Overview
Parkinson disease symptoms are due to lack of striatal dopamine. Levodopa circulates in the plasma to the blood-brain-barrier (BBB), where it crosses, to be converted by striatal enzymes to dopamine. Inbrija is an oral inhalation of levodopa. Xadago (safinamide) is a monoamine oxidase inhibitor type-B (MAOI-B) indicated for the adjunctive treatment of patients with Parkinson’s Disease (PD) who are experiencing “off” episodes. Nourianz (istradefylline) is an adenosine receptor antagonist indicated for patients with PD, in combination with levodopa/carbidopa, in adults experiencing “off” episodes.

Coverage Guidelines

Inbrija and Xadago
Authorization may be granted for members who are currently receiving treatment with Xadago and Inbrija excluding when the product is obtained as samples or via manufacturer’s patient assistance programs.

OR

Authorization may be granted for members with Parkinson disease experiencing “off” episodes when all the following criteria are met, and documentation is provided:

1. Member is concurrently taking carbidopa/levodopa.
2. Member is ≥ 18 years of age
3. Member is experiencing “off” symptoms with carbidopa/levodopa therapy
4. Member has had an inadequate response or adverse reaction to selegiline AND rasagiline
5. **For Inbrija only**, the member has an inadequate response or adverse reaction to selegiline, rasagiline AND Xadago

**Nourianz**
Authorization may be granted for members who are currently receiving treatment with Nourianz excluding when the product is obtained as samples or via manufacturer’s patient assistance programs.

**OR**
Authorization may be granted for members when all the following criteria are met, and documentation is provided:
1. Member has a diagnosis of Parkinson disease experiencing “off” episodes
2. Member is concurrently taking carbidopa/levodopa.
3. Member is ≥ 18 years of age
4. Member is experiencing “off” symptoms with carbidopa/levodopa therapy
5. Member has inadequate response or intolerance to at least two (2) of the following:
   a. Dopamine agonist. Ex) pramipexole, ropinirole
   b. COMT (catechol-O-methyltransferase) inhibitor. Ex) entacapone, tolcapone
   c. MAO-B (monoamine oxidase B) inhibitor. Ex) selegiline, rasagiline

**OR**
6. Member has contraindication to ALL available generic agents to treat Parkinson’s disease.

**Continuation of Therapy**
Reauthorization requires physician documentation of improvement of member’s condition.

**Limitations**
1. Initial approvals will be for 6 months.
2. Reauthorizations will be for 12 months
3. The following quantity limits apply:
   | Inbrija 42mg | 300 capsules per 30 days |

**References**
1. Xadago (safinamide) [prescribing information]. Louisville, KY: US WorldMeds; June 2017
2. Selegiline Hydrochloride Capsules [prescribing information]. Weston, FL: Apotex Corp; June 2014
3. Azilect (rasagiline) [prescribing information]. North Wales, PA: Teva Pharmaceuticals USA; December 2018
4. Inbrija (levodopa) [prescribing information]. Ardsley, NY: Acorda Therapeutics; December 2018

**Review History**
09/24/2018 – Reviewed
06/19/2019 – Added Inbria
09/18/2019 – Reviewed
07/22/2020 – Reviewed at P&T Mtg; Added Nourianz to criteria. Effective 09/01/20

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