Abilify Maintena® (aripiprazole) for extended release injectable suspension for intramuscular use
Step Therapy Guidelines

DESCRIPTION: Abilify Maintena is a long acting injectable (extended release suspension) form of aripiprazole intended for intramuscular use. The mechanism of action of aripiprazole is unknown. The efficacy could be mediated through a combination of partial agonist activity at dopamine D2 and serotonin 5-HT1A receptors and antagonist activity at 5-HT2A receptors.

INDICATION(S): ABILIFY MAINTENA is a second generation antipsychotic indicated for:
• Treatment of schizophrenia in adults
• Maintenance monotherapy treatment of bipolar I disorder in adults

REASONS FOR Step Therapy: □ Cost □ Potential for misuse □ Toxicity

CRITERIA for APPROVAL:
Initial Request:
1. The patient has been started and stabilized on Abilify Maintena during an inpatient stay
   OR
2. Patient has tried and failed intramuscular haloperidol or intramuscular risperidone (Consta formulation)
   For renewal of existing authorization:
   1. Patient demonstrates a reduced frequency of clinical exacerbations and an improved health-related quality of life

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

BENEFIT APPROVAL:
Initial approval is three years; renewal of authorization approval is three years

POLICY HISTORY:
New Policy Feb 2019

References:
1. Abilify Maintena® (aripiprazole for extended release injectable suspension for intramuscular use), [Package Insert] Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan, March 2018