SPECIALTY GUIDELINE MANAGEMENT

SOMAVER (pegvisomant)

POLICY

I. INDICATIONS

The indications below including FDA-approved indications and compendial uses are considered a covered benefit provided that all the approval criteria are met and the member has no exclusions to the prescribed therapy.

FDA-Approved Indication
Somavert is indicated for the treatment of acromegaly in patients who have had an inadequate response to surgery or radiation therapy, or for whom these therapies are not appropriate.

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and are not a covered benefit.

II. DOCUMENTATION

Submission of the following information is necessary to initiate the prior authorization review:
A. For initial approval: Laboratory report indicating high pretreatment insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1) level and chart notes indicating an inadequate or partial response to surgery or radiotherapy or a clinical reason for not having surgery or radiotherapy.
B. For continuation: Laboratory report indicating normal current IGF-1 levels or chart notes indicating that the member's IGF-1 level has decreased or normalized since initiation of therapy

III. CRITERIA FOR INITIAL APPROVAL

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of acromegaly when all of the following criteria are met:
A. Member has a high pretreatment IGF-1 level for age and/or gender based on the laboratory reference range.
B. Member had an inadequate or partial response to surgery or radiotherapy OR there is a clinical reason why the member has not had surgery or radiotherapy.

IV. CONTINUATION OF THERAPY

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for continuation of therapy for acromegaly when the member's IGF-1 level has decreased or normalized since initiation of therapy.

V. REFERENCES