

Market Applicability/Effective Date														
Market	FL & FHK	FL MMA	FL LTC	GA	KS	KY	LA	MD	NJ	NV	NY	TN	TX	WA
Applicable	X	N/A	N/A	X	N/A	X	X	N/A	X	X	X	N/A	N/A	NA

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Equetro (carbamazepine extended-release)

Override(s)	Approval Duration
Prior Authorization Quantity Limit	1 year

Medications	Quantity Limit
Equetro (carbamazepine extended-release)	May be subject to quantity limit

APPROVAL CRITERIA

Requests for Equetro (carbamazepine extended-release) may be approved if the following criteria are met:

- I. Individual is 18 years of age and older; **AND**
- II. Individual is using to treat acute manic or mixed (DSM 5 Bipolar I specifiers manic or hypomanic episode with mixed features or depressive episode with mixed features) episodes associated with bipolar I disorder; **AND**
- III. Individual has had a trial (medication samples/coupons/discount cards are excluded from consideration as a trial) of and inadequate response or intolerance to generic Carbatrol (per label formulated similar to Equetro); **AND**
- IV. Documentation is provided for the clinical necessity of the brand agents and the same medical reason and clinical benefit are not expected with the generic agents.

OR

- V. Individual is 18 years of age and older; **AND**
- VI. Individual is using to treat pain associated with trigeminal neuralgia; **AND**
- VII. Individual has had a trial (medication samples/coupons/discount cards are excluded from consideration as a trial) of and inadequate response or intolerance to generically available carbamazepine extended-release (Carbatrol, Tegretol XR); **AND**
- VIII. Documentation is provided for the clinical necessity of the brand agents and the same medical reason and clinical benefit are not expected with the generic agents.

NOTE: Do not exceed a dose of 1200 mg/day. At least once every 3 months, through the treatment period, minimum effective level should be reviewed, to attempt to reduce dosage or discontinue medication.

OR

- IX. Individual is using to treat partial seizures with complex symptomatology; **OR**
- X. Individual is using to treat generalized tonic-clonic seizures; **OR**

This policy does not apply to health plans or member categories that do not have pharmacy benefits, nor does it apply to Medicare. Note that market specific restrictions or transition-of-care benefit limitations may apply.

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- XI. Individual is using to treat mixed seizures; **AND**
- XII. Individual has been receiving the requested product for greater than or equal to 90 days; **OR**
- XIII. Individual has had a trial (medication samples/coupons/discount cards are excluded from consideration as a trial) of and inadequate response or intolerance to **one** preferred anticonvulsant:

Preferred Anticonvulsants: phenobarbital, clonazepam, phenytoin, ethosuximide, epilol, felbamate, clorazepate, diazepam, lamotrigine/lamotrigine ER (all formulations), gabapentin, oxcarbazepine, levetiracetam/levetiracetam XR, zonisamide, acetazolamide, carbamazepine/carbamazepine ER, divalproex sodium, valproic acid, valproate sodium, primidone, roweepra, topiramate, tiagabine

NOTE: Do not use Equetro for absence seizures (due to an exacerbation of seizures).

NOTE: Equetro (carbamazepine extended release) has a black box warning for fatal dermatologic reactions, including toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) and Stevens - Johnson syndrome (SJS) and aplastic anemia and agranulocytosis. Avoid use of Equetro in patients testing positive for HLA-B* 1502 allele.

State Specific Mandates		
State name	Date effective	Mandate details (including specific bill if applicable)
N/A	N/A	N/A

Key References:

Clinical Pharmacology [database online]. Tampa, FL: Gold Standard, Inc.: 2017. URL: <http://www.clinicalpharmacology.com>. Updated periodically.

DailyMed. Package inserts. U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health website. <http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/about.cfm>. Accessed January 30, 2017.

DrugPoints® System (electronic version). Truven Health Analytics, Greenwood Village, CO. Updated periodically.

Lexi-Comp ONLINE™ with AHFS™, Hudson, Ohio: Lexi-Comp, Inc.; 2017; Updated periodically.

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