Angiotensin Receptor Blockers (ARBs) are antihypertensive medications that act by blocking the effects of angiotensin II, which are responsible for vasoconstriction and stimulates release of aldosterone. ARBs block the activation of angiotensin II AT₁ receptors causing vasodilation and reduces secretion of vasopressin and reduces production and secretion of aldosterone with the combined effect of lowering blood pressure.

Renin Inhibitors (RIs) are a class of antihypertensive medications that acts on the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system by inhibiting renin. Renin inhibition decreases plasma renin activity and inhibits the conversion of angiotensin I to angiotensin II.

INDICATION(S): Treatment of hypertension

REASONS FOR Step Therapy:

☑ Cost □ Potential for misuse □ Toxicity

CRITERIA for APPROVAL: The patient has had a 30-day trial of:

Any one ACE Inhibitor:

- ACCUPRIL, ACCURETIC, ACEON, ALTACE, BENAZEPRL, BENAZEPRL-HCTZ, CAPOTEN, CAPTOPRIL, CAPTOPRIL/HCTZ, ENALAPRIL, ENALAPRIL/HCTZ, FOSINOPRIL, FOSINOPRIL-HCTZ, LISINOPRIL, LISINOPRIL-HCTZ, LOTENSIN, LOTENSIN HCT, MAVIK, MOEXIPRL, MONOPRIL, MONOPRIL HCT, PRINIVIL, PRINZIDE, QUINAPRIL, QUINAPRIL-HCTZ, QUINARETIC, RAMIPRIL, TRANDOLAPRIL, UNIRETIC, UNIVASC, VASERETIC, VASOTEC, ZESTORETIC, ZESTRIL

OR

A generic Angiotensin Receptor Blocker:


REASONS for DENIAL of BENEFIT:

1. Patient does not meet above criteria.

BENEFIT APPROVAL:

Approval for two years.

POLICY HISTORY:

Created: 5/2007
Revised: 02/2009, 07/2010, 10/2010, 06/2012, 01/2013, 10/2014, 11/2016 — (Benicar products now generic, added renin inhib. Info, removed off market items, added Ramipril, Telmisartan, Telmisartan/hctz, trandolapril, valsartan, valsartan/hctz as 1st line)

References: