

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION POLICY

POLICY: Topical Retinoids – Akliel® – (trifarotene cream – Galderma Laboratories)

DATE REVIEWED: 12/04/2019

OVERVIEW

Akliel, a topical retinoid, is indicated for the topical treatment of acne vulgaris in patients 9 years of age and older.

Akliel has not been added to the guidelines. Topical retinoids are effective for the treatment of acne, both as initial and maintenance therapy. Treatment algorithms and consensus statements do not differentiate between the topical retinoids, but rather refer to them as a therapeutic category.²⁻⁵

Topical retinoid products (e.g., tretinoin) have been used to treat numerous other medical skin conditions in addition to acne vulgaris.⁶ Some indications have minimal published clinical data and thus appear experimental. Topical retinoid products have also been used to treat a variety of cosmetic skin conditions, such as wrinkles, stretch marks, liver spots, premature aging, and photo-aged or photo-damaged skin.

POLICY STATEMENT

Prior authorization is recommended for prescription benefit coverage of Akliel. Use should be limited to the treatment of medical conditions, and prescription benefit coverage is not recommended for cosmetic conditions. All approvals are provided for the duration noted below

Automation: None

RECOMMENDED AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

FDA-Approved Indication

1. **Acne Vulgaris.** Approve for 3 years.

CONDITIONS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Akliel has not been shown to be effective, or there are limited or preliminary data or potential safety concerns that are not supportive of general approval for the following conditions. Rationale for non-coverage for these specific conditions is provided below. (Note: This is not an exhaustive list of Conditions Not Recommended for Approval.)

1. Coverage is not recommended for circumstances not listed in the Recommended Authorization Criteria. Criteria will be updated as new published data are available.

References

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1. Akliel® cream [prescribing information]. Fort Worth, TX: Galderma Laboratories; October, 2019.
2. Thiboutot D, Gollnick H, Bettoli, et al. New insights into the management of acne: an update from the Global Alliance to Improve Outcomes in Acne Group. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2009;60:S1-S50.
3. Strauss JS, Krowchuk DP, Leyden JJ, et al. Guidelines of care for acne vulgaris management. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2007;56:651-653.
4. Zaenglein AL, Pathy AL, Schlosser BJ, et al. Guidelines of care for the management of acne vulgaris. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2016;74:945-973.
5. Titus S, Hodge J. Diagnosis and treatment of acne. *Am Fam Physician.* 2012;86:734-740.