

		AETNA BETTER HEALTH® Coverage Policy/Guideline	
Name:	Tetrabenazine	Page:	1 of 2
Effective Date:	8/19/2024	Last Review Date:	7/23/2024
Applies to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illinois <input type="checkbox"/> Virginia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Florida Kids <input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maryland

### Intent:

The intent of this policy/guideline is to provide information to the prescribing practitioner outlining the coverage criteria for tetrabenazine under the patient's prescription drug benefit.

### Description:

#### A. FDA-Approved Indication

Treatment of chorea associated with Huntington's disease

#### B. Compendial Uses

1. Tic disorders
2. Tardive dyskinesia
3. Hemiballismus
4. Chorea not associated with Huntington's disease

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

### Applicable Drug List:

tetrabenazine

### Policy/Guideline:

#### Documentation:

Submission of the following information is necessary to initiate the prior authorization review for initial requests:

- A. Tardive dyskinesia: Chart notes or medical record documentation of clinical manifestations of disease.
- B. Chorea associated with Huntington's disease: Chart notes or medical record documentation of characteristic motor examination features.

### Criteria for Initial Approval:

#### A. **Chorea associated with Huntington's disease**

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for treatment of chorea associated with Huntington's disease when BOTH of the following criteria are met:

1. Member demonstrates characteristic motor examination features
2. Member meets ONE of the following conditions:
  - i. Laboratory results indicate an expanded *HTT* CAG repeat sequence of at least 36
  - ii. Member has a positive family history for Huntington's disease

#### B. **Chorea not associated with Huntington's disease**



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Authorization of 6 months may be granted for treatment of chorea not associated with Huntington's disease.

**C. Tic disorders**

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for treatment of tic disorders.

**D. Tardive dyskinesia**

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for treatment of tardive dyskinesia when BOTH of the following criteria are met:

1. Member exhibits clinical manifestations of disease.
2. Member's tardive dyskinesia has been assessed through clinical examination or with a structured evaluative tool (e.g., Abnormal Involuntary Movement Scale [AIMS], Dyskinesia Identification System: Condensed User Scale [DISCUS]).

**E. Hemiballismus**

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for the treatment of hemiballismus.

**Criteria for Continuation of Therapy:**

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who are experiencing benefit from therapy as evidenced by disease stability or disease improvement.

**Approval Duration and Quantity Restrictions:**

**Approval:**

- Initial approval: 6 months
- Renewal approval: 12 months

**Quantity Level Limit:**

- tetrabenazine 12.5 mg tablet: 120 per 30 days
- tetrabenazine 25 mg tablet: 60 per 30 days

**References:**

1. Xenazine [package insert]. Deerfield, IL: Lundbeck Inc.; November 2019.
2. Tetrabenazine [package insert]. Weston, FL: Apotex Corp.; October 2021.
3. Micromedex® (electronic version). Truven Health Analytics, Greenwood Village, Colorado, USA. Available at: <http://www.micromedexsolutions.com>. Accessed March 14, 2024.
4. AHFS DI (Adult and Pediatric). Lexicomp. Last updated March 11, 2024. Accessed March 14, 2024. <http://online.lexi.com/lco>
5. Guay DRP. Tetrabenazine, a monoamine-depleting drug used in the treatment of hyperkinetic movement disorders. *Am J Geriatr Pharmacother*. 2010;8:331-373.
6. Kenney C, Hunter C, Jankovic J. Long-term tolerability of tetrabenazine in the treatment of hyperkinetic movement disorders. *Movement Disorders*. 2007;22(2):193-7.
7. American Psychiatric Association. (2021). *Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Patients With Schizophrenia, third edition*. <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.books.9780890424841>