



POLICIES AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Policy: MBP 255.0

Section: Medical Benefit Pharmaceutical Policy

Subject: Dextenza (dexamethasone ophthalmic (intracanalicular) insert)

Applicable line of business:

Commercial	X	Medicaid	
Medicare	X	ACA	X
CHIP	X		

I. Policy:

Dextenza (dexamethasone ophthalmic (intracanalicular) insert)

II. Purpose/Objective:

To provide a policy of coverage regarding Dextenza (dexamethasone ophthalmic (intracanalicular) insert).

III. Responsibility:

- A. Medical Directors
- B. Medical Management
- C. Pharmacy Department

IV. Required Definitions

1. Attachment – a supporting document that is developed and maintained by the policy writer or department requiring/authoring the policy.
2. Exhibit – a supporting document developed and maintained in a department other than the department requiring/authoring the policy.
3. Devised – the date the policy was implemented.
4. Revised – the date of every revision to the policy, including typographical and grammatical changes.
5. Reviewed – the date documenting the annual review if the policy has no revisions necessary.

V. Additional Definitions

Medical Necessity or Medically Necessary means Covered Services rendered by a Health Care Provider that the Plan determines are:

- a. appropriate for the symptoms and diagnosis or treatment of the Member's condition, illness, disease or injury;
- b. provided for the diagnosis and the direct care and treatment of the Member's condition, illness disease or injury;
- c. in accordance with current standards good medical treatment practiced by the general medical community;
- d. not primarily for the convenience of the Member, or the Member's Health Care Provider; and
- e. the most appropriate source or level of service that can safely be provided to the Member. When applied to hospitalization, this further means that the Member requires acute care as an inpatient due to the nature of the services rendered or the Member's condition, and the Member cannot receive safe or adequate care as an outpatient

Commercial

Geisinger Health Plan may refer collectively to health care coverage sponsors Geisinger Health Plan, Geisinger Quality Options, Inc., and Geisinger Indemnity Insurance Company, unless otherwise noted. Geisinger Health Plan is part of Geisinger, an integrated health care delivery and coverage organization.

Medicare

Geisinger Gold Medicare Advantage HMO, PPO, and HMO D-SNP plans are offered by Geisinger Health Plan/Geisinger Indemnity Insurance Company, health plans with a Medicare contract. Continued enrollment in Geisinger Gold depends on contract renewal. Geisinger Health Plan/Geisinger Indemnity Insurance Company are part of Geisinger, an integrated health care delivery and coverage organization.

CHIP

Geisinger Health Plan Kids (GHP Kids) is a Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) offered by Geisinger Health Plan in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS). Geisinger Health Plan is part of Geisinger, an integrated health care delivery and coverage organization.

DESCRIPTION:

Dextenza is an intracanalicular insert of dexamethasone, a corticosteroid, which has been shown to suppress inflammation by inhibiting multiple inflammatory cytokines resulting in decreased edema, fibrin deposition, capillary leakage and migration of inflammatory cells.

CRITERIA FOR USE: Requires Prior Authorization by Medical Director or Designee

Dextenza (dexamethasone ophthalmic (intracanalicular) insert) will be considered medically necessary for the commercial, exchange, and CHIP lines of business when all of the following criteria are met:

For Ocular Postoperative Inflammation and Pain:

Note: Prior authorization is not required for Dextenza for diagnosis codes H59.8 and H57.10. In the event of a request for Dextenza for these diagnoses OR in the event a requestor would like a medical necessity review completed, the following criteria would apply:

- Medical record documentation of use for the treatment of ocular inflammation and pain following ophthalmic surgery

For Ocular Itching Associated with Allergic Conjunctivitis

- Medical record documentation of a diagnosis of ocular itching associated with allergic conjunctivitis **AND**
 - Medical record documentation of a therapeutic failure on, intolerance to, or contraindication to up to 3 formulary alternatives.
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Dextenza (dexamethasone ophthalmic (intracanalicular) insert) will be considered medically necessary for the Medicare line of business when all of the following criteria are met:

For Ocular Postoperative Inflammation and Pain:

Note: Prior authorization is not required for Dextenza for diagnosis codes H59.8 and H57.10. In the event of a request for Dextenza for these diagnoses OR in the event a requestor would like a medical necessity review completed, the following criteria would apply:

- Medical record documentation of use for the treatment of ocular inflammation and pain following ophthalmic surgery

For Ocular Itching Associated with Allergic Conjunctivitis

- Medical record documentation of a diagnosis of ocular itching associated with allergic conjunctivitis

LINE OF BUSINESS:

Eligibility and contract specific benefit limitations and/or exclusions will apply. Coverage statements found in the line of business specific benefit document will supersede this policy.

REFERENCES:

1. Dextenza (dexamethasone) [prescribing information]. Bedford, MA: Ocular Therapeutix Inc; October 2021.

This policy will be revised as necessary and reviewed no less than annually.

Devised: 3/15/22

Revised: 3/9/23 (LOB carve out, Medicaid business segment), 12/28/23 (references added), 2/11/25 (LOB table, taglines)

Reviewed: 2/19/24

MA UM Committee approval: 12/31/23, 12/31/24