

# SPECIALTY GUIDELINE MANAGEMENT

## NORTHERA (droxidopa)

### 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

Treatment of orthostatic dizziness, lightheadedness, or the “feeling that you are about to black out” in adult patients with symptomatic neurogenic orthostatic hypotension (NOH) caused by primary autonomic failure [Parkinson's disease (PD), multiple system atrophy, and pure autonomic failure], dopamine beta-hydroxylase deficiency, and non-diabetic autonomic neuropathy. Effectiveness beyond 2 weeks of treatment has not been established. The continued effectiveness of Northera should be assessed periodically.

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and not medically necessary.

#### II. DOCUMENTATION

Submission of the following information is necessary to initiate the prior authorization review: blood pressure measurements demonstrating a persistent, consistent decrease in systolic blood pressure (SBP) of at least 20 mmHg or decrease in diastolic blood pressure (DBP) of at least 10 mmHg within 3 minutes of standing or head-up tilt test.

#### III. CRITERIA FOR INITIAL APPROVAL

##### **Neurogenic orthostatic hypotension**

Authorization of 3 months may be granted for treatment of neurogenic orthostatic hypotension when all of the following criteria are met:

- A. Member has a persistent, consistent decrease in SBP of at least 20 mmHg or decrease in DBP of at least 10 mmHg within 3 minutes of standing or head-up tilt test.
- B. Member has neurogenic orthostatic hypotension due to **ONE** of the following diagnoses:
  1. Primary autonomic failure due to Parkinson's disease, multiple system atrophy, and pure autonomic failure, OR
  2. Dopamine beta hydroxylase deficiency, OR
  3. Non-diabetic autonomic neuropathy

#### IV. CONTINUATION OF THERAPY

##### **Neurogenic orthostatic hypotension**

<b>Reference number(s)</b>
2020-A

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for treatment of neurogenic orthostatic hypotension when all of the following criteria are met:

- A. Member has experienced a sustained decrease in dizziness
- B. Member has neurogenic orthostatic hypotension due to **ONE** of the following diagnoses:
  - 1. Primary autonomic failure due to Parkinson's disease, multiple system atrophy, and pure autonomic failure, OR
  - 2. Dopamine beta hydroxylase deficiency, OR
  - 3. Non-diabetic autonomic neuropathy

## V. REFERENCES

- 1. Northera [package insert]. Deerfield, IL: Lundbeck Inc.; July 2019.
- 2. AHFS Drug Information. <http://online.lexi.com/lco>. Accessed August 19, 2020.