BlueCross BlueShield
Federal Employee Program
Federal Employee Program®
1310 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
202.942.1000
Fax 202.942.1125

5.60.026

Section:	Prescription Drugs	**Effective Date:**	January 1, 2024
Subsection:	Central Nervous System Drugs	**Original Policy Date:**	March 11, 2016
Subject:	Zyprexa Relprevv	**Page:**	1 of 5

Last Review Date: December 8, 2023

Zyprexa Relprevv

Description

Zyprexa Relprevv (olanzapine)

Background
Zyprexa Relprevv is a long-acting atypical antipsychotic used in the treatment of schizophrenia. The exact mechanism by which this drug works is unknown. However, it has been proposed that this drug's efficacy in schizophrenia is mediated through a combination of dopamine and serotonin type 2 (5HT2) blockade. Zyprexa Relprevv should be administered by a healthcare professional every 2 to 4 weeks by deep intramuscular gluteal injection, and length of treatment has not been established. Tolerability with oral olanzapine must be established prior to initiating treatment with Zyprexa Relprevv (1).

Regulatory Status
FDA-approved indication: Zyprexa Relprevv is a long-acting atypical antipsychotic for intramuscular injection indicated for the treatment of schizophrenia (1).

Zyprexa Relprevv has a boxed warning citing the risk of post-injection delirium/sedation syndrome. Zyprexa Relprevv must be administered in a registered healthcare facility with ready access to emergency response services. Patients must be observed at the healthcare facility by a healthcare professional for at least 3 hours post each injection. Because of this risk, Zyprexa Relprevv is available only through a restricted distribution program called Zyprexa Relprevv Patient Care Program and requires prescriber, healthcare facility, patient and pharmacy enrollment (1).

Zyprexa Relprevv also carries a boxed warning on the risk of increased mortality in elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis. Elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis treated with antipsychotic drugs are at an increased risk of death. Zyprexa Relprevv is not approved for the treatment of patients with dementia-related psychosis (1).

Zyprexa Relprevv should be discontinued in case of severe neutropenia (absolute neutrophil count <1000/mm^3), tardive dyskinesia if clinically appropriate, and neuroleptic malignant syndrome (1).

Zyprexa Relprevv should be used with caution in patients with a history of seizures or with conditions that potentially lower the seizure threshold (1).

Safety and effectiveness of Zyprexa Relprevv in pediatric patients have not been established (1).

Related policies
Abilify Mycite, Lybalvi

Policy

This policy statement applies to clinical review performed for pre-service (Prior Approval, Precertification, Advanced Benefit Determination, etc.) and/or post-service claims.

Zyprexa Relprevv may be considered **medically necessary** if the conditions indicated below are met.

Zyprexa Relprevv may be considered **investigational** for all other indications.

Prior-Approval Requirements

Age 18 years of age or older

Diagnosis

Patient must have the following:

Schizophrenia

AND ALL of the following:

1. Inadequate response, intolerance, or contraindication to other oral antipsychotics and other long-acting injectable antipsychotics
2. Established tolerability with oral Zyprexa (olanzapine) prior to initiation of treatment
3. The patient, prescriber and healthcare facility are enrolled in the Zyprexa Relprevv Patient Care Program
4. Dose will be administered by a healthcare professional at a registered healthcare facility who will continuously monitor the patient for at least 3 hours for signs and symptoms of post-injection delirium/sedation syndrome

AND NONE of the following:

1. Dementia related psychosis
2. Concurrent use with other long-acting injectable antipsychotics

Prior – Approval *Renewal* Requirements

Age 18 years of age or older

Diagnosis

Patient must have the following:

Schizophrenia

AND ALL of the following:

1. The patient, prescriber and healthcare facility are enrolled in the Zyprexa Relprevv Patient Care Program
2. Dose will be administered by a healthcare professional at a registered healthcare facility who will continuously monitor the patient for at least 3 hours for signs and symptoms of post-injection delirium/sedation syndrome

AND NONE of the following:

1. Dementia related psychosis
2. Concurrent use with other long-acting injectable antipsychotics

Policy Guidelines

Pre - PA Allowance
None

Prior - Approval Limits

Duration 12 months

Prior – Approval *Renewal* Limits
Same as above

Rationale

Summary
Zyprexa Relprevv is a long-acting atypical antipsychotic used in the treatment of schizophrenia. The exact mechanism by which this drug works is unknown. Zyprexa Relprevv should be administered by a healthcare professional every 2 to 4 weeks by deep intramuscular gluteal injection. Length of treatment has not been established. Tolerability with oral Zyprexa (olanzapine) must be established prior to initiating treatment with Zyprexa Relprevv (1).

Prior approval is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate, and cost-effective use of Zyprexa Relprevv while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

References
1. Zyprexa Relprevv [package insert]. Indianapolis, Indiana: Eli Lilly and Company; February 2021.

Policy History

Date	Action
March 2016	Addition to PA
	Annual review
September 2016	Annual editorial review
December 2017	Annual review and reference update
November 2018	Annual editorial review and reference update
December 2019	Annual review
December 2020	Annual review and reference update

December 2021	Annual review and reference update
March 2022	Annual review
September 2023	Annual review. Changed policy number to 5.60.026
December 2023	Annual review

Keywords

This policy was approved by the FEP® Pharmacy and Medical Policy Committee on December 8, 2023 and is effective on January 1, 2024.