IMPORTANT REMINDER: All providers must revalidate the Medical Assistance (MA) enrollment of each service location every 5 years. Providers should log into PROMISe to check the revalidation dates of each service location and submit revalidation applications at least 60 days prior to the revalidation dates. Enrollment (revalidation) applications may be found at: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/PROMISe-Enrollment.aspx.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to:

1. Inform providers that the Department of Human Services (Department) will require prior authorization of prescriptions for Tepezza (teprotumumab).
2. Issue new handbook pages that include the requirements for prior authorization and the type of information needed to evaluate the medical necessity of prescriptions for Tepezza (teprotumumab) submitted for prior authorization.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all licensed pharmacies and prescribers enrolled in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program and providing services in the fee-for-service delivery system. Providers rendering services in the MA managed care delivery system should address any questions related to Tepezza (teprotumumab) to the appropriate managed care organization.

BACKGROUND:

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<td>01-20-54</td>
<td>09-20-53</td>
</tr>
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<td>02-20-47</td>
<td>11-20-47</td>
</tr>
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<td>03-20-47</td>
<td>14-20-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08-20-57</td>
<td>24-20-48</td>
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</tbody>
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COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll-free number for your provider type.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Health%20Care%20for%20Providers/Contact-Information-for-Providers.aspx.
The Department’s Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board meets semi-annually to review provider prescribing and dispensing practices for efficacy, safety, and quality and to recommend interventions for prescribers and pharmacists through the Department’s Prospective Drug Use Review and Retrospective Drug Use Review programs.

DISCUSSION:

Tepezza (teprotumumab) was recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of thyroid eye disease. During the October 21, 2020, meeting, the DUR Board recommended that the Department require prior authorization of Tepezza (teprotumumab) to ensure appropriate patient selection and drug utilization. The DUR Board recommended guidelines to determine medical necessity of prescriptions for Tepezza (teprotumumab) that were subject to public review and comment and subsequently approved for implementation by the Department.

PROCEDURE:

The procedures for prescribers to request prior authorization of Tepezza (teprotumumab) are located in SECTION I of the Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook. The Department will take into account the elements specified in the clinical review guidelines (which are included in the provider handbook pages in the SECTION II chapter related to Tepezza (teprotumumab)) when reviewing the prior authorization request to determine medical necessity.

As set forth in 55 Pa. Code § 1101.67(a), the procedures described in the handbook pages must be followed to ensure appropriate and timely processing of prior authorization requests for drugs that require prior authorization.

ATTACHMENTS:

Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook - Updated pages

RESOURCES:

Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook – SECTION I
Pharmacy Prior Authorization General Requirements
https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Pharmacy-Services/Pages/Pharmacy-Prior-Authorization-General-Requirements.aspx

Prior Authorization of Pharmaceutical Services Handbook – SECTION II
Pharmacy Prior Authorization Guidelines
https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Pharmacy-Services/Pages/Clinical-Guidelines.aspx
I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Tepezza (teprotumumab-trbw)

A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

All prescriptions for Tepezza (teprotumumab-trbw) must be prior authorized.

B. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

In evaluating a request for prior authorization of a prescription for Tepezza (teprotumumab-trbw), the determination of whether the requested prescription is medically necessary will take into account whether the beneficiary:

1. Is prescribed Tepezza (teprotumumab-trbw) for the treatment of a diagnosis that is indicated in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved package labeling OR a medically accepted indication; AND

2. Is age-appropriate according to FDA-approved package labeling, nationally recognized compendia, or peer-reviewed medical literature; AND

3. Is prescribed a dose and duration of therapy that is consistent with FDA-approved package labeling, nationally recognized compendia, or peer-reviewed medical literature; AND

4. Is prescribed Tepezza (teprotumumab-trbw) by or in consultation with an endocrinologist, ophthalmologist, or ocular surgeon specializing in the treatment of thyroid eye disease; AND

5. Is prescribed as part of a multidisciplinary treatment approach that includes consultation with both endocrinology and ophthalmology specialties; AND

6. Does not have a history of a contraindication to the prescribed medication; AND

7. Has documentation of diagnosis of active, moderate-severe thyroid eye disease, defined as both of the following:
   
   a. Clinical Activity Score of ≥4 (of a 0 to 7-point scale)

   b. At least one of the following:

      i. Lid retraction of ≥2 mm,
      ii. Moderate or severe soft-tissue involvement,
      iii. Proptosis ≥3 mm above normal values,
      iv. Periodic or constant diplopia;

      AND
8. Is euthyroid or has mild hypo- or hyperthyroidism defined as free T3 (triiodothyronine) and free T4 (thyroxine) serum levels <50% above or below the normal limits; **AND**

9. Has a history of therapeutic failure, contraindication, or intolerance of a systemic corticosteroid.

**NOTE:** If the beneficiary 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 beneficiary, the request for prior authorization will be approved.

**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 a prescription for Tepezza (teprotumumab-trbw). 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 beneficiary.

**D. Dose and Duration of Therapy**

The Department of Human Services will limit authorization of prescriptions for Tepezza (teprotumumab-trbw) consistent with the FDA-approved package labeling.

**E. References**


