



Alzheimer's Drug Therapy Initiative

CRITERIA FOR COVERAGE

DONEPEZIL (ARICEPT®), GALANTAMINE (REMINYL®) AND RIVASTIGMINE (EXELON®)

For coverage, diagnosis must be Alzheimer's disease, Alzheimer's disease with a vascular component, Alzheimer's disease with Lewy bodies or mixed dementia with predominant Alzheimer's disease.

Initiation of coverage in a cholinesterase inhibitor-naïve patient:

Coverage will be provided for an initial 6-month period, when the following criteria are met:

- ▶ a Standardized Mini Mental State Examination (SMMSE) score of ≥ 10 to ≤ 26 , **AND**
- ▶ a Global Deterioration Scale (GDS) stage of 4, 5 or 6.

Note: Check for tolerability in naïve patients within the first 1 - 3 months.

Continuation of coverage for 6-month periods:

Coverage is continued for patients in 6-month increments when:

- ▶ the information provided indicates that the patient remains in the mild to moderate stage of Alzheimer's disease (if repeat SMMSE testing at 6-month intervals results in scores of ≥ 10 **AND**
- ▶ a GDS stage of 4, 5 or 6) **AND**
- ▶ there is demonstrated stabilization or improvement during the previous six months of therapy.

Coverage when switching for lack of efficacy to another cholinesterase inhibitor

Coverage of another cholinesterase inhibitor is provided for an initial 6 months if:

- ▶ the clinician documents the reason for discontinuing the previous cholinesterase inhibitor on the Special Authority Renewal/Switching Form.

Note: Coverage of another cholinesterase inhibitor is provided in the same manner as the previous one (check for tolerability within the first 1 - 3 months, coverage to be renewed in 6-month increments if criteria continue to be met).