

**NOURIANZ  
(istradefylline)****RATIONALE FOR INCLUSION IN PA PROGRAM****Background**

Nourianz (istradefylline) is an adenosine receptor antagonist. The precise mechanism by which it exerts its effect in Parkinson's disease is unknown. Studies have demonstrated that Nourianz is adenosine A<sub>2A</sub> receptor antagonist (1).

**Regulatory Status**

FDA-approved indications: Nourianz is an adenosine receptor antagonist indicated as adjunctive treatment to levodopa/carbidopa in adult patients with Parkinson's disease (PD) experiencing "off" episodes (1).

Nourianz in combination with levodopa may cause dyskinesia or exacerbate pre-existing dyskinesia (1).

In patients on Nourianz who develop hallucinations of psychotic behaviors, dosage reductions or discontinuation should be considered (1).

Patients treated with Nourianz and one or more medication(s) for the treatment of Parkinson's disease (including levodopa) may experience intense urges to gamble, increased sexual urges, intense urges to spend money, binge or compulsive eating, and/or other intense urges, and the inability to control these urges. Dose reduction or discontinuation of Nourianz should be considered if the patient develops such urges (1).

Use of Nourianz during pregnancy is not recommended. Women of childbearing potential should be advised to use contraception during treatment with Nourianz (1).

The recommended dosage of Nourianz in patients who use tobacco in amounts of 20 or more cigarettes per day (or the equivalent of another tobacco product) is 40 mg once daily (1).

The safety and effectiveness of Nourianz in pediatric patients less than 18 years of age have not been established (1).



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### **Summary**

Nourianz (istradefylline) is an adenosine receptor antagonist. The precise mechanism by which it exerts its effect in Parkinson's disease is unknown. Studies have demonstrated that Nourianz is adenosine A<sub>2A</sub> receptor antagonist. The safety and effectiveness of Nourianz in pediatric patients less than 18 years of age have not been established (1).

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

### **References**

1. Nourianz [package Insert]. Bedminster, NJ: Kyowa Kirin, Inc.; March 2023.