



## Clinical Policy: Tetracyclines

Reference Number: PHW.PDL.213

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 Tetracyclines are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

### I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Tetracyclines

#### A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

Prescriptions for Tetracyclines that meet any of the following conditions must be prior authorized:

1. A non-preferred Tetracycline.
2. A Tetracycline with a prescribed quantity that exceeds the quantity limit.

#### B. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

In evaluating a request for prior authorization of a prescription for a Tetracycline, the determination of whether the requested prescription is medically necessary will take into account whether the beneficiary:

1. For a non-preferred Tetracycline, **one** of the following:
  - a. Has a history of therapeutic failure, intolerance, or contraindication to the preferred Tetracyclines approved or medically accepted for the beneficiary's diagnosis.
  - b. Has culture and sensitivity test results documenting that only non-preferred Tetracyclines will be effective;

**AND**

2. If a prescription for a Tetracycline is for 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 beneficiary does not meet the clinical review guidelines above but, in the professional judgement of the physician reviewer, the services are medically

necessary to meet the medical needs of the beneficiary, 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 a prescription for a Tetracycline. 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 beneficiary.

**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 annual review: no changes.	10/2021