

Commercial PA Criteria

Effective: May 2018

Prior Authorization: Topical Steroids

Products Affected:

- **Very High Potency Steroids:** Bryhali (Halobetasol) 0.01% Lotion, Clobetasol (Temovate) 0.05% cream, Clobetasol (Temovate) 0.05% gel, Clobetasol 0.025% cream, Clobetasol (Temovate) 0.05% ointment, Clobetasol (Clobex, Clodan) 0.05% shampoo/kit, Clobetasol (Temovate, Cormax) 0.05% solution, Clobetasol (Clobex) 0.05% topical lotion, Clobetasol emollient (Temovate) 0.05% cream, Clobetasol Emollient (Olux) 0.05% foam, Clobetasol Emulsion (Olux) 0.05% foam, Clobetasol prop 0.05% liquid, Clobetasol prop (Olux) 0.05% foam, Clobetasol prop (Clobex) 0.05% spray, Cordran (flurandrenolide) 4mcg/cm² tape, Desoximetasone (Topicort) 0.25% spray, Diflorasone 0.05% ointment, Halobetasol Prop (Ultravate) 0.05% lotion, Impeklo 0.05% lotion, Lexette (halobetasol) 0.05% foam
- **High potency Steroids:** Amcinonide 0.1% cream, Amcinonide 0.1% lotion, Amcinonide 0.1% ointment, Desoximetasone (Topicort) 0.05% gel, Desoximetasone (Topicort) 0.25% ointment, Diflorasone (Psorcon, Apexicon E) 0.05% cream, Fluocinonide (Vanos) 0.1% cream, Halcinonide (Halog) 0.1% ointment, Halcinonide (Halog) 0.1% cream, Impoyz (clobetasol) 0.025% cream
- **Medium Potency Steroids:** Betamethasone va (Luxiq) 0.12% foam, Beser 0.05% Lotion, Cloderm (Cloderm) 0.1% cream, Desoximetasone (Topicort) 0.05% cream, Desoximetasone (Topicort) 0.05% ointment, Flurandrenolide (Cordran) 0.05% cream, Flurandrenolide (Cordran) 0.05% ointment, Flurandrenolide (Cordran, Nolix) 0.05% lotion, Fluticasone propionate (Cutivate) 0.05% lotion, Hydrocortisone butyr (Locoid) 0.1% lotion, Sernivo (Betamethasone dip) 0.05% spray, Triamcinolone (Trianex) 0.05% ointment
- **Low Potency Steroids:** Cordran (flurandrenolide) 0.025% cream, Desonide (Desowen) 0.05% lotion, Desonide (Verdeso) 0.05% foam, Desonide 0.05% gel, Scalacort DK 2% kit, hydrocortisone 2.5% solution

Medication Description: Topical corticosteroids have anti-inflammatory, antipruritic, and vasoconstrictive properties. Topical steroids may depress the formation, release, and activity of endogenous chemical mediators of inflammation (kinins, histamine, liposomal enzymes, prostaglandins) through the induction of phospholipase A2 inhibitory proteins (lipocortins) and sequential inhibition of the release of arachidonic acid.

Covered Uses: Relief of inflammatory and pruritic manifestations of corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses.

Exclusion Criteria: N/A

Required Medical Information:

1. Diagnosis
2. Previous medications tried/failed

Age Restrictions: N/A

Prescriber Restrictions: N/A

Coverage Duration: 6 months

Other Criteria: ConnectiCare considers topical steroids to be medically necessary for patients who meet all the following criteria:

1. Patient is diagnosed with a corticosteroid responsive skin disorder; **AND**
2. Patient has a history of failure to TWO preferred topical steroids of the same potency as the requested drug.

Formulary Preferred Topical Corticosteroids

- **Very High Potency Steroids (covered alternatives):** Betamethasone dp aug (Diprolene) 0.05% ointment, halobetasol prop (Ultravate) 0.05% cream, halobetasol prop (Ultravate) 0.05% ointment
- **High potency Steroids (covered alternatives):** Betamethasone dp 0.05% cream, Betamethasone dp 0.05% lotion, Betamethasone dp 0.05% ointment, Betamethasone dp aug (Diprolene af) 0.05% cream, Betamethasone dp aug (Alphatrex) 0.05% gel, Betamethasone dp aug (Diprolene) 0.05% lotion, Betamethasone va 0.1% ointment, Desoximetasone (Topicort) 0.25% cream, Fluocinonide 0.05% cream, Fluocinonide 0.05% gel, Fluocinonide 0.05% ointment, Fluocinonide 0.05% solution, Fluocinonide -E 0.05% cream, Triamcinolone (Triderm) 0.5% cream, Triamcinolone (Trianex) 0.5% ointment
- **Medium Potency Steroids (covered alternatives):** Betamethasone VA 0.1% cream, Betamethasone VA 0.1% lotion, Fluocinolone (Synalar) 0.025% cream, Fluocinolone (Synalar) 0.025% ointment, Fluticasone prop (Cutivate) 0.05% cream, Fluticasone prop 0.005% ointment, Hydrocortisone butyr (Locoid Lipocream) 0.1% Lipo cream, Hydrocortisone butyr (Locoid) 0.1% cream, Hydrocortisone butyr (Locoid) 0.1% ointment, Hydrocortisone butyr (Locoid) 0.1% solution, Hydrocortisone butyr 0.1% lipid cream, Hydrocortisone va (Westcort) 0.2% ointment, Hydrocortisone va 0.2% cream, Mometasone furoate (Elocon) 0.1% cream, Mometasone furoate (Elocon) 0.1% ointment, Mometasone furoate (Elocon) 0.1% solution, Prednicarbate (Dermatop) 0.1% cream, Prednicarbate (Dermatop) 0.1% ointment, Triamcinolone (Kenalog) 0.147 mg/g spray, Triamcinolone (Triderm) 0.1% cream, Triamcinolone 0.025% cream, Triamcinolone 0.025% lotion, Triamcinolone 0.025% ointment, Triamcinolone 0.1% lotion, Triamcinolone 0.1% ointment
- **Low Potency Steroids (covered alternatives):** Alclometasone dipro 0.05% ointment, Alclometasone dipro (Aclovate) 0.05% cream, Desonide (Desowen) 0.05% ointment, Desonide (Desowen, Tridesilon) 0.05% cream, Fluocinolone (Derma-Smoother/fs body) 0.01% Body oil, Fluocinolone (Derma-Smoother/fs scalp) 0.01% scalp oil, Fluocinolone (Synalar) 0.01% solution, Fluocinolone 0.01% cream, Hydrocortisone (Alacort, Cortaid) 1% cream, Hydrocortisone 1% ointment, Hydrocortisone 2.5% cream, Hydrocortisone 2.5% lotion, Hydrocortisone 2.5% ointment

References:

1. Facts and Comparisons Online

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Policy Revision history

Rev #	Type of Change	Summary of Change	Sections Affected	Date
1	New Policy	New Policy	All	May 2018
2.	Policy Update	Moved to updated template CCI Revision Record: 5/18, 1/19	All	2/4/2020
3	Policy Update	Added Desonide 0.05% gel	Products affected	7/1/2020
4	Policy Update	Added Scalacort DK 2% kit to products affected	Products Affected	1/1/2021
5	Update	Added Impeklo 0.05%	Products Affected	1/5/2021
6	Update	Added Beser 0.05% Lotion to Medium Potency Steroids, Added Hydrocortisone 2.5% solution to Low Potency Steroids	Products Affected	1/21/2025
7	Update	Add clobetasol 0.025% cream to very high potency steroids	Products affected	3/25/2025

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