Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont and The Vermont Health Plan
HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitors (Statins)
Altoprev®, Vytorin®, Livalo®

Step Therapy Guidelines

DESCRIPTION: HMG, 3-hydroxy- 3-methylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase, the rate limiting enzyme in cholesterol synthesis (reduces the production of mevalonic acid from HMG-CoA; this then results in a compensatory increase in the expression of LDL receptors on hepatocyte membranes and a stimulation of LDL catabolism.

INDICATION(S): Treatment of hypercholesterolemia, dyslipidemias, or primary prevention of cardiovascular disease.

REASONS FOR Step Therapy: ☒ Cost ☐ Potential for misuse ☐ Toxicity

CRITERIA for APPROVAL: The patient must try and fail either Atorvastatin or Simvastatin

REASON for DENIAL of BENEFIT: Patient does not meet above criteria

BENEFIT APPROVAL: Approval for three years