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TAZAROTENE

Tazorac (tazarotene), Arazlo (tazarotene), Fabior (tazarotene), tazarotene powder

RATIONALE FOR INCLUSION IN PA PROGRAM

Background

Tazarotene is a retinoid medication derived from vitamin A used to treat both non-inflammatory and inflammatory types of acne, including blackheads, whiteheads, papules, pustules, and nodules and in the treatment of plaque psoriasis (1-4).

Tazarotene may also be used for cosmetic purposes such as treatment for wrinkles, fine lines and solar or photo aging. These indications are excluded from plan coverage.

Regulatory Status

FDA-approved indications:

Tazorac cream, 0.05% and 0.1% are indicated for the topical treatment of patients with plaque psoriasis. Tazorac cream 0.1% is also indicated for the topical treatment of patients with acne vulgaris (1).

Tazorac gel 0.05% and 0.1% are indicated for the topical treatment of patients with stable plaque psoriasis of up to 20% body surface area involvement (2).

Tazorac gel 0.1% is also indicated for the topical treatment of patients with facial acne vulgaris of mild to moderate severity (2).

Fabior foam 0.1% is indicated for the topical treatment of acne vulgaris in patients 12 years of age or older (3).

Arazlo lotion 0.045% is indicated for the topical treatment of acne vulgaris in patients 9 years of age and older (4).

Off-Label Use

Tazarotene is also recommended topically to treat skin conditions in high risk patients (i.e. immunocompromised, post organ transplant) with actinic keratosis, basal and squamous cell carcinoma (5).



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Products containing tazarotene are contraindicated in pregnancy. Females of child-bearing potential should have a negative pregnancy test two weeks prior to starting therapy, which should begin during a normal menstrual period, and use effective contraception during therapy (1-4).

Summary

Tazarotene is a retinoid medication derived from vitamin A. Tazarotene products are indicated for the topical treatment of patients with acne vulgaris, plaque psoriasis, acne conglobata and patients who are at high risk (i.e. immunocompromised, post organ transplant) with one of the following skin conditions: actinic keratosis, basal and squamous cell carcinoma. Products containing tazarotene are contraindicated in pregnancy (1-4).

Prior authorization is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate, and cost-effective use of tazarotene while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

References

1. Tazorac Cream [package insert]. Irvine, CA: Allergan, Inc.; July 2017.
2. Tazorac Gel [package insert]. Irvine, CA: Allergan, Inc.; April 2018.
3. Fabior [package insert]. Greenville, NC: Mayne Pharma.; June 2018.
4. Arazlo [package insert]. Bridgewater, NJ: Bausch Health Companies Inc.; August 2023.
5. Stockfleth E, Ulrich C, Meyer T, Christophers E. Epithelial malignancies in organ transplant patients: clinical presentation and new methods of treatment. *Recent Results Cancer Res.* 2002; 160:251-8.