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**5.30.026**

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<b>Section:</b>	Prescription Drugs	<b>Effective Date:</b>	April 1, 2026
<b>Subsection:</b>	Endocrine and Metabolic Drugs	<b>Original Policy Date:</b>	May 6, 2013
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**Last Review Date:** March 6, 2026

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## Signifor

### Description

#### Signifor (pasireotide)

#### Background

Signifor (pasireotide diaspertate) is an injection for the treatment of Cushing's disease patients who cannot be helped through surgery. Cushing's disease is caused by over-production of cortisol, a hormone made by the adrenal glands. Signifor exerts its pharmacological activity via binding to somatostatin receptors (SSTRs). Pasireotide binds and activates the SSTRs resulting in inhibition of ACTH (adrenocorticotrophic hormone) secretion, which leads to decreased cortisol secretion (1).

#### Regulatory Status

FDA-approved indication: Signifor is a somatostatin analog indicated for the treatment of adult patients with Cushing's disease for whom pituitary surgery is not an option or has not been curative (1).

Elevations in blood glucose levels have been seen in healthy volunteers and patients treated with Signifor. The glycemic status [fasting plasma glucose (FPG) or hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c)] should be assessed prior to starting treatment with Signifor. (1).

Signifor is associated with QT prolongation and liver test elevations. It is recommended to obtain a baseline electrocardiogram and liver tests and monitor during treatment. Hypokalemia and hypomagnesemia must be corrected prior to Signifor administration and should be monitored periodically during therapy (1).

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Bradycardia has been reported with the use of Signifor. Patients with cardiac disease and/or risk factors for bradycardia, such as history of clinically significant bradycardia, high-grade heart block, or concomitant use of drugs associated with bradycardia, should be carefully monitored (1).

As the pharmacological activity of Signifor mimics that of somatostatin, inhibition of pituitary hormones, other than ACTH, may occur. Monitoring of pituitary function (e.g., TSH/free T4) should occur prior to initiation of therapy with Signifor and should be repeated periodically during treatment. If hypocortisolism occurs, consider a temporary dose reduction or interruption of treatment with Signifor, as well as temporary, exogenous glucocorticoid replacement therapy (1).

Cholelithiasis has been frequently reported. Ultrasonic examination of the gallbladder before, and at 6- to 12-month intervals during Signifor therapy is recommended (1).

The safety and efficacy of Signifor in pediatric patients have not been studied (1).

### Related policies

Isturisa, Korlym, Signifor LAR

### Policy

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

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

Signifor may be considered **investigational** for all other indications.

## Prior-Approval Requirements

**Age** 18 years of age and older

### Diagnosis

Patient must have the following:

Cushing's disease

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**AND ALL** of the following:

- a. Pituitary surgery was not curative, or patient is not a candidate for surgery
- b. Baseline fasting plasma glucose and/or hemoglobin A1c levels have been or will be obtained, and prescriber agrees to monitor blood glucose levels during treatment
- c. Baseline liver function tests (LFTs) have been or will be obtained, and prescriber agrees to monitor LFTs during treatment
- d. Gallbladder ultrasound examination has been or will be obtained prior to initiation of therapy, and prescriber agrees to perform gallbladder ultrasounds at 6 month intervals during treatment

## **Prior – Approval *Renewal* Requirements**

**Age** 18 years of age and older

### **Diagnosis**

Patient must have the following:

Cushing's disease

**AND ALL** of the following:

- a. Prescriber agrees to monitor blood glucose levels during treatment
- b. Prescriber agrees to monitor LFTs during treatment
- c. Prescriber agrees to perform gallbladder ultrasounds at 6 month intervals during treatment

### [Policy Guidelines](#)

## **Pre - PA Allowance**

None

## **Prior - Approval Limits**

**Duration** 12 months

## **Prior – Approval *Renewal* Limits**

Same as above

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## Rationale

### Summary

Signifor is a somatostatin analog indicated for the treatment of adult patients with Cushing's disease for whom pituitary surgery is not an option or has not been curative. Elevations in blood glucose levels have been seen in healthy volunteers and patients treated with Signifor. Signifor is associated with QT prolongation, elevated liver tests, and cholelithiasis. The safety and efficacy of Signifor in pediatric patients have not been studied (1).

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

### References

1. Signifor [package insert]. Bridgewater, NJ: Recordati Rare Diseases, Inc.; July 2024.

## Policy History

Date	Action
June 2013	Addition to PA
September 2014	Annual editorial review and reference update Removal of EKG and pituitary testing
September 2015	Annual editorial review and reference update
June 2016	Annual editorial review and reference update Policy number change from 5.08.26 to 5.30.26
December 2017	Annual review
November 2018	Annual editorial review and reference update
December 2019	Annual review and reference update
September 2020	Annual review and reference update
December 2020	Annual review
September 2021	Annual review and reference update
June 2022	Annual review. Revised requirements for clarity
December 2022	Annual review. Changed policy number to 5.30.026
September 2023	Annual review
September 2024	Annual review and reference update
September 2025	Annual review
March 2026	Annual review

## Keywords

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**This policy was approved by the FEP® Pharmacy and Medical Policy Committee on March 6, 2026 and is effective on April 1, 2026.**