



Recently Introduced Products

Drug Name	Indication	Potential Impact	Expected Avg. Annual Cost
Votrient 200mg	Treatment of metastatic renal cell carcinoma	\$\$	\$59,860.00

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

Toctino[®] – A novel approach in the treatment for Chronic Hand Eczema

Toctino[®] (alitretinoin) is the first oral retinoid approved by Health Canada for the treatment of chronic hand eczema (CHE) in patients that have not responded to treatment with strong topical corticosteroids. Hand eczema is an inflammatory condition of the skin and in a severe form may present with cracking of the skin, fluid filled blisters, papules, swelling, weeping or scaling.¹ This condition is usually recurrent and is defined as chronic if it lasts for at least 3 months or if the patient has experienced two relapses in a year.² The prevalence of CHE ranges from 0.14% - 0.48%, and is most common in individuals between the ages of 20 and 49.¹

Treatment of eczema requires a step approach, starting with avoiding allergens and frequent use of barrier creams, leading to the use of topical steroids, followed by light therapy or immunosuppressant's as a last resort. Steroids are the standard therapy and range from low, moderate or high potency; however about 50% of patients diagnosed with severe hand eczema fail to respond to treatment and become chronic.¹

Toctino[®] is an oral drug that interferes with the inflammatory process of the skin leading to eczema. The Benefit of Alitretinoin in Chronic Hand study demonstrated that 48% of patients achieved clear or almost clear hands as measured by the physician global assessment scale.¹ Additionally, patient's response time was significantly shorter for those using 30mg versus 10mg. Further studies revealed that Toctino[®] is also effective for those who have relapsed or those who did not initially respond to treatment. Toctino[®], along with other retinoids, is cautioned for women of childbearing age due to its ability to cause birth defects.

The initial dose for Toctino[®] is 30mg daily, and is reduced to 10mg for patients experiencing intolerable side effects. The daily cost is \$21.99, and the treatment period usually lasts between 12 – 24 weeks, costing approximately \$1,847.16 up to \$3,694.32. Toctino[®] is a last line medication and is considered only after options, such as protectant creams and potent topical steroids, are unable to control the symptoms. Toctino[®] is fully covered under ClaimSecure's Open Drug Formularies, the Specialty Drug Programs and ClaimSecure's Stoploss program. However, it is placed under Special Authorization for ClaimSecure groups that subscribe to the Managed Formulary. The Special Authorization process ensures the following: 1) the medication is used for its approved indication(s); 2) the member has tried alternatives; and 3) coordination of benefits with available provincial drug programs.

If you require additional information about Toctino[®], please contact Lavina Viegas, Clinical Pharmacist, Clinical Services Department, at (905) 949-3031 or 1-888-479-7587 ext. 3031.

Recommendation: Special Authorization

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

References:

- 1) Toctino[®] Private Payer Submission Binder. Basilea Medical Ltd., November, 2010.
- 2) Lynde, et. al. Canadian Hand Dermatitis Management Guidelines. Journal of Cutaneous Medicine and Surgery 2010; 14: 267-284.

HEALTH LIBRARY | MENU SANTÉ



claimsecure.com / securindemnite.com

* Based on the Financial Impact Analysis per 100 000 lives covered
© 2010 ClaimSecure Inc.