



Recently Introduced Products

Drug Name	Indication	Potential Impact	Expected Avg. Annual Cost
Zeldox capsules	Treatment of schizophrenia and related psychotic disorders	\$	\$3731.20
Clobex Topical Spray	For the treatment of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis	\$	\$788.40

\$: Est. drug plan expenditure increase of <1%* \$\$: Est. drug plan expenditure increase of 1-5%* \$\$\$: Est. drug plan expenditure increase of >5%*

Omnaris™ - Nasal relief for allergy sufferers

Allergy season is once again upon us and with it, comes the sneezing and itchy, runny nose! Omnaris™ (ciclesonide) is a corticosteroidal nasal spray for the treatment of allergic rhinitis (“AR”). AR is a chronic inflammatory disease characterized with symptoms such as watery nasal discharge (rhinorrhea), sneezing, nasal obstruction and itchiness of the nose and eyes¹. It is often incorrectly referred to as hay fever, even though AR may be caused by allergens other than pollen.

AR is a global problem and reports indicate that it is found in up to 40% of the population². In a recent survey of 1,001 adult patients (Allergies in Canada), seventy-five of the respondents indicated that the allergy season had some effect on their quality of life³. Indeed, AR has been shown to be a risk factor for asthma, sinusitis, otitis media, upper respiratory infection and nasal polyps⁴. Thus, the costs associated with AR are not just limited to allergy season.

Current treatments for AR include antihistamines, decongestants, leukotriene modifiers (e.g. Singulair™) and corticosteroid nasal sprays (“CNSs”). CNSs are considered the most effective treatment for the management of AR symptoms. In terms of efficacy and tolerability, all the CNSs, including Omnaris™, have been shown to be similar, with the choice of one over the other based solely on physician and/or patient preference.

The annual cost of treatment with Omnaris™ is approximately \$288. Since this is in line with the other CNSs (cost ranging from \$123 - \$290 annually), Omnaris™ will be fully covered under ALL ClaimSecure drug plans, including ClaimSecure Managed Formularies.

If you require additional information about Omnaris™, please contact Shellina Sevani, Manager, Clinical Services Department, at (905) 949-3025 or 1-888-479-7587 ext.3025.

Recommendation: Full Coverage

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

References:

- 1) Omnaris™ Private Payer Submission Binder. Nycomed Canada, March, 2008.
- 2) Small P, Frenkiel S *et al.* Rhinitis: An Executive Summary of a Practical and Comprehensive Approach to Assessment and Therapy. *J Otolaryngology* 2007. 35(1): S1-S26.
- 3) Keith PK, Desroisiers M *et al.* Burden of Illness of Allergic Rhinitis in Canada [abstract]. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2007. 119(suppl):S356, abstract 893.
- 4) Yawn, B. Comparison of Once-Daily Intranasal Corticosteroids for the Treatment of Allergic Rhinitis: Are They All the Same? (CME, 2006). *Medscape General Medicine*. 8(1):23.

