

Nascobal (Cyanocobalamin)
Effective 01/01/2020

Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> MassHealth UPPL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial/Exchange		Program Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior Authorization
Benefit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy Benefit <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Benefit			<input type="checkbox"/> Quantity Limit <input type="checkbox"/> Step Therapy
Specialty Limitations	N/A			
Contact Information	Medical Benefit Pharmacy Benefit		Phone: 833-895-2611 Phone: 800-711-4555	Fax: 888-656-6671 Fax: 844-403-1029
Exceptions	N/A			

Overview

Nascobal Nasal Spray is FDA-approved for the maintenance of normal hematologic status in pernicious anemia in patients in remission following intramuscular vitamin B-12 therapy with no nervous system involvement and treatment of dietary, drug-induced, or malabsorption-related vitamin B₁₂ deficiency not due to pernicious anemia; prevention of vitamin B₁₂ deficiency in patients with vitamin B₁₂ requirements in excess of normal.

Coverage Guidelines

Approval of Nascobal will be granted for 6 months if the member meets all following criteria and documentation has been submitted:

- The member has one of the following diagnoses:
 - Dietary deficiency of vitamin B12 occurring in strict vegetarian
 - Malabsorption of vitamin B12 resulting from structural or functional damage to the stomach, where intrinsic factor is secreted, or to the ileum, where intrinsic factor facilitates vitamin B12 absorption. These conditions include HIV infection, AIDS, Crohn's disease, tropical sprue, and non-tropical sprue (idiopathic steatorrhea, gluten-induced enteropathy)
 - Inadequate secretion of intrinsic factor, resulting from lesions that destroy the gastric mucosa (ingestion of corrosives, extensive neoplasia), and a number of conditions associated with a variable degree of gastric atrophy (such as multiple sclerosis, HIV infection, AIDS, certain endocrine disorders, iron deficiency, and subtotal gastrectomy). Total gastrectomy always produces vitamin B12 deficiency. Structural lesions leading to vitamin B12 deficiency include regional ileitis, ileal resections, malignancies, etc.
 - Competition for vitamin B12 by intestinal parasites or bacteria
 - Inadequate utilization of vitamin B12. This may occur if antimetabolites for the vitamin are employed in the treatment of neoplasia. Requirements of vitamin B12 in excess of normal (due to pregnancy, thyrotoxicosis, hemolytic anemia, hemorrhage, malignancy)
- The member has had an inadequate response to 90 days of therapy, adverse reaction, or contraindication to injectable vitamin B-12
- The member has had an inadequate response, adverse reaction, or contraindication to all other comparable generic oral and sublingual vitamin B-12
- The dosage is one spray (0.1ml) (500 mcg) administered in ONE nostril once weekly.

Limitations

1. The following quantity limits apply: 1 package (4 sprays) per 28 days.

References

1. Nascobal (cyanocobalamin) nasal spray [prescribing information]. Chestnut Ridge, NY: Par Pharmaceuticals, Inc; November 2018

Review History

11/20/19 – P&T Reviewed. Effective 01/01/2020

11/18/2020- Reviewed at P&T

09/21/2022 – Reviewed at Sept P&T; Separated Comm/Exch vs MH policy; no clinical updates.

