

## 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