



**BlueCross  
BlueShield**

Federal Employee Program.

## **ICATIBANT**

**Firazyr (icatibant)**

**Sajazir (icatibant)**

Preferred products: generic icatibant, Sajazir

### **RATIONALE FOR INCLUSION IN PA PROGRAM**

#### **Background**

Icatibant is indicated for the treatment of acute attacks of a rare condition called hereditary angioedema (HAE) in adults 18 years of age and older. HAE is caused by low levels or the improper function of a protein called C1 inhibitor, which is involved in regulating how certain immune system and blood clotting pathways function. The absence or dysfunction of the C1 inhibitor leads to bradykinin production. Bradykinin is a vasodilator which is responsible for the characteristic HAE symptoms of localized swelling, inflammation, and pain. Icatibant inhibits bradykinin from binding to the receptors and thereby treats the clinical symptoms of an acute, episodic attack of HAE (1-3).

#### **Regulatory Status**

FDA-approved indication: Icatibant injection is a bradykinin B2 receptor antagonist indicated for treatment of acute attacks of hereditary angioedema (HAE) in adults 18 years of age and older (1-3).

Given the potential for airway obstruction during acute laryngeal HAE attacks, patients should be advised to seek medical attention in an appropriate healthcare facility immediately in addition to treatment with icatibant (1-3).

Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients less than 18 years of age have not been established (1-3).

#### **Summary**

Icatibant is a bradykinin B2 receptor antagonist indicated for treatment of acute attacks of hereditary angioedema (HAE) in adults 18 years of age and older. Given the potential for airway obstruction during acute laryngeal HAE attacks, patients should be advised to seek medical attention in an appropriate healthcare facility immediately in addition to treatment with icatibant. Safety and effectiveness in patients less than 18 years of age have not been established (1).

Prior authorization is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate, and cost-effective use of



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icatibant while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

### **References**

1. Firazyr [package insert]. Lexington, MA: Shire Orphan Therapies LLC; January 2024.
2. Icatibant [package insert]. Weston, FL: Apotex Corp; February 2024.
3. Sajazir [package insert]. Cambridge, CBC 0FA, UK : Cycle Pharmaceuticals ; February 2024.