

Drug Review

Recently Introduced Products

Volume V, Issue 11

| Drug Name | Indication | Potential Plan Impact |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| DDAVP Melt tablets | Treatment of nightly "bedwetting" | \$ |
| NovoMix 30 insulin | Treatment of diabetes Type I and II | \$ |

\$ Little increase estimated in drug plan expenditure
\$\$ Drug plan expenditure estimated to be somewhat increased
\$\$\$ Potential for large increase in drug plan expenditure

Humatrope – For the treatment of Idiopathic Short Stature (“ISS”) and Adult growth hormone deficiency

Humatrope, a biosynthetic human growth hormone, was first approved in June, 1987 for the treatment of growth hormone deficiency in children. In December, 1997, it was approved for the treatment of adult growth hormone deficiency and Turner's syndrome (a rare genetic disorder occurring only in girls). Humatrope has now been approved for treatment of idiopathic short stature (“ISS”).

ISS is a rare condition. It is estimated that only 45 Canadian children will be treated for ISS in 2007¹. Diagnosis of ISS, like adult growth hormone deficiency, is a multiple step diagnostic process, requiring extensive knowledge and specialization in the treatment and care of these conditions.

In children, growth hormone deficiency manifests as growth failure and short stature and is easier to identify than ISS or adult growth hormone deficiency. Most provinces provide coverage for children with growth hormone deficiency and Turner's syndrome up to adolescence. However, patients with growth hormone deficiency will continue to require growth hormone beyond adolescence to reduce the cardiovascular risk factors and possible death. In adults, the effects are more subtle and may include deficiencies of strength, energy and bone mass, along with increased cardiovascular risk. Therefore, it is important to distinguish that the underlying cause of the lack of strength, energy, bone mass and cardiovascular risk is due to adult growth hormone deficiency and not just part of the aging process.

Since the annual cost of treatment ranges between \$17,000 up to \$70,000 and to ensure that patients meet the criteria for adult growth hormone deficiency or ISS, for ClaimSecure's **Managed Formularies**, Humatrope will be included in the Special Authorization program. For ClaimSecure's open formularies, Humatrope and other growth hormone products are already covered.

Should you wish to cover Humatrope under Special Authorization or if you require additional information about Humatrope, please contact Shellina Sevany in ClaimSecure's Clinical Services Department at (905) 949-3025 or 1-888-479-7587 ext.3025.

Recommendation: Special Authorization

ClaimSecure reserves the right to amend in part or in its entirety stated special authorization clinical guidelines

References:

1. Humatrope Product Monograph. Eli Lilly Canada. October, 2006.

