FL, 2013.
2. INVELTYS(TM) ophthalmic suspension, loteprednol etabonate ophthalmic suspension. Kala Pharmaceuticals Inc (per FDA), Waltham, MA, 2018.
3. Lotemax(TM), loteprednol etabonate 0.5% ophthalmic suspension. Bausch & Lomb Pharmaceuticals, Inc, Tampa, FL, 1998.
4. FML Forte Liquifilm, fluorometholone. Allergan, Irvine, CA, 1993.
5. Flarex(R), fluorometholone acetate. Alcon Laboratories, Inc, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, 1997.
6. FML(R) SOP(R), fluorometholone. Allergan, Irvine, CA, 1996.

Policy Revision history

Last Rev. October 21, 2019

Rev #	Type of Change	Summary of Change	Sections Affected	Date
1	New Policy	New Policy	All	10/21/2019