Antifungal and Antibiotic Powders

Description


Antibiotics: Mupirocin Powder, Tobramycin Powder, Vancomycin Powder

Background

Pharmacy compounding is an ancient practice in which pharmacists combine, mix or alter ingredients to create unique medications that meet specific needs of individual patients. Some examples of the need for compounding products would be: the dosage formulation must be changed to allow a person with dysphagia (trouble swallowing) to have a liquid formulation of a commercially available tablet only product, or to obtain the exact strength needed of the active ingredient, to avoid ingredients that a particular patient has an allergy to, or simply to add flavoring to medication to make it more palatable.

The intent of the criteria is to provide coverage consistent with product labeling, FDA guidance, standards of medical practice, evidence-based drug information, and/or published guidelines. Pharmacy powder products have the potential for misuse. Misuse of these powder products is quite common and it is important to inform patients about the possible complications due to overuse of these drugs.

Regulatory Status

FDA approved indication:
Antifungal agents kill fungi or inhibit their growth. Antifungals that kill fungi are called fungicidal while those that inhibit their growth are called fungistatic.

Antibiotics, or antimicrobials, are medications that destroy or slow down the growth of bacteria. Bactericidal antibiotics kill the bacteria, while bacteriostatic antibiotics stop the bacteria from multiplying.

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.

Antifungal and antibiotic products included in this policy may be considered medically necessary in patients with a FDA-approved indication supporting the use of the product and if the conditions indicated below are met.

Antifungal and antibiotic products included in this policy may be considered investigational for all other indications.

Prior-Approval Requirements

Diagnosis

Patient must have the following:

FDA-approved indication supporting the use of the compounded ingredient for the diagnosis provided

AND ALL of the following:
1. The requested dosage form is FDA-approved
2. The requested product is NOT for use in foot baths
3. The requested dose/strength does NOT exceed the maximum FDA-approved dose/strength for the requested ingredient
4. The requested dose is NOT commercially available

Prior – Approval Renewal Requirements
Policy Guidelines

Pre - PA Allowance
Nystatin Powder only: 90 grams per 90 days

No Pre-PA for all other powders

Prior - Approval Limits

Duration 12 months

Prior – Approval Renewal Limits
Same as above

Rationale

Summary
The intent of the criteria is to provide coverage consistent with product labeling, FDA guidance, standards of medical practice, evidence-based drug information, and/or published guidelines. Pharmacy powder products have the potential for misuse. Misuse of these powder products is quite common and it is important to inform patients about the possible complications due to overuse of these drugs.

Prior authorization is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate and cost effective use of the antifungal and antibiotic products included in this policy while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

Policy History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2019</td>
<td>Addition to PA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Keywords
This policy was approved by the FEP® Pharmacy and Medical Policy Committee on December 6, 2019 and is effective on January 1, 2020.