

UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy
Clinical Pharmacy Programs

Program Number	2025 P 2035-13
Program	Prior Authorization/Medical Necessity – Topical Antifungals
Medication	Jublia® (efinaconazole) and tavaborole
P&T Approval Date	11/2014, 4/2015, 4/2016, 4/2017, 4/2018, 4/2019, 4/2020, 4/2021, 4/2022, 10/2023, 10/2024, 10/2025
Effective Date	12/1/2025

1. Background:

Jublia (efinaconazole) and tavaborole are both indicated for the treatment of onychomycosis due to *Trichophyton rubrum* and *Trichophyton mentagrophytes*. Presence of these organisms may be determined using molecular diagnostic testing. Fungal cultures require a longer turnaround time to obtain diagnosis.

2. Coverage Criteria^a:

A. **Jublia or tavaborole** will be approved based on **all** of the following criteria:

1. Submission of medical records (laboratory and clinical documentation) confirming diagnosis of onychomycosis of the toenail with of one of the following infections (if request is for a subsequent course of therapy a new test must be performed):

- a. *Trichophyton rubrum*
- b. *Trichophyton mentagrophytes*

-AND-

2. Treatment is requested due to medical condition and not for cosmetic purposes (e.g., patients with history of cellulitis of the lower extremity who have ipsilateral toenail onychomycosis, patients with diabetes who have additional risk factors for cellulitis, patients who experience pain/discomfort associated with the infected nail)

-AND-

3. History of failure after a minimum of 12 weeks of treatment^b, contraindication, or intolerance to **two** of the following antifungal agents (please document date of trial):

- a. itraconazole (generic Sporanox)
- b. oral terbinafine (generic Lamisil)
- c. ciclopirox (generic Penlac)

Authorization will be issued for 48 weeks.

- ^a. State mandates may apply. Any federal regulatory requirements and the member specific benefit plan coverage may also impact coverage criteria. Other policies and utilization management programs may apply.
- ^b For Connecticut, Kentucky and Mississippi business, only a 30 day trial will be required.

3. Additional Clinical Rules:

- Notwithstanding Coverage Criteria, UnitedHealthcare may approve initial and re-authorization based solely on previous claim/medication history, diagnosis codes (ICD-10) and/or claim logic. Use of automated approval and re-approval processes varies by program and/or therapeutic class.
- Supply limits may be in place.

4. References:

1. Jublia [Package Insert]. Bridgewater, NJ: Bausch Health Companies Inc.; July 2025.
2. Tavaborole [Package Insert]. Bedminster, NJ: Alembic Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; December 2023.
3. Ameen, M., Lear, J.T., Madan, V., Mohd Mustapa, M.F. and Richardson, M. (2014), British Association of Dermatologists' guidelines for the management of onychomycosis 2014. Br J Dermatol, 171: 937-958. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bjd.133584>. Goldstein AO. Onychomycosis: Management. UpToDate. August 2025. Accessed September 9, 2025.

Program	Prior Authorization/Medical Necessity – Topical Antifungals
Change Control	
Date	Change
11/2014	New program
4/2015	Revised first line drugs to trial of 2 of 3 with addition of ciclopirox.
4/2016	Removed specified testing requirements. Added requirement for diagnosis of Trichophyton rubrum or Trichophyton mentagrophytes. Added minimum treatment durations to step 1 agents.
7/2016	Added Indiana and West Virginia coverage information.
4/2017	Updated references. State mandate reference language updated.
4/2018	Annual review. Updated references.
4/2019	Annual review. Revised documentation requirements. Updated references.
4/2020	Annual review. Updated references.
4/2021	Annual review. Administrative change for reformatting and clarity. Updated references.
4/2022	Annual review. Corrected spelling of ciclopirox. State mandate reference language updated. Updated references.
10/2023	Annual review. Noted brand Kerydin is typically excluded. Updated references.
10/2024	Removed references to brand Kerydin as it is no longer on the market. Updated CT/KY/MS state mandate footnote. Updated references.

10/2025	Annual review. Updated references.
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