

Zilretta (triamcinolone extended-release)
Effective 05/11/2026

Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MassHealth UPPL <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial/Exchange	Program Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior Authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Quantity Limit <input type="checkbox"/> Step Therapy
Benefit	<input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy Benefit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Benefit		
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

Zilretta (triamcinolone extended-release) is an intra-articular corticosteroid injection indicated for the management of osteoarthritis pain of the knee.

Coverage Guidelines

Authorization may be granted for members when all the following criteria are met, and documentation is provided:

1. Diagnosis of osteoarthritis pain of the knee
2. Inadequate response or adverse reaction to methylprednisolone acetate (Depo-Medrol) and **ONE** different intra-articular corticosteroid injection preparations or contraindication to **ALL** other intra-articular corticosteroid injection preparations
3. Clinical rationale for use of Zilretta instead of long acting intra-articular corticosteroid injection preparations available without prior authorization (e.g., Celestone (betamethasone injection), Kenalog (triamcinolone injection))
4. Appropriate dosing

Limitations

1. Initial approvals will be granted for 1 month (30 days)
2. Zilretta is not intended for repeat administration

References

1. Zilretta® [package insert]. San Diego (CA): Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc; 2024 May.
2. Micromedex® Healthcare Series [database on the internet]. Greenwood Village (CO): Truven Health Analytics. Updated periodically; [cited 2022 Sep 6]. Available from: <http://www.thomsonhc.com/>.
3. American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Management of Osteoarthritis of the Knee (Non-Arthroplasty): Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline. 2021 Aug 31 [cited 2024 Nov 18]. Available from: <https://www.aaos.org/globalassets/quality-and-practice-resources/osteoarthritis-of-the-knee/oak3cpg.pdf>
4. Kolasinski SL, Neogi T, Hochberg MC, Oatis C, Guyatt G, Block J, et al. 2019 American College of Rheumatology/Arthritis Foundation Guideline for the Management of Osteoarthritis of the Hand, Hip, and Knee. *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2020 Feb;72(2):220-233. doi: 10.1002/art.41142. Epub 2020 Jan 6.

5. Deveza LA, Bennel K. Management of moderate to severe knee osteoarthritis. In: Basow DS (Ed). UpToDate [database on the internet]. Waltham (MA): UpToDate. 2024 Oct [cited 2024 Nov 18]. Available from: <http://www.uptodate.com/utd/index.do>.

Review History

01/11/23 - Reviewed and created for Jan P&T; matched MH UPPL. Created criteria to be in compliance with Masshealth unified formulary requirements. Effective 4/1/23

04/10/23 – Reviewed and updated for P&T. Zilretta will only be available on MB with PA. Effective 5/6/24

05/15/25 – Reviewed and created for P&T. Updated formatting and references. Effective 6/1/25

04/15/26 – Reviewed and updated for P&T. Methylprednisolone acetate (Depo Medrol) was added as a required step-through trial along with one more intra-articular corticosteroid injection. Clinical rationale for use of Zilretta will now be required. References were updated. Effective 5/11/26

