



PRIOR AUTHORIZATION POLICY

- POLICY:** Ophthalmology – Dry Eye Disease – Eysuvis Prior Authorization Policy
- Eysuvis® (loteprednol etabonate 0.25% ophthalmic suspension – Alcon)

REVIEW DATE: 12/10/2025

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

THE FOLLOWING COVERAGE POLICY APPLIES TO HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS ADMINISTERED BY CIGNA COMPANIES. CERTAIN CIGNA COMPANIES AND/OR LINES OF BUSINESS ONLY PROVIDE UTILIZATION REVIEW SERVICES TO CLIENTS AND DO NOT MAKE COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS. REFERENCES TO STANDARD BENEFIT PLAN LANGUAGE AND COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS DO NOT APPLY TO THOSE CLIENTS. COVERAGE POLICIES ARE INTENDED TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE IN INTERPRETING CERTAIN STANDARD BENEFIT PLANS ADMINISTERED BY CIGNA COMPANIES. PLEASE NOTE, THE TERMS OF A CUSTOMER'S PARTICULAR BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT [GROUP SERVICE AGREEMENT, EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE, CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE, SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION (SPD) OR SIMILAR PLAN DOCUMENT] MAY DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THE STANDARD BENEFIT PLANS UPON WHICH THESE COVERAGE POLICIES ARE BASED. FOR EXAMPLE, A CUSTOMER'S BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT MAY CONTAIN A SPECIFIC EXCLUSION RELATED TO A TOPIC ADDRESSED IN A COVERAGE POLICY. IN THE EVENT OF A CONFLICT, A CUSTOMER'S BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT ALWAYS SUPERSEDES THE INFORMATION IN THE COVERAGE POLICIES. IN THE ABSENCE OF A CONTROLLING FEDERAL OR STATE COVERAGE MANDATE, BENEFITS ARE ULTIMATELY DETERMINED BY THE TERMS OF THE APPLICABLE BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT. COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS IN EACH SPECIFIC INSTANCE REQUIRE CONSIDERATION OF 1) THE TERMS OF THE APPLICABLE BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT IN EFFECT ON THE DATE OF SERVICE; 2) ANY APPLICABLE LAWS/REGULATIONS; 3) ANY RELEVANT COLLATERAL SOURCE MATERIALS INCLUDING COVERAGE POLICIES AND; 4) THE SPECIFIC FACTS OF THE PARTICULAR SITUATION. EACH COVERAGE REQUEST SHOULD BE REVIEWED ON ITS OWN MERITS. MEDICAL DIRECTORS ARE EXPECTED TO EXERCISE CLINICAL JUDGMENT WHERE APPROPRIATE AND HAVE DISCRETION IN MAKING INDIVIDUAL COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS. WHERE COVERAGE FOR CARE OR SERVICES DOES NOT DEPEND ON SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES, REIMBURSEMENT WILL ONLY BE PROVIDED IF A REQUESTED SERVICE(S) IS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT CRITERIA OUTLINED IN THE APPLICABLE COVERAGE POLICY, INCLUDING COVERED DIAGNOSIS AND/OR PROCEDURE CODE(S). REIMBURSEMENT IS NOT ALLOWED FOR SERVICES WHEN BILLED FOR CONDITIONS OR DIAGNOSES THAT ARE NOT COVERED UNDER THIS COVERAGE POLICY (SEE "CODING INFORMATION" BELOW). WHEN BILLING, PROVIDERS MUST USE THE MOST APPROPRIATE CODES AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE SUBMISSION. CLAIMS SUBMITTED FOR SERVICES THAT ARE NOT ACCOMPANIED BY COVERED CODE(S) UNDER THE APPLICABLE COVERAGE POLICY WILL BE DENIED AS NOT COVERED. COVERAGE POLICIES RELATE EXCLUSIVELY TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS. COVERAGE POLICIES ARE NOT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TREATMENT AND SHOULD NEVER BE USED AS TREATMENT GUIDELINES. IN CERTAIN MARKETS, DELEGATED VENDOR GUIDELINES MAY BE USED TO SUPPORT MEDICAL NECESSITY AND OTHER COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS.

CIGNA NATIONAL FORMULARY COVERAGE:

OVERVIEW

Eysuvis, an ophthalmic corticosteroid, is indicated for the **short-term (up to 2 weeks) treatment of the signs and symptoms of dry eye disease.**¹

Guidelines

Eysuvis is not addressed in guidelines. The American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) Dry Eye Syndrome Preferred Practice Pattern® (2024) notes dry eye syndrome is also known as dry eye disease or keratoconjunctivitis sicca.² Dry eye is generally classified according to both symptoms and signs (i.e., mild, moderate, or severe); however, there is an emphasis on symptoms over signs. Management of dry eye is listed as a four-step staged approach, but specific therapies may be chosen from any step, regardless of the level of disease severity, depending on provider experience and patient preference. Ophthalmic corticosteroids, among other therapies, are helpful for the treatment of mild and moderate dry eye. Ophthalmic corticosteroids

have been reported to reduce ocular irritation symptoms. AAO notes that commercially available loteprednol etabonate 0.25% was studied in a prospective randomized study over 2 weeks and demonstrated improvement in symptoms and conjunctival hyperemia. However, extending the treatment to 4 weeks did not provide further beneficial effects or increase adverse effects. Low-dose ophthalmic corticosteroids can be used at infrequent intervals for short periods of time (i.e., several weeks) to suppress ocular surface inflammation. Patients using ophthalmic corticosteroids should be monitored for adverse effects, such as increased intraocular pressure and cataract formation.

POLICY STATEMENT

Prior Authorization is recommended for prescription benefit coverage of Eysuvis. All approvals are provided for the duration noted below. In cases where the approval is authorized in months, 1 month is equal to 30 days.

- **Eysuvis® (loteprednol etabonate 0.25% ophthalmic suspension – Alcon)**

is(are) covered as medically necessary when the following criteria is(are) met for FDA-approved indication(s) or other uses with supportive evidence (if applicable):

FDA-Approved Indication

1. **Dry Eye Disease (Short-Term Treatment).** Approve for 1 month if the patient has tried artificial tears.

Note: Examples of dry eye disease include dry eye syndrome and keratoconjunctivitis sicca

CONDITIONS NOT COVERED

- **Eysuvis® (loteprednol etabonate 0.25% ophthalmic suspension – Alcon)**

is(are) considered not medically necessary for ANY other use(s); criteria will be updated as new published data are available.

REFERENCES

1. Eysuvis® ophthalmic suspension [prescribing information]. Fort Worth, TX: Alcon; November 2023.
2. Amescua G, Ahmad S, Cheung AY, et al. American Academy of Ophthalmology, Dry Eye Syndrome Preferred Practice Pattern®. *Ophthalmology*. 2024;131(4):P1-P49.

HISTORY

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Review Date
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	12/06/2023
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	12/11/2024

Annual Revision	Dry Eye Disease (Short-Term Treatment): A Note that dry eye disease includes dry eye syndrome and keratoconjunctivitis sicca was added.	12/10/2025
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