I. Requirements for Prior Authorization of Botulinum Toxins (Type A and Type B)

A. Prescriptions That Require Prior Authorization

All prescriptions for Botulinum Toxins, regardless of the quantity prescribed, must be prior authorized.¹

B. Emergency Supplies

The Department does not consider a delay in the receipt of Botulinum Toxins to present an emergency and, therefore, will NOT cover emergency supplies of Botulinum Toxins pending approval of a request for prior authorization.

C. Review of Documentation for Medical Necessity

In evaluating a request for prior authorization of a prescription for a Botulinum Toxin, the determination of whether the requested prescription is medically necessary will take into account whether:

1. The recipient is being treated for a condition where use of a Botulinum Toxin is a Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved indication or another medically accepted indication, excluding a cosmetic condition. The requesting prescriber must provide documentation from the medical record of the diagnosis and, when appropriate, the prior treatment of the approved indications.

AND

2. The prescriber submitted documentation of the proposed injection site(s) and the dose that will be injected into each site.

AND

3. The recipient is not pregnant or breastfeeding

AND

¹ Botulinum Toxin products are not interchangeable or bioequivalent. Dosing units are specific to the preparation of the Botulinum Toxin.
4. The recipient has a documented history of therapeutic failure, contraindication or intolerance of the preferred Botulinum Toxins approved for the indication

AND

5. For a diagnosis of chronic spasticity resulting from cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, or stroke, whether:

a. The recipient has documented spasticity that:

   i. Interferes with activities of daily living, OR

   ii. Is expected to result in joint contracture with future growth

AND

b. The recipient has documented therapeutic failure, contraindication or intolerance to one oral medication for spasticity

AND

c. If the recipient developed contractures, the recipient has been considered for surgical intervention

AND

d. The botulinum toxin is being requested to;

   i. Enhance function, OR

   ii. Allow for additional therapeutic modalities to be employed

AND

e. The requested botulinum toxin will be used in conjunction with other appropriate therapeutic modalities such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, gradual splinting, etc.
AND

6. For a diagnosis of strabismus, whether:
   a. The recipient is 12 years of age or older  AND
   b. The recipient has a deviation of less than 50 prism diopters  AND
   c. Treatment has the potential to restore binocular vision  AND
   d. Strabismus is not due to Duane’s Syndrome with lateral rectus muscle weakness, restrictive strabismus or secondary strabismus caused by prior surgery.

AND

7. For a diagnosis of axillary hyperhidrosis, the recipient has a history of therapeutic failure, contraindication or intolerance to a topical agent such as 20 percent aluminum chloride

AND

8. For a diagnosis of chronic migraine headache, the recipient has a history of therapeutic failure, contraindication, or intolerance to at least three migraine prophylaxis medications (e.g. beta-blockers, calcium channel blockers, tricyclic antidepressants or anticonvulsant medications).

AND

9. The recipient has a history of chronic migraine headache not attributed to other causes including medication overuse, as defined by:
   a. Headache (tension-type and/or migraine) on ≥15 days per month for at least three months

   AND

   b. At least five of these attacks meet at least two of the following:
      i. Unilateral location
      ii. Pulsating quality
iii. Moderate or severe intensity
iv. Aggravation by or causing avoidance of routine physical activity (e.g., walking or climbing stairs)

AND

c. During headache, at least one of the following is present:
   1. Nausea and/or vomiting OR
   2. Photophobia and phonophobia

OR

d. Headaches are treated and relieved by triptan(s) or ergotamine(s) before the expected development of associated symptoms of migraine

AND

10. For a diagnosis of urinary incontinence due to detrusor overactivity associated with a neurologic condition, whether the recipient has a history of therapeutic failure, contraindication, or intolerance to at least two agents used in the treatment of urinary incontinence

AND

11. For a diagnosis of overactive bladder with symptoms of urge urinary incontinence, urgency, and frequency, whether the recipient has a history of therapeutic failure, contraindication, or intolerance to at least 2 agents used in the treatment of overactive bladder

AND

12. If a prescription for a Botulinum Toxin is in a quantity that exceeds the dosing limits, the determination of whether the prescription is medically necessary will also take into account the guidelines set forth in the Quantity Limits Chapter.

OR

13. The recipient does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above, but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the recipient.
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE HANDBOOK
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES

14. For repeat treatment:

a. When the frequency of injection exceeds the dosing and duration of therapy limits, the prescriber must submit documentation of the following:

   i. The previous treatment was well tolerated but inadequate

      AND

   ii. Medical literature supports more frequent dosing intervals as safe and effective for the diagnosis and requested dose

      AND

b. When the frequency of injection is consistent with the dosing and duration of therapy limits, the prescriber must submit documentation of the following:

   i. The previous treatment was well tolerated and the recipient showed evidence of measurable improvement in severity of symptoms

      AND

   ii. The symptoms returned to such a degree that repeat injection is required

OR

c. The recipient does not meet the clinical review guidelines listed above, but, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the recipient.

D. Clinical Review Process

Prior authorization personnel will review the request for prior authorization and apply the clinical guidelines in Section C. above, to assess the medical necessity of the request for a prescription for a Botulinum Toxin. If the guidelines in Section C. are met, the reviewer will prior authorize the prescription. If the guidelines are not met, the prior authorization request will be referred to a physician reviewer for a medical necessity.

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determination. Such a request for prior authorization will be approved when, in the professional judgment of the physician reviewer, the services are medically necessary to meet the medical needs of the recipient.

E. Dose and Duration of Therapy

Dosing limits are as follows:

a. For Botox:
   i. Spasticity in adults - 600 units/90 days
   ii. Spasticity associated with cerebral palsy in children over age 18 months (for children and recipients under 25 kg, weight based dosing applies) - 400 units/90 days
   iii. Severe axillary hyperhidrosis - 50 units/axilla/90 days
   iv. Blepharospasm - 200 units/90 days
   v. Cervical Dystonia - 300 units/90 days
   vi. Chronic Migraine - 200 units/84 days
   vii. Strabismus - ≤25 units/muscle/injection/90 days
   viii. Spasmodic dysphonia – 10 units/90 days
   ix. Urinary incontinence – 200 units/84 days
   x. Overactive bladder – 100 units/84 days
   xi. Maximum cumulative dose across all indications – 360 units/3-month interval

b. For Dysport in cervical dystonia:
   i. Initial 500 units/90 days
   ii. Renewal up to 1,000 units/90 days

c. For Myobloc in cervical dystonia:
   i. Initial therapy 2500 units total/90 days
   ii. Renewal up to 10,000 units/90 days

d. For Xeomin:
   i. Cervical Dystonia - 120 units/90 days
   ii. Blepharospasm - 35 units/eye/90 days

The Department will not approve a request for authorization for one year from the most recent injection when there is no benefit after two sequential therapies using maximum doses.
References:

5. Mancini et al. A Randomized, Double-blind, Dose-ranging Study to Evaluate Efficacy and Safety of Three Doses of Botulinum Toxin Type A (Botox) for the Treatment of Spastic Foot. Neurol Sci 2005; 26:26-31