



TAZAROTENE (TAZORAC®) UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT CRITERIA

DRUG CLASS:	RETINOID: Tazarotene (Tazorac)
BRAND (generic) NAMES:	Tazarotene (Tazorac) cream 0.05%, 0.1%; gel 0.05%, gel 0.1%

FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS

Acne: Topical treatment of patients with facial acne vulgaris (cream 0.1%); acne vulgaris of mild to moderate severity (gel 0.1%)

Psoriasis: Topical treatment of patients with stable plaque psoriasis (cream 0.05% or 0.1%); psoriasis of up to 20% body surface area involvement (gel 0.05% or 0.1%)

COVERAGE AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA for tazarotene (Tazorac):

- Tazarotene is covered for the treatment of plaque psoriasis.
- Tazarotene is covered for the treatment of mild to moderate acne vulgaris in patients who have previously tried and failed or not tolerated a generic tretinoin product

Patients aged 35 and younger who have recent claims history of obtaining a generic tretinoin product will not require review.

CONTRAINDICATION:

Pregnancy category X: contraindicated in women who are or may become pregnant. If this drug is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking this drug, treatment should be discontinued and the patient apprised of the potential hazard to the fetus. Women of child-bearing potential should be warned of the potential risk and use adequate birth-control measures when Tazorac cream is used. The possibility that a woman of child-bearing potential is pregnant at the time of institution of therapy should be considered. A negative result for pregnancy test having a sensitivity down to at least 50 milli International Units per mL for human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) should be obtained within 2 weeks prior to Tazorac cream therapy, which should begin during a normal menstrual period.

RATIONALE:

A commercial tazarotene product (Avage®) is FDA-approved as an adjunctive agent for use in the mitigation (palliation) of facial fine wrinkling, facial mottled hyper- and hypopigmentation, and benign facial lentigines in patients who use comprehensive skin care and sunlight avoidance programs. These are considered cosmetic uses of tazarotene and are not covered.

REFERENCES:

Tazarotene cream (Tazorac). Product information. Allergan, Inc. 2011.

Tazarotene gel (Tazorac). Product information. Allergan, Inc. 2011.

Drug Facts and Comparisons eAnswers. Wolters Kluwer. Accessed March 2011.

Tazarotene. DrugDex Evaluations. Micromedex 2.0. Thomson Reuters. February 2010.