



UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy
Clinical Pharmacy Programs

Program Number	2018 P 2071-3
Program	Prior Authorization/Medical Necessity
Medication	Daraprim [®] (pyrimethamine)
P&T Approval Date	10/2015, 10/2016, 3/2018
Effective Date	6/1/2018; Oxford only: 6/1/2018

1. Background:

Daraprim[®] (pyrimethamine) is indicated for the treatment of toxoplasmosis when used conjointly with a sulfonamide, since synergism exists with this combination. Daraprim is also indicated for the treatment of acute malaria. It should not be used alone to treat acute malaria. Fast-acting schizonticides such as chloroquine or quinine are indicated and preferable for the treatment of acute malaria. However, conjoint use of Daraprim with a sulfonamide (e.g., sulfadoxine) will initiate transmission control and suppression of susceptible strains of plasmodia. In addition, Daraprim is indicated for the chemoprophylaxis of malaria due to susceptible strains of plasmodia. However, resistance to pyrimethamine is prevalent worldwide. It is not suitable as a prophylactic agent for travelers to most areas.¹

The use of Daraprim for the treatment or prophylaxis of malaria is no longer recommended in the CDC Guidelines for the Treatment of Malaria in the United States. For the treatment of malaria, contact the CDC Malaria Hotline: (770) 488-7788 or (855) 856-4713 toll-free Monday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm EST - (770) 488-7100 after hours, weekends and holidays²⁻³

Limitations of Use:

Outpatient medication access is available exclusively through the Daraprim Direct program in partnership with Asembia Specialty Pharmacy Network (ASPN).⁴

Members will be required to meet the coverage criteria below.

2. Coverage Criteria:

- A. **Daraprim** will be approved based on medical record documentation (e.g. chart notes) to **one** of the following criteria:
1. Treatment of severe acquired toxoplasmosis, including toxoplasmic encephalitis

-OR-
2. Treatment of congenital toxoplasmosis

-OR-
3. Secondary prophylaxis of toxoplasmic encephalitis

-OR-
4. **All** of the following:
 - a. Primary Pneumocystis pneumonia (PCP) prophylaxis in HIV-infected patients or as secondary prophylaxis in HIV-infected patients who have been treated for an acute episode of Pneumocystis pneumonia
 - b. Patient has experienced intolerance to prior prophylaxis with trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX)
 - c. **One** of the following:
 - (1) Patient has been re-challenged with trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX) using a desensitization protocol and is still unable to tolerate
 - (2) Evidence of moderately severe or life threatening-reaction to trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX) in the past (e.g. toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN), Stevens-Johnson syndrome)
- OR-**
5. **All** of the following:
 - a. Primary prophylaxis of toxoplasmic encephalitis
 - b. Toxoplasma IgG positive
 - c. $CD4 \leq 100$ cells/mm³ if initiating prophylaxis or if $CD4 < 100-200$ cells/mm³ if reinstating prophylaxis
 - d. Will be used in combination with dapsone or atovaquone
 - e. Patient has experienced intolerance to prior prophylaxis with trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX)
 - f. **One** of the following:
 - (1) Patient has been re-challenged with trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX) using a desensitization protocol and is still unable to

- tolerate
- (2) Evidence of moderately severe or life threatening-reaction to trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX) in the past (e.g. toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN), Stevens-Johnson syndrome)

Authorization will be issued for 12 months*

*** Consider discontinuation of primary prophylaxis if CD4 > 200 cells/mm³ for > 3 months after institution of combination antiretroviral therapy.**

3. Additional Clinical Rules:

- Supply limits may be in place.

4. References:

1. Daraprim [Package Insert]. New York, NY: Vyera Pharmaceuticals; August 2017.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Treatment of Malaria (Guidelines For Clinicians). Accessed January 9, 2018: <http://www.cdc.gov/malaria/resources/pdf/clinicalguidance.pdf>
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDC Health Information for International Travel 2016. New York: Oxford University Press; 2016. Accessed January 9, 2018: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2016/infectious-diseases-related-to-travel/malaria#4904>
4. Daraprim How to Prescribe Information. Accessed January 9, 2018: <http://www.daraprimdirect.com/how-to-prescribe>
5. Department of Health and Human Services. Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Accessed January 9, 2018: <https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/guidelines/html/4/adult-and-adolescent-oi-prevention-and-treatment-guidelines/322/toxo>
6. Department of Health and Human Services. Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections in HIV-Exposed and HIV-Infected Children. Accessed January 9, 2018: <https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/guidelines/html/5/pediatric-oi-prevention-and-treatment-guidelines/418/toxoplasmosis>

Program	Prior Authorization/Medical Necessity – Daraprim [®] (pyrimethamine)
Change Control	
10/2015	New Program
10/2016	Annual review. Updates to references.
3/2018	Annual review. Updates to references, added criteria for PCP prophylaxis and clarified existing criteria.