

# PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

<b>BRAND NAME</b> (generic)	<b>AVONEX</b> (interferon beta-1a)
<b>Status:</b> CVS Caremark Criteria <b>Type:</b> Initial Prior Authorization	<b>MDC</b> <b>Ref # 31-A</b>

## FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS<sup>1</sup>

Avonex is indicated for the treatment of relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis (MS), to include clinically isolated syndrome, relapsing-remitting disease, and active secondary progressive disease, in adults.

## CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL

1	Does the patient have a relapsing form of multiple sclerosis (MS) (e.g., relapsing-remitting MS, active secondary progressive MS)? [If yes, no further questions.]	Yes	No
2	Is the requested drug being prescribed for clinically isolated syndrome?	Yes	No

## Guidelines for Approval

Duration of Approval		12 months	
Set 1: Relapsing form of MS		Set 2: Clinically isolated syndrome	
Yes to question(s)	No to question(s)	Yes to question(s)	No to question(s)
1	None	2	1

## Mapping Instructions

	Yes	No
1.	Approve, 12 months	Go to 2
2.	Approve, 12 months	Deny

## RATIONALE

These criteria meet the Medicare Part D definition of a medically accepted indication. This definition includes uses which are approved by the FDA or supported by a citation included, or approved for inclusion, in one of the Medicare approved compendia.

The intent of the criteria is to ensure that patients follow selection elements noted in labeling and/or practice guidelines in order to decrease the potential for inappropriate utilization.

## REFERENCES

1. Avonex [package insert]. Cambridge, MA: Biogen Inc; March 2020.

## DOCUMENT HISTORY

Written: Specialty Clinical Development (AC) 04/2011  
 Revised: DK 04/2012; HY 05/2013, 05/2014; IP 04/2015; KF 04/2016 (annual), KF 03/2017 (2018 simplification); ST 04/2017 (annual, no changes), PS 04/2018, LP 06/2018 (CMS), BI 04/2019, PS 06/2019 (CMS), BI 07/2020 (CMS)  
 Reviewed: CDPR/KP 04/2011, 05/2012, DNC 05/2013, 06/2014, 05/2015, LMS 04/2016, AN 03/2017, TKP 05/2017, AN 04/2018, TKP 05/2019  
 External Review: 06/2011, 06/2012, 06/2013, 07/2014, 6/2015, 06/2016, 06/2017, 06/2018, 06/2019