BlueCross BlueShield
Federal Employee Program

EOHILIA
(budesonide oral suspension)

RATIONALE FOR INCLUSION IN PA PROGRAM

Background

Eohilia (budesonide) is an anti-inflammatory corticosteroid and has a high glucocorticoid effect and a weak mineralocorticoid effect. The precise mechanism of corticosteroid actions on inflammation in eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) is not known. Inflammation is an important component in the pathogenesis of EoE and corticosteroids have a wide range of inhibitory activities against multiple cell types involved in allergic inflammation (1).

Regulatory Status

FDA-approved indications: Eohilia is a corticosteroid indicated for 12 weeks of treatment in adult and pediatric patients 11 years of age and older with eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) (1).

Limitations of Use: (1)

Eohilia has not been shown to be safe and effective for the treatment of EoE for longer than 12 weeks.

Eohilia has warnings for hypercorticism and adrenal axis suppression; immunosuppression and increased risk of infection; erosive esophagitis; effect on growth; symptoms of steroid withdrawal in patients transferred from other systemic corticosteroids; other corticosteroid effects; and Kaposi's Sarcoma (1).

The safety and effectiveness of Eohilia in pediatric patients less than 11 years of age have not been established (1).

Summary

Eohilia (budesonide) is an anti-inflammatory corticosteroid indicated for the treatment of patients 11 years of age or older with eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE). Therapy should be limited to 12 weeks only due to potential side effects of long-term corticosteroid use. The safety and effectiveness of Eohilia in pediatric patients less than 11 years of age have not been established (1).

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

References

1. Eohilia [package insert]. Lexington, MA: Takeda Pharmaceuticals America, Inc.; February 2024.