Clinical Policy: Parathyroid Hormone (Natpara)

Reference Number: ERX.SPA.331
Effective Date: 09.01.19
Last Review Date: 02.22
Line of Business: Commercial, Medicaid

Revision Log

See Important Reminder at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description
Parathyroid hormone (Natpara®) is a parathyroid hormone.

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Natpara is indicated as an adjunct to calcium and vitamin D to control hypocalcemia in patients with hypoparathyroidism.

Limitation(s) of use:
- Because of the potential risk of osteosarcoma, Natpara is recommended only for patients who cannot be well-controlled on calcium supplements and active forms of vitamin D alone.
- Natpara was not studied in patients with hypoparathyroidism caused by calcium-sensing receptor mutations.
- Natpara was not studied in patients with acute post-surgical hypoparathyroidism.

Policy/Criteria
Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.

Health plan approved formularies should be reviewed for all coverage determinations. Requirements to use preferred alternative agents apply only when such requirements align with the health plan approved formulary.

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Envolve Pharmacy Solutions™ that Natpara is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Hypocalcemia Secondary to Hypoparathyroidism (must meet all)**:**
1. Diagnosis of hypocalcemia secondary to hypoparathyroidism;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an endocrinologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Natpara is prescribed as an adjunct to calcium supplements and active forms of vitamin D, unless contraindicated;
5. Recent (dated within the last 30 days) serum calcium level is > 7.5 mg/dL;
6. Recent (dated within the last 30 days) lab result shows sufficient 25-hydroxyvitamin D stores [≥ 50 nmol/L (≥ 20 ng/mL)];
7. Failure of a 12-week trial of calcium supplements and active forms of vitamin D (e.g., calcitriol) at up to maximally indicated doses, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse events are experienced;
   **Prescriber must indicate that the hypocalcemia is not well controlled with calcium supplements and active forms of vitamin D (see examples in Appendix B below).*
8. Dose does not exceed 100 mcg per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications
1. Refer to ERX.PA.01 if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized).

II. Continued Therapy

A. Hypocalcemia Secondary to Hypoparathyroidism (must meet all)**:**

1. Currently receiving medication via a health plan affiliated with Envolve Pharmacy Solutions or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by one of the following (a or b):
   a. Recent (dated within the last 90 days) serum calcium level is within 8-9 mg/dL;
   b. Recent serum calcium level is > 9 mg/dL, and Natpara dose is being decreased;
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 100 mcg per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2)**:**

1. Currently receiving medication via a health plan affiliated with Envolve Pharmacy Solutions and documentation supports positive response to therapy.
   Approval duration: Duration of request or 6 months (whichever is less); or
2. Refer to ERX.PA.01 if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized).

III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:

A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off-label use policy – ERX.PA.01 or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key
FDA: Food and Drug Administration

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives
This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
calcitriol (Rocaltrol®)	0.25 mcg PO QD initially; dose may be increased at 2- to 4-wk intervals	2 mcg/day
calcium carbonate (Caltrate®, OsCal®, Tums®)	1-3 g PO QD in divided doses	3 g/day
calcium citrate (Cal-Citrate®, Cal-C-Caps®)	1-3 g PO QD in divided doses	3 g/day

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name® (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name®) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

- Contraindication(s): hypersensitivity to any component of the product
- Boxed warning(s): potential risk of osteosarcoma

Appendix D: General Information

- As stated in the prescribing information, the prescriber should confirm 25-hydroxyvitamin D stores are sufficient and serum calcium is above 7.5 mg/dL before starting Natpara.
- The goal of Natpara treatment is to achieve serum calcium within the lower half of the normal range (8 to 9 mg/dL) and to reduce the required doses of calcium and vitamin D supplementation.
- Examples of a “failure” of calcium and vitamin D supplementation can include: large swings in calcium levels, calcium phosphate product cannot be maintained within an acceptable range, high risk of renal complications due to hypercalciuria or calcium containing stones, evidence of renal complications such as nephrolithiasis or having a condition causing poor calcium and vitamin D absorption.

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Hypocalcemia secondary to hypoparathyroidism	50 mcg SC QD; increase in increments of 25 mcg every 4 weeks	100 mcg/day

VI. Product Availability

Multiple-dose, dual-chamber glass cartridges: 25 mcg/dose, 50 mcg/dose, 75 mcg/dose, 100 mcg/dose

VII. References

1. Natpara Prescribing Information. Lexington, MA: Shire-NPS Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; July 2020. Available at: https://www.natpara.com. Accessed October 29, 2021.
2. DRUGDEX® System [Internet database]. Greenwood Village, Colo: Thomson Healthcare. Updated periodically. Accessed October 29, 2021.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy created	09.01.19	08.19
1Q 2020 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	09.17.19	02.20
1Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	10.27.20	02.21
1Q 2022 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	10.29.21	02.22

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information.

This Clinical Policy is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine, nor does it constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members.