

Reference number(s)
1620-A

SPECIALTY GUIDELINE MANAGEMENT

DESFERAL (deferoxamine) Deferoxamine mesylate (generic)

POLICY

I. INDICATIONS

The indications below including FDA-approved indications and compendial uses are considered a covered benefit provided that all the approval criteria are met and the member has no exclusions to the prescribed therapy.

A. FDA-Approved Indications

Chronic iron overload due to transfusion-dependent anemias

B. Compendial Uses

1. Aluminum toxicity in patients undergoing dialysis
2. Hereditary hemochromatosis

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and are not a covered benefit.

II. CRITERIA FOR INITIAL APPROVAL

A. **Chronic Iron Overload due to Transfusion-dependent Anemias**

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of chronic iron overload due to transfusion-dependent anemias when a pretreatment serum ferritin level is greater than 1000 mcg/L.

B. **Aluminum toxicity in Patients Undergoing Dialysis**

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of aluminum toxicity in members undergoing dialysis.

C. **Hereditary Hemochromatosis**

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of hereditary hemochromatosis when phlebotomy is not an option (e.g. poor candidate due to underlying medical disorders) or the member had an unsatisfactory response to phlebotomy.

III. CONTINUATION OF THERAPY

All members (including new members) requesting authorization for continuation of therapy must meet ALL initial authorization criteria.

IV. REFERENCES

1. Desferal [package insert]. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; December 2011.
2. Deferoxamine mesylate [package insert]. Lake Forest, IL: Hospira, Inc.; February 2018.
3. Micromedex Solutions [database online]. Truven Health Analytics, Inc. Ann Arbor, MI. Available at: www.micromedexsolutions.com. Accessed October 15, 2018.

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4. AHFS DI (Adult and Pediatric) [database online]. Lexi-Comp, Inc. Hudson, OH. Available at: http://online.lexi.com/lco/action/index/dataset/complete_ashp [available with subscription]. Accessed October 15, 2018.
5. Clinical Pharmacology [Internet]. Elsevier. Tampa (FL). Available from: <http://www.clinicalpharmacology.com>. October 15, 2018.
6. Cappellini MD, Cohen A, Porter J, et al. Guidelines for the management of transfusion dependent thalassaemia (TDT) 3rd Edition [Internet]. *Thalassaemia International Federation* 2014;20:1-253.
7. Hoffbrand AV, Taher A, Cappellini MD. How I treat transfusional iron overload. *Blood* 2012;120(18):3657-69.
8. NKF-K/DOQI. Clinical practice guidelines for bone metabolism and disease in chronic kidney disease. *Am J Kidney Dis* 2003; 42:S108–S122.
9. Adams P, Barton J, et al. How I Treat Hemochromatosis. *Blood* 2010; (116): 317-325.