

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

BRAND NAME*
(generic)

RAGWITEK
(short ragweed pollen allergen extract)

Status: CVS Caremark® Criteria
Type: Initial Prior Authorization

POLICY

FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS

Ragwitek is an allergen extract indicated as immunotherapy for the treatment of short ragweed pollen-induced allergic rhinitis, with or without conjunctivitis, confirmed by positive skin test or *in vitro* testing for pollen-specific IgE antibodies for short ragweed pollen. Ragwitek is approved for use in persons 5 through 65 years of age.

Ragwitek is not indicated for the immediate relief of allergic symptoms.

COVERAGE CRITERIA

The requested drug will be covered with prior authorization when the following criteria are met:

- The requested drug is being prescribed as immunotherapy for the treatment of short ragweed pollen-induced allergic rhinitis
AND
 - The request is NOT for continuation of therapy
AND
 - The diagnosis has been confirmed by positive skin test or *in vitro* testing for pollen-specific IgE antibodies for short ragweed pollen
AND
 - The patient does not have ANY of the following: A) Severe, unstable or uncontrolled asthma, B) History of any severe systemic allergic reaction, C) History of any severe local reaction after taking any sublingual allergen immunotherapy, D) History of eosinophilic esophagitis
AND
 - The requested drug is being prescribed by, or in consultation with, an allergist or immunologist
 - OR**
 - The request is for continuation of therapy
AND
 - The patient has achieved or maintained improvement in rhinoconjunctivitis symptoms (e.g., runny nose, stuffy nose, sneezing, itchy nose, gritty/itchy eyes, watery eyes), OR the patient had a reduction in use of allergy symptom-relieving medications (e.g., antihistamines, corticosteroids)

Duration of Approval (DOA):

- 1134-A: DOA: 12 months

REFERENCES

1. Ragwitek [package insert]. Hørsholm, Denmark: ALK-Abelló A/S.; September 2022.
2. Lexicomp Online, Lexi-Drugs. Waltham, MA: UpToDate, Inc.; 2023. <https://online.lexi.com>. Accessed January 03, 2024.
3. Micromedex (electronic version). Merative, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Available at: <https://www.micromedexsolutions.com/> (cited: 01/03/2024).

Ragwitek PA Policy UDR 02-2024.docx

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