H.P. Acthar® Gel (repository corticotropin injection, ACTH) (Intramuscular)

Document Number: IH-0003

Last Review Date: 12/03/2019
Date of Origin: 11/28/2011

I. Length of Authorization

- Infantile spasms: coverage will be provided for 1 month and may be renewed
- Acute MS Exacerbations: coverage will be provided for 21 days and may NOT be renewed

II. Dosing Limits

A. Quantity Limit (max daily dose) [NDC Unit]:
   - H.P. Acthar Gel 80 units/mL injection (5 mL multi-dose vial): 4 vials per 28 days

B. Max Units (per dose and over time) [HCPCS Unit]:
   - Infantile Spasms
     - 35 billable units every 28 days
   - Multiple Sclerosis
     - 63 billable units every 21 days

III. Initial Approval Criteria

Infantile spasms (West Syndrome) †

- Patient is under 2 years of age: AND
- Clinical documentation indicating patient has a diagnosis of infantile spasms (West Syndrome): AND
- Must be used as monotherapy: AND
- Documentation that patient does not have a suspected congenital infection

Multiple Sclerosis †

- Patient age is least 18 years: AND
- Patient is undergoing an acute, severe debilitating exacerbation of MS: AND
• Patient is allergic to and/or has tried and failed to respond to high dose IV corticosteroids or high dose IV corticosteroids are not appropriate due to documented patient poor venous access

†† FDA Approved Indication(s)

| Use of repository corticotropin injection for indications including, but not limited to, those additionally listed in the product labeling are not supported by substantial clinical evidence. |
| Repository Corticotropin Injection was originally approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 1952 for a variety of disorders and diseases that at the time were thought to benefit from steroid mediated immunosuppression. The initial approval of H.P. ACTH gel occurred prior to the Kefauver-Harris amendment to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act of 1962, which introduced the requirement of “substantial evidence” of two adequate and well controlled trials. At the time of the original approval drug manufacturers only had to show the drug was safe for use in humans. The original data included case reports from a few physicians describing patients with conditions originally treated with Acthar powder that were transferred to treatment with Acthar Gel and gave dosing guidance for treatment of these individual conditions. These data would be grossly inadequate to support approval of a new drug or new indications by the Agency under current standards requiring evidence from adequate and well-controlled clinical trials. A Drug Efficacy Study Implementation (DESI) review of corticotrophin injection was initiated in 1971 and finalized in 1977. |

IV. Renewal Criteria

Authorizations can be renewed based on the following criteria:

• Patient continues to meet the criteria identified in section III: AND
• Disease response with treatment as indicated by resolution of symptoms and/or normalization of laboratory tests: AND
• Absence of unacceptable toxicity from the drug. Examples of unacceptable toxicity include the following: severe infections, severe electrolyte imbalances, gastric bleeding or ulcer, hypertension, hypokalemia, severe depression, frank psychotic manifestations, posterior subcapsular cataracts, glaucoma, etc.

V. Dosage/Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indication</th>
<th>Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infantile Spasms</td>
<td>75 units/m² intramuscularly given twice daily for 2 weeks, then taper the dose over a 2 week period (e.g., 30 units/m² in the morning for 3 days; 15 units/m² in the morning for 3 days; 10 units/m² in the morning for 3 days; and 10 units/m² every other morning for 6 days).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Sclerosis</td>
<td>80 to 120 units IM per day in divided doses for 2 to 3 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VI. Billing Code/Availability Information

Jcode:

J0800 – Injection, corticotropin, up to 40 units; up to 40 units = 1 billable unit

NDC:

H.P. Acthar Gel 80 units/mL (5 mL multi-dose vial): 63004-8710-xx
VII. References


3. Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. APPLICATION NUMBER: 022432Orig1s000. Other Review(s). U. S. Food and Drug Administration. Washington, DC.


Appendix 1 – Covered Diagnosis Codes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD-10</th>
<th>ICD-10 Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G35</td>
<td>Multiple Sclerosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G40.821</td>
<td>Epileptic spasms, not intractable, with status epilepticus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G40.822</td>
<td>Epileptic spasms, not intractable, without status epilepticus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G40.823</td>
<td>Epileptic spasms, intractable, with status epilepticus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G40.824</td>
<td>Epileptic spasms, intractable, without status epilepticus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Appendix 2 – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)**

Medicare coverage for outpatient (Part B) drugs is outlined in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual (Pub. 100-2), Chapter 15, §50 Drugs and Biologicals. In addition, National Coverage Determination (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) may exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. They can be found at: [http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search/advanced-search.aspx](http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search/advanced-search.aspx). Additional indications may be covered at the discretion of the health plan.

**Medicare Part B Covered Diagnosis Codes (applicable to existing NCD/LCD):** N/A

**Medicare Part B Administrative Contractor (MAC) Jurisdictions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Applicable State/US Territory</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E (1)</td>
<td>CA, HI, NV, AS, GU, CNMI</td>
<td>Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F (2 &amp; 3)</td>
<td>AK, WA, OR, ID, ND, SD, MT, WY, UT, AZ</td>
<td>Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>KS, NE, IA, MO</td>
<td>Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>MN, WI, IL</td>
<td>National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H (4 &amp; 7)</td>
<td>LA, AR, MS, TX, OK, CO, NM</td>
<td>Novitas Solutions, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>MI, IN</td>
<td>Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N (9)</td>
<td>FL, PR, VI</td>
<td>First Coast Service Options, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J (10)</td>
<td>TN, GA, AL</td>
<td>Palmetto Government Benefit Administrators, LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>M (11)</td>
<td>NC, SC, WV, VA (excluding below)</td>
<td>Palmetto GBA, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L (12)</td>
<td>DE, MD, PA, NJ, DC (includes Arlington &amp; Fairfax counties and the city of Alexandria in VA)</td>
<td>Novitas Solutions, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K (13 &amp; 14)</td>
<td>NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, ME, NH</td>
<td>National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>KY, OH</td>
<td>CGS Administrators, LLC</td>
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