

Budesonide-Formoterol



Included Products: Symbicort (budesonide-formoterol inhaler)

Created: 05/19/2021

Revised: 07/13/2023

Reviewed: 07/13/2023

Updated: 08/01/2023

All Diagnoses

Initial Criteria		If yes	If no
1.	Does the member have one of the following diagnoses? a. Asthma b. COPD	Continue to #2 for asthma. Continue to #3 for COPD.	Do not approve.
2.	Does the member meet one of the following? a. Tried and failed generic Advair Diskus and generic AirDuo OR b. Budesonide/formoterol is specifically being requested as a single maintenance and reliever therapy for moderate to severe asthma in a member aged 6 and older OR c. Budesonide/formoterol is being requested as the only inhaler for rescue use in intermittent asthma	Continue to #4.	Do not approve.
3.	Has the member tried and failed generic Advair Diskus, generic AirDuo, and other inhalers that are appropriate for COPD (Anoro Ellipta, Stiolto, Trelegy)?	Continue to #4.	Do not approve.
4.	Approve for lifetime..		

References:

- Global Initiative for Asthma. Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention, 2022. Available from: www.ginasthma.org

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- 2020 Focused Updates to the Asthma Management Guidelines. National Asthma Education and Prevention Program Coordinating Committee Expert Panel Working Group. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: National Institutes of Health. 2020.
- O’Byrne PM; FitzGerald JM; Bateman ED; et al. Inhaled Combined Budesonide–Formoterol as Needed in Mild Asthma. *N Engl J Med*. 2018; 378: 1865-76. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1715274.
- Beasley R; Holliday M; Reddel HK; et al. Controlled Trial of Budesonide–Formoterol as Needed for Mild Asthma. *N Engl J Med*. 2019; 380: 2020-30. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1901963.
- Kew KM, Karner C, Mindus SM, Ferrara G. Combination formoterol and budesonide as maintenance and reliever therapy versus combination inhaler maintenance for chronic asthma in adults and children. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*. 2013, Issue 12. Art. No.: CD009019. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD009019.pub2.