

DALFAMPRIDINE (AMPYRA) UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT CRITERIA

DRUG CLASS:	POTASSIUM CHANNEL BLOCKER
BRAND (generic) NAMES:	Dalfampridine (Ampyra) 10 mg extended-release tablet

FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS

To improve walking in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS).

COVERAGE AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA for dalfampridine (Ampyra):

- Patient must have a confirmed diagnosis of multiple sclerosis (any form).
- Patient must not be wheelchair-bound.
- Prior to therapy with dalfampridine, a baseline 25-foot walking test of between 8 and 45 seconds must be conducted and documented.
- During the 4 months after starting therapy with dalfampridine, patient must demonstrate at least a 20% improvement in the 25-foot walking test.
- Patients must NOT have
 - a) a history of seizures, or
 - b) moderate to severe renal impairment ($CrCl < 50$ ml/minute).

RATIONALE:

Dalfampridine is indicated for the improvement of walking in patients with MS. In order for providers and patients to assess the effectiveness of the drug, patients must have walking ability measured before and after the use of the drug.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

The use of dalfampridine is contraindicated in patients with a history of seizures, or patients with moderate to severe renal impairment.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Maximum recommended dose: 10 mg twice daily (approximately 12 hours apart) with or without food. Patients should not take double or extra doses if a dose is missed. No additional benefit was demonstrated at doses greater than 10 mg twice daily and adverse events, including seizures, were more frequent at higher doses. Tablets should only be taken whole; do not divide, crush, chew, or dissolve.

REFERENCE:

Ampyra (dalfampridine). Product information. Acorda Therapeutics, Inc. 2010.