Jetrea

Description
Jetrea (ocriplasmin)

Background
Jetrea is the first non-surgical treatment option of symptomatic vitreomacular adhesion (VMA). Jetrea is an enzyme that breaks down proteins in the eye for VMA. The breakdown of these proteins allows a better separation between the vitreous and macula which can reduce the chances of damage to the macula due to pulling or tugging on the macula. The alternative treatment for this condition is a surgical procedure called a vitrectomy (1).

Regulatory Status
FDA-approved indication: Jetrea is a proteolytic enzyme indicated for the treatment of symptomatic vitreomacular adhesion (1).

If the contralateral eye requires treatment with Jetrea, it is not recommended within 7 days of the initial injection in order to monitor the post-injection course in the injected eye. Decreases in vision due to progression of the condition with traction may occur requiring surgical intervention. Patients should be monitored and instructed to report any symptoms without delay (1).

Repeated injections of Jetrea are not recommended at this time. Vitrectomy should be considered if not resolved after one injection (1).

Intravitreal injection procedure associated effects (intraocular inflammation/infection, intraocular hemorrhage and increased IOP) may occur following an intravitreal injection. Patients should be monitored and instructed to report any symptoms without delay (1).
One case of lens subluxation was reported in a patient who received an intravitreal injection of 0.175 mg (1.4 times higher than the recommended dose). Treatment is limited to one injection per eye per lifetime due to a study showing that a second administration of Jetrea, 28 days apart, was associated with lens subluxation in 100% of the ocriplasmin treated eyes (1).

Dyschromatopsia (generally described as yellowish vision) was reported in 2% of all patients injected with Jetrea. In approximately half of these dyschromatopsia cases, there were also electroretinographic (ERG) changes reported (a- and b-wave amplitude decrease) (1).

Jetrea must only be administered by a qualified physician. Jetrea should not be offered to asymptomatic patients in whom adhesion is noted as an incidental finding on an optical coherence tomography (OCT) performed for other reasons as some vitreomacular adhesions resolve without treatment (1).

Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been established (1).

Related policies

**Policy**

*This policy statement applies to clinical review performed for pre-service (Prior Approval, Precertification, Advanced Benefit Determination, etc.) and/or post-service claims.*

Jetrea may be considered **medically necessary** in patients who are 18 years of age and older with symptomatic vitreomacular adhesion and if the conditions indicated below are met.

Jetrea is considered **investigational** in patients who are less than 18 years of age and for all other indications.

**Prior-Approval Requirements**

**Age**

18 years of age or older

**Diagnosis**

Patient must have the following:

1. Symptomatic vitreomacular adhesion

**AND ALL** of the following:
5.90.05

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a. If both eyes are to be treated, the initial eye’s injection must be monitored for 7 days before the second eye’s injection is administered.


Prior – Approval Renewal Requirements
None

Policy Guidelines

Pre-PA Allowance
None

Prior - Approval Limits
Quantity  1 injection per eye per lifetime

Prior – Approval Renewal Limits
None

Rationale

Summary
Jetrea intravitreal injection is a proteolytic enzyme indicated for the treatment of symptomatic vitreomacular adhesion. It reduces damage in VMA caused when the vitreous body moves away from the macula. If the contralateral eye requires treatment with Jetrea, it is not recommended within 7 days of the initial injection in order to monitor the post-injection course in the injected eye. Jetrea must only be administered by a retina trained ophthalmologist. Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been established (1).

Prior approval is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate and cost effective use of Jetrea while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

References
5.90.05

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**Keywords**

This policy was approved by the FEP® Pharmacy and Medical Policy Committee on September 13, 2019 and is effective on October 1, 2019.