DRUG QUANTITY MANAGEMENT POLICY – PER DAYS

POLICY: Hypertension – Clonidine Patches Drug Quantity Management Policy – Per Days
- Catapres TTS (clonidine transdermal system [patch] – Boehringer Ingelheim, generic)

REVIEW DATE: 06/19/2024

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

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CIGNA NATIONAL FORMULARY COVERAGE:

OVERVIEW

Clonidine transdermal therapeutic system (TTS) [Catapres-TTS, generic], a centrally acting alpha-agonist, is indicated for the treatment of **hypertension**.[1] It may be used alone or in combination with other antihypertensive agents.

Dosing

Clonidine TTS is applied once every 7 days to a hairless area of intact skin on the upper outer arm or chest.[1] Each new patch should be applied on a different skin site from the previous location. If the system loosens during 7-day wearing, the adhesive cover should be applied directly over the system to ensure good adhesion. There have been rare reports of the need for patch changes prior to 7 days to maintain blood pressure control.

To initiate therapy, the clonidine patch dosage should be titrated according to individual therapeutic requirements, starting with clonidine TTS-1 patch (delivers 0.1 mg clonidine/day for 1 week).[1] If after 1 or 2 weeks the desired reduction in blood pressure is not achieved, increase the dosage by adding another clonidine TTS-1 patch or, changing to a higher strength patch. An increase in dosage above

two clonidine TTS-3 patches (2 x 0.3 mg clonidine/day for 1 week) is usually not associated with additional efficacy.

When substituting clonidine patches for oral clonidine or for other antihypertensive drugs, prescribers should be aware that the antihypertensive effect of clonidine patches may not commence until 2 to 3 days after initial application.[1] Therefore, gradual reduction of prior drug dosage is advised. Some or all previous antihypertensive treatment may have to be continued, particularly in patients with more severe forms of hypertension.

Availability

Clonidine TTS (Catapres TTS, generic) is available in three strengths: 0.1 mg/day for 1 week (clonidine TTS-1), 0.2 mg/day for 1 week (clonidine TTS-2), and 0.3 mg/day for 1 week (clonidine TTS-3).[1] Each strength is supplied in cartons containing 4 packets (1 patch/packet) and 4 adhesive covers. Generic patches are also available as single packets (1 patch).

POLICY STATEMENT

This Drug Quantity Management program has been developed to promote the safe, effective, and economic use of clonidine transdermal therapeutic system. If the Drug Quantity Management rule is not met for the requested medication at the point of service, coverage will be determined by the Criteria below. All approvals are provided for 1 year in duration.

Drug Quantity Limits

Product	Strength and Form	Retail Maximum Quantity per 28 Days	Home Delivery Maximum Quantity per 84 Days
Catapres-TTS® (clonidine transdermal system [patch], generic)	0.1 mg/day patch	4 patches	12 patches
	0.2 mg/day patch	4 patches	12 patches
	0.3 mg/day patch	4 patches	12 patches

Hypertension – Clonidine Patches Drug Quantity Management Policy – Per Days product(s) is(are) covered as medically necessary when the following criteria is(are) met. Any other exception is considered not medically necessary.

CRITERIA

Clonidine 0.1 mg/day patch (Catapres TTS-1, generic)
No overrides recommended

Clonidine 0.2 mg/day patch (Catapres TTS-2, generic)

1. If the patient requires two of the clonidine 0.2 mg/day patches be applied simultaneously, approve 8 patches per 28 days at retail or 24 patches per 84 days at home delivery.

Note: Overrides are not recommended for patients changing the patch more frequently than every 7 days.

Clonidine 0.3 mg/day patch (Catapres TTS-3, generic)

1. If the patient requires two of the clonidine 0.3 mg/day patches be applied simultaneously, approve 8 patches per 28 days at retail or 24 patches per 84 days at home delivery.
Note: Overrides are not recommended for patients changing the patch more frequently than every 7 days.

REFERENCES

1. Catapres-TTS® transdermal therapeutic system [prescribing information]. Ridgefield, CT: Boehringer Ingelheim; February 2023.

HISTORY

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Review Date
Annual Revision	Policy was updated to reflect the existing quantity limits when a product is obtained via home delivery. No criteria changes.	06/08/2023
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	06/19/2024

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