CareSource Rxinnovations

PHARMACY POLICY STATEMENT
Arkansas PASSE

DRUG NAME	Dysport (abobotulinumtoxinA)
BENEFIT TYPE	Medical
STATUS	Prior Authorization Required

Dysport is a neurotoxin produced from Clostridium botulinum serotype A. It works through the inhibition of acetylcholine release from peripheral nerve endings, causing neuromuscular blockage and muscle paralysis. Dysport was initially approved by the FDA in 2009 and is approved for the treatment of adults with cervical dystonia and for the treatment of spasticity in patients 2 years of age and older.
Cervical dystonia (also known as spasmodic torticollis) involves the involuntary contractions of the neck that cause abnormal movements and postures of the neck and head.

Dysport (abobotulinumtoxinA) will be considered for coverage when the following criteria are met:

Cervical Dystonia

For **initial** authorization:
1. Member has a documented diagnosis of moderate to severe cervical dystonia.
2. **Dosage allowed/Quantity limit:** Up to 1000 units every 12 weeks, divided among affected muscles.

If all the above requirements are met, the medication will be approved for 6 months.

For **reauthorization**:
1. Chart notes must show improved severity, disability, or pain compared to baseline.

If all the above requirements are met, the medication will be approved for an additional 12 months.

Spasticity

For **initial** authorization:
1. Member is at least 2 years of age; AND
2. Medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist or other specialist experienced with treating spasticity (e.g., PM&R); AND
3. Member has a documented diagnosis of upper or lower limb spasticity that affects daily functioning and quality of life; AND
4. Spasticity is secondary to a neurologic condition such as cerebral palsy, stroke, or brain or spinal cord injury; AND
5. Member has tried or is unable to try one conventional treatment modality such as physical therapy or oral medication (e.g. baclofen, tizanidine).
6. **Dosage allowed/Quantity limit:** Adult: Not to exceed 1500 total units every 12 weeks (given intramuscularly as a divided dose among affected muscles). Pediatric: Not to exceed 1000 total units or 30 units per kg (whichever is lower) every 3 months.

If all the above requirements are met, the medication will be approved for 6 months.

For **reauthorization**:

1. Chart notes show improved signs and symptoms (e.g., decrease in severity of increased muscle tone).

If all the above requirements are met, the medication will be approved for an additional 12 months.

CareSource considers Dysport (abobotulinumtoxinA) not medically necessary for the treatment of the diseases that are not listed in this document.

DATE	ACTION/DESCRIPTION
08/06/2018	New policy for Dysport created. Diagnoses of Blepharospasm and Upper extremity dystonia (e.g. writer's cramp) are no longer covered. Diagnoses of Spasticity and Lower Limb spasticity combined, patient weight and age are no longer required. Criterion "no infection at proposed injection site" removed from Cervical Dystonia diagnosis. Age limitation removed from Cervical Dystonia; pain and abnormal head position requirements clarified and medications trial added.
08/17/2020	Cervical dystonia: Added age limit and specialist requirement. Re-worded the diagnosis requirement. Removed trial of oral medication. Removed exclusions. Corrected the dose. Extended re-auth duration. Updated references. Spasticity: Add age and specialist. Update to match latest drug label. Relaxed list of co-existing conditions. Added trial of conventional treatment. Extended initial auth duration. Added reference.
08/10/2021	Transferred to new template. Allowing additional specialists for cervical dystonia and spasticity indications.
03/04/2022	Annual review; no changes
11/14/2023	Cervical dystonia: removed "Symptoms affect quality of life and daily functions." Updated references and clarified renewal criteria.
10/02/2024	Removed age and specialist for cervical dystonia.

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