

TOPICAL TRETINOIN and COMBINATION PRODUCTS UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT CRITERIA

DRUG CLASS: RETINOID: Topical Tretinoin

Generic (Brand) Names:

- Tretinoin (e.g., Retin-A[®], Tretin-X[®], Atralin[®], Avita[®]) cream 0.025, 0.05, 0.1%; gel 0.01, 0.05%; liquid 0.05%
- Tretinoin gel microsphere gel 0.1, 0.04% (Retin-A Micro[®]/Pump)
- Tretinoin 0.025%/clindamycin phosphate 1.2% gel (e.g., Veltin[®], Ziana[®])
- Tretinoin bulk powder (for compounding)

FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS: Treatment of acne vulgaris.
Safety and effectiveness in children under the age of 12 years not established.

COVERAGE AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA for topical tretinoin and tretinoin combinations:

- All patients requesting **brand** tretinoin-containing products (e.g., Retin-A, Tretin-X, Atralin, Avita gel, Retin-A Micro, Veltin, Ziana) must have tried and failed or not tolerated a generic tretinoin product before coverage of the brand.
- In addition, tretinoin products are covered for the following conditions:
 - Treatment of acne vulgaris
 - Actinic keratosis
 - Ichthyoses

Patients aged 35 and younger with a current prescription for generic topical tretinoin or who have recent (within the past 365 days) claims history of obtaining a generic tretinoin product will not require review.

RATIONALE:

Certain commercial tretinoin products (e.g., Renova[®], Refissa[®], and generic tretinoin/emollient) are FDA-approved as adjunctive agent for use in the mitigation (palliation) of fine wrinkles, mottled hyperpigmentation, and tactile roughness of facial skin in patients who do not achieve such palliation using comprehensive skin care and sun avoidance programs alone. These are considered cosmetic uses of topical tretinoin and are not covered.

REFERENCES:

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Tretinoin gel microsphere (Retin-A Micro). Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical, Inc. 2001.

Tretinoin/clindamycin (Veltin). Product information. Stiefel Laboratories, Inc. 2010.

Tretinoin/clindamycin (Ziana). Product information. Medicis. 2006.