Prior Authorization Review Panel

CHC-MCO Policy Submission

A separate copy of this form must accompany each policy submitted for review.
Policies submitted without this form will not be considered for review.

Plan: PA Health & Wellness	**Submission Date: 11/2021**
Policy Number: PHW.PDL.011	**Effective Date: 01/01/2020** **Revision Date: 10/2021**
Policy Name: Alzheimer's Agents	

Type of Submission – Check all that apply:

- ☐ **New Policy**
- ✓ **Revised Policy***
- ☐ **Annual Review - No Revisions**
- ✓ **Statewide PDL -** *Select this box when submitting policies for Statewide PDL implementation and when submitting policies for drug classes included on the Statewide PDL.*

***All revisions to the policy must be highlighted using track changes throughout the document.**

Please provide any changes or clarifying information for the policy below:

Q1 2022: revised according to DHS revisions effective 01/03/2022

Name of Authorized Individual (Please type or print): **Venkateswara R. Davuluri, MD**	**Signature of Authorized Individual:**

Clinical Policy: Alzheimer's Agents

Reference Number: PHW.PDL.011
Effective Date: 01/01/2020
Last Review Date: 10/2021

Revision Log

Policy/Criteria
Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with PA Health and Wellness® that Alzheimer's Agents are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Alzheimer's Agents

A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

Prescriptions for Alzheimer's Agents that meet any of the following conditions must be prior authorized:

1. A non-preferred Alzheimer's Agent. See the Preferred Drug List (PDL) for the list of preferred Alzheimer's Agents at: https://papdl.com/preferred-drug-list.

2. An Alzheimer Agent with a prescribed quantity that exceeds the quantity limit.

3. An Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitor Alzheimer's Agent when there is a record of a recent paid claim for another Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitor (therapeutic duplication).

B. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

In evaluating a request for prior authorization of a prescription for an Alzheimer's Agent, the determination of whether the requested prescription is medically necessary will take into account whether the member:

1. For a non-preferred Alzheimer's Agent, has a history of therapeutic failure, contraindication, or intolerance of the preferred Alzheimer's Agents.

AND

2. For therapeutic duplication, **one** of the following:

a. Is being titrated to, or tapered from, another Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitor
b. Has medical reason for concomitant use of the requested medications that is supported by peer-reviewed literature or national treatment guidelines

AND

3. If a prescription for an Alzheimer's Agent is in a quantity that exceeds the quantity limit, the determination of whether the prescription is medically necessary will also take into account the guidelines set forth in PA.CP.PMN.59 Quantity Limit Override.

NOTE: If the member does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the member, the request for prior authorization will be approved.

C. Clinical Review Process

Prior authorization personnel will review the request for prior authorization and apply the clinical guidelines in Section B. above, to assess the medical necessity of the request for a prescription for an Alzheimer's Agent. If the guidelines in Section B are met, the reviewer will prior authorize the prescription. If the guidelines are not met, the prior authorization request will be referred to a physician reviewer for a medical necessity determination. Such a request for prior authorization will be approved when, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the recipient

D. **Approval Duration: 12 months**

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date
Policy created	01/01/2020
Q3 2020 annual review: no changes.	07/2020
Q1 2021 annual review: no changes.	01/2021
Q1 2022: revised according to DHS revisions effective 01/03/2022	10/2021