MEDICAL MUTUAL®

Drug Policy

Policy:	**Post-Transplant Immunosuppressants Preferred Step Therapy**	**Annual Review Date:** **02/20/2025**
Impacted Drugs:	**Branded Oral Immunosuppressant Agents**	**Last Revised Date:** **02/20/2025**

OVERVIEW

Oral immunosuppressants are used for the prevention of rejection after solid organ transplantation.

POLICY STATEMENT

A preferred step therapy program has been developed to encourage the use of a preferred product prior to the use of a non-preferred product. If the preferred step therapy rule is not met for a non-preferred agent at the point of service, coverage will be determined by the preferred step therapy criteria below. All approvals are provided for 1 year in duration.

Automation: Patients who are new to therapy with a branded oral immunosuppressant agent will be targeted in this policy.

Preferred Medications

Generic oral immunosuppressant agents (including, but not limited to):

- Generic azathioprine
- Generic cyclosporine
- Generic everolimus
- Generic mycophenolate
- Generic mycophenolic acid
- Generic sirolimus
- Generic tacrolimus
- Gengraf (generic product)

Non-Preferred Medications

Branded oral immunosuppressant agents (including, but not limited to):

- Azasan
- Cellcept
- Imuran
- Myfortic

- Myhibbin
- Neoral
- Prograf
- Rapamune
- Sandimmune

PREFERRED STEP THERAPY CRITERIA

1. If the patient has tried a preferred medication, then authorization for a non-preferred medication may be given. Please note: the lists of preferred and nonpreferred medications above are not all-inclusive.

2. If the patient is younger than age 12 OR has a documented inability to swallow solid dosage forms, approve Myhibbin oral suspension.

Initial Approval/ Extended Approval.
A) *Initial Approval:* 1 year
B) *Extended Approval:* 1 year

Step Therapy Exception Criteria
Approve for 1 year if the patient meets the following (A, B, or C):

A. The patient has an atypical diagnosis and/or unique patient characteristics which prevent use of all preferred agents. If so, please list diagnosis and/or patient characteristics *; **OR**
B. The patient has a contraindication to all preferred agents. If so, please list the contraindications to each preferred agent *; **OR**
C. The patient is continuing therapy with the requested non-preferred agent after being stable for at least 90 days [verification in prescription claims history required] or, if not available, [verification by prescribing physician required] AND meets ONE of the following:
    1. The patient has at least 130 days of prescription claims history on file and claims history supports that the patient has received the requested non-preferred agent for 90 days within a 130-day look-back period AND there is no generic equivalent available for the requested nonpreferred product (i.e. AA-rated or AB-rated to the requested nonpreferred product); OR
    2. When 130 days of the patient's prescription claims history file is unavailable for verification, the prescriber must verify that the patient has been receiving the requested non-preferred agent for 90 days AND that the patient has been receiving the requested non-preferred agent via paid claims (i.e. the patient has NOT been receiving samples or coupons or other types of waivers in order to obtain access to the requested non-preferred agent) AND there is no generic equivalent available for the requested nonpreferred product (i.e. AA-rated or AB-rated to the requested nonpreferred product).

Documentation Required: When documentation is required, the prescriber must provide written documentation supporting the trials of these other agents, noted in the criteria as *. Documentation should include chart notes, prescription claims records, and/or prescription receipts.

Approval Duration: All approvals for continuation of therapy are provided for 1 year unless noted otherwise below. In cases where the initial approval is authorized in months, 1 month is equal to 30 days.

*** Documentation Requirements:**

The Company reserves the right to request additional documentation as part of its coverage determination process. The Company may deny reimbursement when it has determined that the drug provided or services performed were not medically necessary, investigational or experimental, not within the scope of benefits afforded to the member and/or a pattern of billing or other practice has been found to be either inappropriate or excessive. Additional documentation supporting medical necessity for the services provided must be made available upon request to the Company. Documentation requested may include patient records, test results and/or credentials of the provider ordering or performing a service. The Company also reserves the right to modify, revise, change, apply and interpret this policy at its sole discretion, and the exercise of this discretion shall be final and binding.

REFERENCES

1. Everolimus. In: DRUGDEX [online database]. Truven Health Analytics; Greenwood Village, CO. Last updated 17 February 2025. Accessed 18 February 2025.
2. Mycophenolate mofetil. In: DRUGDEX [online database]. Truven Health Analytics; Greenwood Village, CO. Last updated 17 February 2025. Accessed 18 February 2025.
3. Tacrolimus. In: DRUGDEX [online database]. Truven Health Analytica; Greenwood Village, CO. Last updated 17 February 2025. Accessed on 18 February 2025.
4. Cyclosporine. In: DRUGDEX [online database]. Truven Health Analytics; Greenwood Village, CO. Last updated 17 February 2025. Accessed on 18 February 2025.
5. Azathioprine. In: DRUGDEX [online database]. Truven Health Analytics; Greenwood Village, CO. Last updated 11 February 2025. Accessed on 18 February 2025.
6. Sirolimus. In: DRUGDEX [online database]. Truven Health Analytics; Greenwood Village, CO. Last updated 17 February 2025. Accessed on 18 February 2025.