

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

### **Background**

Rayos is a delayed-release prednisone used to treat pain and inflammation associated with certain allergic, dermatologic, gastrointestinal, hematologic, ophthalmologic, nervous system, renal, respiratory, rheumatologic, specific infectious diseases or conditions and organ transplantation. It is also used for the treatment of certain endocrine conditions and for palliation of certain neoplastic conditions. Rayos resembles the naturally occurring adrenocorticoids, which are important in anti-inflammatory responses, metabolism, and other hormone responses. Rayos is designed to release the active metabolite beginning approximately 4 hours after intake. Taking Rayos at bedtime can result in decreased morning stiffness in patients with rheumatoid arthritis (1).

### **Regulatory Status**

FDA-approved indications: Rayos is a corticosteroid indicated: as an anti-inflammatory or immunosuppressive agent for certain allergic, dermatologic, gastrointestinal, hematologic, ophthalmologic, nervous system, renal, respiratory, rheumatologic, specific infectious diseases or conditions and organ transplantation; for the treatment of certain endocrine conditions; for palliation of certain neoplastic conditions (1).

The use of Rayos may increase risks for conditions related to corticosteroid therapy which include Cushing's syndrome and hyperglycemia, especially with chronic use; therefore, doses should be tapered gradually for withdrawal after chronic use (1).

Rayos may cause immunosuppression and increased risk for developing infections, reactivation of latent infections, and masking of infective symptoms. Rayos is not recommended in patients with active, severe infections until the infections are controlled (1).

Patients taking Rayos may also experience elevated blood pressure, hyperglycemia, salt and water retention, and hypokalemia, hence blood pressure, glucose levels, sodium, potassium serum levels should be monitored (1).

### **Summary**

Rayos is a delayed-release prednisone used to treat pain and inflammation associated with certain allergic, dermatologic, gastrointestinal, hematologic, ophthalmologic, nervous system, renal,



**BlueCross.  
BlueShield.**

Federal Employee Program.

**RAYOS**  
(delayed-release prednisone)

respiratory, rheumatologic, specific infectious diseases or conditions and organ transplantation. It is also used for the treatment of certain endocrine conditions and for palliation of certain neoplastic conditions. The use of Rayos may increase risks for conditions related to corticosteroid therapy which include Cushing's syndrome and hyperglycemia. The use of Rayos may result in immunosuppression and increases risk for developing infections. Patients taking Rayos may also experience elevated blood pressure, salt and water retention, and hypokalemia, hence blood pressure, sodium, potassium serum levels should be monitored (1).

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

**References**

1. Rayos [package insert]. Lake Forest, IL: Horizon Pharma USA, Inc.; March 2021.