





## **AETNA BETTER HEALTH®**

### **Prior Authorization guideline for Interferons (non-Hepatitis C uses) Non-PDL**

#### **Drugs Covered**

##### *α-Interferon*

- Alferon N
- Intron A

##### *β-Interferon*

See Multiple Sclerosis Agents

##### *γ-Interferon*

- Actimmune

#### **Authorization guidelines**

##### **Chronic Hepatitis B Infection (Intron A)**

- A. Prescribed by, or in consultation with, an infectious disease physician, HIV specialist, gastroenterologist, hepatologist, or transplant physician
- B. Diagnosis of Chronic Hepatitis B (CHB) with current lab results to support the following:
  - a. Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT) greater than 2 times the Upper Limit of Normal (ULN)
  - b. Detectable Hepatitis B Virus Deoxyribonucleic Acid (HBV DNA) level
  - c. Hepatitis B e-antigen (HBe-Ag) (positive or negative)
- C. Compensated liver disease
- D. Age restriction: Must be at least 1 year old

##### **Follicular Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (Stage III/IV) (Intron A)**

- A. Member is 18 years of age or older
- B. Prescribed by, or in consultation with a hematologist/oncologist
- C. Given in conjunction with anthracycline-containing combination chemotherapy



**Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)-related Kaposi's sarcoma (Intron A [powder for solution ONLY])**

- A. Prescribed by, or in consultation with an infectious disease physician or HIV specialist
- B. Member is 18 years of age or older

**Hairy-cell Leukemia (Intron A)**

- A. Member is 18 years of age or older
- B. Prescribed by, or in consultation with Hematologist/Oncologist
- C. Member meets one of the following:
  - Demonstrated less than a complete response to cladribine or pentostatin
  - Relapsed after less than 2 years of demonstrating a complete response to cladribine or pentostatin

**Chronic Granulomatous Disease (Actimmune)**

- A. Prescribed by, or in consultation with an immunologist
- B. Member is one year of age or older

**Malignant Osteopetrosis (Actimmune)**

- A. Prescribed by, or in consultation with a hematologist/oncologist or endocrinologist
- B. Prescribed for the treatment of severe, malignant osteopetrosis

**Condylomata acuminata (genital or venereal warts) (Intron A, Alferon N)**

- A. Member is 18 years of age or older
- B. For intralesional use
- C. Lesions are small and limited in number
- D. Trial and failure of topical treatments or surgical technique ( i.e. imiquimod cream, Condylox, cryotherapy, laser surgery, electrodesiccation, surgical excision)

**Additional Information:**

Interferons are NOT covered for members with the following criteria:

- Use not approved by the FDA; **AND**
- The use is unapproved and not supported by the literature or evidence as an accepted off-label use.

**Approval Duration:**

**Initial Approval:**

**Last Review:** 5/2021  
**Previous PARP Approval:** 12/2019  
**Current PARP Approval:** 8/2021



Hepatitis B

- Intron A –16 weeks for adults; 24 weeks for children

Kaposi's sarcoma: 16 weeks

Hairy cell leukemia: 6 months

Condylomata acuminata: 3 weeks

All other indications: 1 year

**Renewal:**

Hepatitis B:

- Intron A: additional 16 weeks if still Hepatitis B e-antigen (HBe-Ag)-positive
- Intron A: indefinite for Hepatitis B e-antigen (HBe-Ag)-negative patients

Osteopetrosis: 1 year if no evidence of disease progression

Chronic Granulomatous Disease (*CGD*): 1 year if number and/or severity of infections has decreased

Condylomata acuminata:

- Intron A: 16 weeks
- Alferon N: 8 weeks; there must be at least 3 months between treatments unless there are signs of disease progression

All others: 1 year

**Medically Necessary** — A service or benefit is Medically Necessary if it is compensable under the MA Program and if it meets any one of the following standards:

- The service or benefit will, or is reasonably expected to, prevent the onset of an illness, condition or disability.
- The service or benefit will, or is reasonably expected to, reduce or ameliorate the physical, mental or developmental effects of an illness, condition, injury or disability.
- The service or benefit will assist the Member to achieve or maintain maximum functional capacity in performing daily activities, taking into account both the functional capacity of the Member and those



functional capacities that are appropriate for Members of the same age.

Determination of Medical Necessity for covered care and services, whether made on a Prior Authorization, Concurrent Review, Retrospective Review, or exception basis, must be documented in writing.

The determination is based on medical information provided by the Member, the Member's family/caretaker and the Primary Care Practitioner, as well as any other Providers, programs, agencies that have evaluated the Member.

All such determinations must be made by qualified and trained Health Care Providers. A Health Care Provider who makes such determinations of Medical Necessity is not considered to be providing a health care service under this Agreement.

### **References:**

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3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Hairy Cell Leukemia version 2.2021 - March 11, 2021. NCCN.  
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