

Clinical Pharmacy Program Guidelines for Chantix

Program	Prior Authorization
Medication	Chantix (varenicline)
Markets in Scope	California, Florida- CHIP, Hawaii, Nevada, New York EPP, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island
Issue Date	7/2018
Pharmacy and Therapeutics Approval Date	6/2019
Effective Date	8/2019

1. Background:

Chantix is a nicotinic receptor partial agonist indicated for use as an aid to smoking cessation treatment.

Chantix contains a black boxed warning for serious neuropsychiatric events. See prescribing information for additional details.

2. Coverage Criteria:

<p>A. <u>Chantix (varenicline)</u></p> <p>1. <u>Authorization Criteria</u></p> <p>a. Chantix will be approved based on <u>all</u> of the following criteria:</p> <p>(1) Patient has not exceeded 180 days of therapy in the last 12 months</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-AND-</p> <p>(2) Treatment is being requested for tobacco cessation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-AND-</p> <p>(3) History of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to <u>one</u> of the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a). Nicotine replacement patches OTC (e.g. Nicoderm CQ-OTC)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b). Nicotine gum OTC (e.g. Nicorette gum- OTC)</p>

(c). Nicotine lozenge OTC (e.g. Nicorette lozenge-OTC)

-AND-

(4) History of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to bupropion

Authorization will be issued for 6 months, not to exceed 180 days of therapy per 12 months.

3. References:

1. Chantix Prescribing Information. Pfizer Inc. New York, NY. June 2018.
2. US Department of Health and Human Services. Clinical practice guideline for treating tobacco use and dependence: 2008 Update. Washington, DC: US Department of Health and Human Services;.Am J Prev Med 2008;35(2)

Program	Prior Authorization –Chantix
Change Control	
Date	Change
7/2018	New Program. Adopted Employer and Individual’s Chantix program.
8/2018	Removed reauthorization criteria and changed initial authorization duration to 6 months. Added clarity for tobacco cessation counseling and concurrent bupropion therapy.
6/2019	Removed combination criteria for Chantix and nicotine replacement therapy or bupropion. Removed counseling requirement.