Custom Criteria for
BlueCross Blue Shield of Rhode Island Commercial

H.P. ACTHAR (corticotropin)

catamaran™

GPI CODING:

30300010004010

DESCRIPTION:

H.P. Acthar Gel is prolonged-release preparation of adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH). ACTH stimulates the adrenal cortex to secrete cortisol, corticosterone, aldosterone, and a number of weakly androgenic substances.

APPROVAL DURATION:

Diagnostic testing of adrenocortical function: one time
Infantile spasms: 6 months
Other FDA-approved indications: per treatment episode

CRITERIA FOR H.P. ACTHAR

I. H.P. Acthar Gel is used for diagnostic testing of adrenocortical function after failure of synthetic ACTH preparations (cosyntropin); OR

II. H.P. Acthar Gel is used as treatment of West syndrome (infantile spasms); OR

III. H.P. Acthar Gel is used for any of the following FDA-approved disorders AFTER failure of medically accepted therapy and accompanied by supporting medical literature;
   A. Allergic States: seasonal or perennial allergic rhinitis; bronchial asthma; contact dermatitis; atopic dermatitis; serum sickness; OR
   B. Collagen Diseases: systemic lupus erythematosus; systemic dermatomyositis (polymyositis); acute rheumatic carditis; OR
   C. Dermatologic Diseases: Pemphigus; bullous dermatitis herpetiformis; severe erythema multiforme (Stevens-Johnson syndrome); exfoliative dermatitis; severe psoriasis; severe seborrheic dermatitis; mycosis fungoides; OR
   D. Edematous State: To induce a diuresis or a remission of proteinuria in the nephrotic syndrome without uremia of the idiopathic type or that is due to lupus erythematosus; OR
   E. Endocrine Disorders: Nonsuppurative thyroiditis; hypercalcemia associated with cancer; OR
   F. Gastrointestinal Diseases: ulcerative colitis; regional enteritis; OR
   G. Hematologic Disorders: Acquired (autoimmune) hemolytic anemia; secondary thrombocytopenia in adults; erythroblastopenia (RBC anemia); congenital (erythroid) hypoplastic anemia; OR
   H. Neoplastic Diseases: For palliative management of: leukemias and lymphomas in adults; acute leukemia of childhood; OR
   I. Nervous System Diseases: Acute exacerbations of multiple sclerosis with failure of 3 to 5 day course of corticosteroid and concomitant use of a 3 month course of an immunomodulator; OR
   J. Ophthalmic Diseases: allergic conjunctivitis; keratitis; herpes zoster ophthalmicus; iritis and iridocyclitis; diffuse posterior uveitis and choroiditis; optic neuritis; sympathetic ophthalmia; chorioretinitis; anterior segment inflammation; allergic corneal marginal ulcers; OR

K. Respiratory Diseases: Symptomatic sarcoidosis; Loeffler's syndrome not manageable by other means; berylliosis; fulminating or disseminated pulmonary tuberculosis when used concurrently with antituberculous chemotherapy; aspiration pneumonitis; OR
L. Rheumatic Disorders: psoriatic arthritis; rheumatoid arthritis, including juvenile rheumatoid arthritis with failure of 12 week course of corticosteroid and concomitant therapy with a minimum 3 month course of 2 biologic DMARDs; ankylosing spondylitis; acute and subacute bursitis; acute nonspecific tenosynovitis; acute gouty arthritis; post-traumatic arthritis; synovitis of osteoarthritis; epicondylitis; OR
M. Miscellaneous: Tuberculous meningitis with subarachnoid block or impeding block when used concurrently with appropriate antituberculous chemotherapy; trichinosis with neurologic or myocardial involvement.