TUFTS Health Plan

Pharmacy Medical Necessity Guidelines: Taclonex® (calcipotriene 0.005%/betamethasone dipropionate 0.064%)

Effective: February 9, 2021

Prior Authorization Required	√	Type of Review – Care Management	
Not Covered		Type of Review – Clinical Review	√
Pharmacy (RX) or Medical (MED) Benefit	RX	Department to Review	RXUM

These pharmacy medical necessity guidelines apply to the following:

Commercial Products

☐ Tufts Health Plan Commercial products – large group plans
☐ Tufts Health Plan Commercial products – small group and individual plans
☐ Tufts Health Freedom Plan products – large group plans
☐ Tufts Health Freedom Plan products – small group plans
- CareLink℠ – Refer to CareLink Procedures, Services and Items Requiring Prior Authorization

Tufts Health Public Plans Products

☐ Tufts Health Direct – A Massachusetts Qualified Health Plan (QHP) (a commercial product)
☐ Tufts Health Together – MassHealth MCO Plan and Accountable Care Partnership Plans
☒ Tufts Health RITogether – A Rhode Island Medicaid Plan

Fax Numbers:
RXUM: 617.673.0988

Note: This guideline does not apply to Medicare Members (includes dual eligible Members).

OVERVIEW

FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS

Taclonex (calcipotriene/betamethasone) ointment is a vitamin D analogue and corticosteroid combination product indicated for the treatment of plaque psoriasis in patients 12 years and older.

Taclonex (calcipotriene/betamethasone) suspension is indicated for the treatment of plaque psoriasis of the scalp and body in patients in patients 12 years and older.

COVERAGE GUIDELINES

The plan may authorize coverage of Taclonex (calcipotriene/betamethasone) ointment or suspension for Members when the following criterion is met and limitations do not apply:

1. The Member tried and failed or the provider indicates clinical inappropriateness of concomitant therapy with the individual agents, calcipotriene 0.005% and betamethasone 0.05%

LIMITATIONS

1. Requests for brand-name products, with AB-rated generics, will also be reviewed according to Brand Name Medications criteria.

CODES

None

REFERENCES

1. Taclonex (calcipotriene/betamethasone ointment) [prescribing information]. Madison, NJ: Leo Pharma Inc; December 2018.
2. Taclonex (calcipotriene/betamethasone suspension) [prescribing information]. Madison, NJ: Leo Pharma Inc; August 2020.

APPROVAL HISTORY

February 10, 2015: Reviewed by Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee, approval duration is limited to one year.

Subsequent endorsement date(s) and changes made:

1. September 16, 2015: Approval duration approved for life of plan.
2. January 1, 2016: Administrative change to rebranded template.
3. January 12, 2016: No changes.
4. January 10, 2017: No changes.
5. May 9, 2017: Administrative update. Effective 6/1/2017, Medical Necessity Guideline applies to Tufts Health RITogether.

6. April 10, 2018: No changes.
7. March 12, 2019: Administrative changes made to template.
8. February 11, 2020: No changes.
9. February 9, 2021: No changes.

BACKGROUND, PRODUCT AND DISCLAIMER INFORMATION

Pharmacy Medical Necessity Guidelines have been developed for determining coverage for plan benefits and are published to provide a better understanding of the basis upon which coverage decisions are made. The plan makes coverage decisions on a case-by-case basis considering the individual member's health care needs. Pharmacy Medical Necessity Guidelines are developed for selected therapeutic classes or drugs found to be safe, but proven to be effective in a limited, defined population of patients or clinical circumstances. They include concise clinical coverage criteria based on current literature review, consultation with practicing physicians in the service area who are medical experts in the particular field, FDA and other government agency policies, and standards adopted by national accreditation organizations. The plan revises and updates Pharmacy Medical Necessity Guidelines annually, or more frequently if new evidence becomes available that suggests needed revisions.

For self-insured plans, coverage may vary depending on the terms of the benefit document. If a discrepancy exists between a Pharmacy Medical Necessity Guideline and a self-insured Member's benefit document, the provisions of the benefit document will govern.

Treating providers are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. The use of this policy is not a guarantee of payment or a final prediction of how specific claim(s) will be adjudicated. Claims payment is subject to member eligibility and benefits on the date of service, coordination of benefits, referral/authorization and utilization management guidelines when applicable, and adherence to plan policies and procedures and claims editing logic.