Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont and The Vermont Health Plan

Triptan/5-HT₁ Receptor Agonists

Amerge®, Axert®, Frova®, Imitrex®, Migranow® Onzetra Xsail®,
Relpax®, Sumavel®, Treximet®, Zembrace®, Zecuity® and Zomig®
Almotriptan, Eletriptan, Frovatriptan, Naratriptan, Sumatriptan succinate-Naproxen Sodium,
Zolmitriptan

Step Therapy Guidelines

DESCRIPTION: Selective agonist for Serotonin (5-HT₁B, 5-HT₁D, 5-HT₁F receptors) in cranial arteries, causes vasoconstriction and reduce sterile inflammation associated with antidromic neuronal transmission correlating with relief of migraine.

INDICATION(S): Treatment of migraine with or without aura

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

CRITERIA for APPROVAL: Preferred triptans are oral sumatriptan or oral rizatriptan.

To be approved for other triptan drugs and/or routes of administration that are not oral and with the exception of Treximet, the patient has had a trial and failed oral sumatriptan or oral rizatriptan before any of the following Amerge®, Axert®, Frova®, Imitrex®, Migranow® Onzetra Xsail®, Relpax®, Sumavel, Zembrace, Zecuity® and Zomig® Almotriptan, Eletriptan, Frovatriptan, Naratriptan, Zolmitriptan

To be approved for Treximet, the patient has had a trial and failed all of the above AND has had a trial and failed oral sumatriptan and oral naproxen which were taken/consumed concurrently (on the same day) prior to Treximet ®.

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

BENEFIT APPROVAL: Approval for one year

Quantity Limit of 12/ 30 days - across class

POLICY HISTORY: Revised 9/19 to clarify intent, removal of 30 day trial requirement, added Zembrace and Sumavel as targets
Revised 6/18 for adding concurrent sumatriptan and naproxen therapy before Treximet®, updating the clinical reference and adding the Policy History section.
Created 1/10
