DESCRIPTION: BPH agents inhibit the conversion of testosterone to 5a-dihydrotestosterone (DHT). DHT is the androgen primarily responsible for the initial development and subsequent enlargement of the prostate gland. Testosterone is converted to DHT by the enzyme 5a-reductase, which exists in two isoforms, type 1 and type 2. The type 2 isoenzyme is primarily active in the reproductive tissue while type 1 isoenzyme is also responsible for testosterone conversion in the skin and liver.

INDICATION(S): Treatment of symptomatic Benign prostatic hyperplasia in men with an enlarged prostate to improve symptoms, reduce the risk of acute urinary retention, and reduce the risk of the need for BPH related surgery.

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

CRITERIA for APPROVAL: The patient has had a 30-day trial and failure of generic Tamsulosin or Finasteride

REASONS for DENIAL of BENEFIT: Patient does not meet above criteria.

BENEFIT APPROVAL: Approval for two years.

References: