



CYCLOSPORINE OPHTHALMIC EMULSION 0.05% (Restasis) UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT CRITERIA

DRUG CLASS: CYCLOSPORINE OPHTHALMIC (Restasis)

BRAND (generic) NAMES: Restasis (cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion 0.05%)
single-use vials, 30 vials per tray, 60 vials (2 x 30)
per package

FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS

To increase tear production in patients whose tear production is presumed to be suppressed due to ocular inflammation associated with keratoconjunctivitis sicca. Increased tear production was not seen in patients currently taking topical anti-inflammatory drugs or using punctal plugs.

COVERAGE AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA for cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion 0.05% for NEW USERS only:

Treatment of moderate to severe dry eye syndrome (i.e. keratoconjunctivitis sicca) OR for corneal inflammatory conditions for which the patient has required extemporaneously compounded cyclosporine ophthalmic preparations.

The patient has required frequent use of ocular lubricating solution or ointment (e.g., ≥ 3 times per day use of artificial tears) OR other treatments such as punctal plugs or goggles for chronic dry eyes.

The patient is under the care of an ophthalmologist, optometrist, or rheumatologist.

Restasis will not be covered if used as a result of the effects of refractive surgery (e.g., LASIK) that is not a BCBSNC-covered benefit.

RATIONALE:

Cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion 0.05% is indicated for keratoconjunctivitis sicca. Milder dry eye conditions can be treated with over-the-counter ocular lubricating solutions or ointments. Cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion is not covered for the treatment of side effects and complications of non-covered services (e.g., refractive surgery).

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

Cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion 0.05% is contraindicated in patients with active ocular infections and in patients with known or suspected hypersensitivity to any of the ingredients in the formulation.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Instill one drop of cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion twice a day in each eye approximately 12 hours apart. Cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion can be used concomitantly with artificial tears, allowing a 15 minute interval between products. Discard vial immediately after use.

REFERENCE:

Restasis (cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion) 0.05%. Product information. Allergan, Inc. 2010.