

Specialty Guideline Management

Visudyne

Products Referenced by this Document

Drugs that are listed in the following table include both brand and generic and all dosage forms and strengths unless otherwise stated. Over-the-counter (OTC) products are not included unless otherwise stated.

Brand Name	Generic Name
Visudyne	verteporfin

Indications

FDA-approved Indications¹

Visudyne for injection is indicated for the treatment of patients with predominantly classic subfoveal choroidal neovascularization due to age-related macular degeneration, pathologic myopia or presumed ocular histoplasmosis.

Compendial Uses^{2,3}

- Classic subfoveal choroidal neovascularization due to chronic central serous chorioretinopathy
- Choroidal hemangioma

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and not medically necessary.

Prescriber Specialties

This medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with an ophthalmologist.

Coverage Criteria

Choroidal Neovascularization^{1,2}

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for treatment of predominantly classic subfoveal choroidal neovascularization (CNV) when both of the following criteria are met:

- Member has predominantly classic subfoveal choroidal neovascularization due to ONE of the following:
 - Wet age-related macular degeneration
 - Pathologic myopia
 - Presumed ocular histoplasmosis
 - Chronic central serous chorioretinopathy (also includes retinal pigment epithelial leakage without evident CNV)
- The treatment spot size is less than or equal to 6.4 mm in diameter.

Choroidal Hemangioma³

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for treatment of choroidal hemangioma.

Continuation of Therapy

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for continued treatment of an indication listed in coverage criteria section for members who have demonstrated a positive clinical response to therapy.

References

1. Visudyne [package insert]. Charleston, SC: Alcamo Carolinas Corporation; February 2023.
2. van Rijssen, T.J., van Dijk, E.H.C., Yzer, S., Ohno-Matsui, K., Keunen, J.E.E., Schlingemann, R.O., Sivaprasad, S., Querques, G., Downes, S.M., Fauser, S., Hoyng, C.B., Piccolino, F.C., Chhablani, J.K., Lai, T.Y.Y., Lotery, A.J., Larsen, M., Holz, F.G., Freund, K.B., Yannuzzi, L.A., Boon, C.J.F., Central serous chorioretinopathy: Towards an evidence-based treatment guideline, *Progress in Retinal and Eye Research* (2019), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.preteyeres.2019.07.003>.
3. Tsipursky MS, Golchet PR, Jampol LM. Photodynamic therapy of choroidal hemangioma in sturge-weber syndrome, with a review of treatments for diffuse and circumscribed choroidal hemangiomas. *Surv Ophthalmol*. 2011; 56 (1): 68-85.