



SmartPA Criteria Proposal

Drug/Drug Class:	Sympatholytic Agents PDL Edit	
First Implementation Date:	January 5, 2017	
Proposed Date:	September 16, 2021	
Prepared For:	MO HealthNet	
Prepared By:	MO HealthNet/Conduent	
Criteria Status:	⊠Existing Criteria □Revision of Existing Criteria □New Criteria	

Executive Summary

Purpose: The MO HealthNet Pharmacy Program will implement a state-specific preferred drug list.

Why Issue Selected:

The sympatholytic agents are indicated for various functions for example, treatment of hypertension, anxiety, panic disorder, post traumatic stress disorder and withdrawal symptoms from opioids. The oral, centrally-acting, alpha-2 adrenergic receptor agonists include clonidine and guanfacine. Methyldopa continues to be used to treat hypertension in pregnant women. A diuretic, usually hydrochlorothiazide or chlorthalidone may be combined with clonidine or methyldopa. The sympatholytics are typically part of a multiple antihypertensive drug regimen for participants who have not reached their target blood pressure. Clonidine is also available in a transdermal formulation for the treatment of hypertension.

Total program savings for the PDL classes will be regularly reviewed.

Program-	Preferred Agents	Non-Preferred Agents
Specific	Catapres-TTS® Patch	Catapres® Tabs
Information:	 Clonidine Tabs 	Clonidine Patch
	Guanfacine	Lucemyra®
	 Methyldopa 	Methyldopa/HCTZ
Type of Criteria:	☐ Increased risk of ADE	□ Preferred Drug List
	☑ Appropriate Indications	☐ Clinical Edit
Data Sources:	□ Only Administrative Databases	□ Databases + Prescriber-Supplied

Setting & Population

- Drug class for review: Sympatholytic Agents
- Age range: All appropriate MO HealthNet participants

Approval Criteria

- Failure to achieve desired therapeutic outcomes with trial on 3 or more preferred agents:
 - Documented trial period for preferred agents OR
 - Documented ADE/ADR to preferred agents
- For Lucemyra:
 - Documented diagnosis of opioid withdrawal AND
 - o Documented trial period of clonidine oral OR patch

Denial Criteria		
 Lack of adequate trial on required preferred agents Therapy will be denied if all approval criteria are not met 		
Required Documentation		
Laboratory Results: Progress Notes: Other:		
Disposition of Edit		
Denial: Exception Code "0160" (Preferred Drug List) Rule Type: PDL		
Default Approval Period		

References

1 year

- 1. Evidence-Based Medicine and Fiscal Analysis: "Sympatholytic Antihypertensive Agents Therapeutic Class Review", Conduent Business Services, L.L.C., Richmond, VA; July 2021.
- 2. Evidence-Based Medicine Analysis: "Sympatholytic Antihypertensives", UMKC-DIC; July 2021.
- 3. USPDI, Micromedex; 2021.
- 4. Facts and Comparisons eAnswers (online); 2021 Clinical Drug Information, LLC.