

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE HANDBOOK
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES

I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Ophthalmic Antibiotic-Steroid Combinations

A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

Prescriptions for Ophthalmic Antibiotic-Steroid Combinations that meet the following conditions must be prior authorized.

1. A prescription for a non-preferred Ophthalmic Antibiotic-Steroid Combination. See Preferred Drug List (PDL) for the list of preferred Ophthalmic Antibiotic-Steroid Combinations at:
www.providersynergies.com/services/documents/PAM_PDL.pdf

B. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

In evaluating a request for prior authorization of a prescription for a non preferred Ophthalmic Antibiotic-Steroid Combination, the determination of whether the requested prescription is medically necessary will take into account whether the recipient:

1. Has a documented history of therapeutic failure, a contraindication to or intolerance of the preferred products

OR

2. Does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above, but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the recipient.

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 the request for a prescription for a non-preferred Ophthalmic Antibiotic-Steroid Combination. 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 recipient.