VENTURA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE PLAN

UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT MEDICAL POLICY

POLICY: Botulinum Toxins – Myobloc Utilization Management Medical Policy
- Myobloc® (rimabotulinumtoxinB injection – Solstice Neurosciences)

REVIEW DATE: 09/17/2025

OVERVIEW

Myobloc (rimabotulinumtoxinB), an acetylcholine release inhibitor and neuromuscular-blocking agent, is indicated for the following uses:[1]

- **Cervical dystonia,** to reduce the severity of abnormal head position and neck pain associated with cervical dystonia in adults.
- **Sialorrhea, chronic** in adults.

Other Uses with Supportive Evidence

Spasticity, Upper Limb(s): In the 2016 American Academy of Neurology guidelines (reaffirmed 2022), Myobloc is supported for use in adult upper limb spasticity (Level B; probably effective).[2] Of note, evidence is insufficient for Myobloc in the setting of lower limb spasticity (Level U). Botulinum toxin type B was shown to be effective in reducing spasticity in a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study (n = 24) in hemiparetic patients with disabling elbow flexor overactivity after stroke or traumatic brain injury.[3] In one small, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study in patients with upper-limb post-stroke spasticity (n = 15), Myobloc reduced spasticity at 2 weeks but was not statistically significant at other follow-up visits.[4]

Dosing Information

Toxin distribution varies between the commercially available botulinum toxin products.[1] Labeling for the botulinum toxin products states there is a lack of interchangeability between the products for various reasons, including differences in the units of biological activity.

Definitive dosing has not been established for off-label uses of botulinum toxins, including Myobloc. Recommendations for maximum dosing and frequency for Myobloc are based on a suggested relative conversion of 50:1 between Myobloc and Botox units.[5] For **Spasticity, Upper Limb**, the Botox prescribing information states that in a 3-month interval, an adult should not exceed a total dose of 400 units.[6]

POLICY STATEMENT

Prior Authorization is recommended for medical benefit coverage of Myobloc. Approval is recommended for those who meet the **Criteria** and **Dosing** for the listed indications. Extended approvals are allowed if the patient continues to meet the Criteria and Dosing. Requests for doses outside the established dosing documented in this policy will be considered on a case-by-case basis by a clinician (i.e., Medical Director or Pharmacist). All approvals are provided for the duration noted below. In cases where the dosing interval is provided in months, 1 month is equal to 30 days.

Medical benefit coverage is not recommended for cosmetic use.

Automation: None.

RECOMMENDED AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

Coverage of Myobloc is recommended in those who meet one of the following criteria:

FDA-Approved Indications

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1. Cervical Dystonia. Approve for 1 year if the patient is ≥ 18 years of age.
Note: Cervical dystonia is also known as spasmodic torticollis.

Dosing. Approve up to a maximum dose of 5,000 units, administered not more frequently than once every 12 weeks.

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2. Sialorrhea, Chronic. Approve for 1 year if the patient is ≥ 18 years of age.

Dosing. Approve up to a maximum dose of 3,500 units (1,750 units per side), administered not more frequently than once every 12 weeks.

Other Uses with Supportive Evidence

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3. Spasticity, Upper Limb(s). Approve for 1 year if the patient is ≥ 18 years of age.

Dosing. Approve up to a maximum dose of 20,000 units, administered not more frequently than once every 3 months.

CONDITIONS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Coverage of Myobloc is not recommended in the following situations:

1. Cosmetic Use. Cosmetic use is not recommended for coverage as this indication is excluded from coverage in a typical medical benefit.
Note: Examples of cosmetic uses include facial rhytides, frown lines, glabellar wrinkling, horizontal neck rhytides, mid and lower face and neck rejuvenation, platysmal bands, or rejuvenation of the periorbital region.

2. Coverage is not recommended for circumstances not listed in the Recommended Authorization Criteria. Criteria will be updated as new published data are available.

REFERENCES

1. Myobloc® injection [prescribing information]. San Francisco, CA: Solstice Neurosciences; August 2025.
2. Simpson DM, Hallett M, Ashman EJ, et al. Practice guideline update summary: botulinum neurotoxin for the treatment of blepharospasm, cervical dystonia, adult spasticity, and headache. Report of the Guideline Development Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2016;86:1818-1826.
3. Gracies JM, Bayle N, Goldberg S, et al. Botulinum toxin type B in the spastic arm: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, preliminary study. *Arch Phys Med Rehabil.* 2014;95:1303-1311.
4. Brashear A, McAfee AL, Kuhn ER, et al. Botulinum toxin type B in upper-limb poststroke spasticity: a double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Arch Phys Med Rehabil*. 2004;85(5):705-709.
5. Walker TJ, Dayan SH. Comparison and overview of currently available neurotoxins. *Clin Aesthet Dermatol*. 2014;7(21):31-39.
6. Botox® injection [prescribing information]. Madison, NJ: Allergan; November 2023.

HISTORY

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Review Date

Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	01/24/2024
Early Annual Revision	**Cervical Dystonia**: The following Note was added: Cervical dystonia is also known as spasmodic torticollis.	09/25/2024
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	09/17/2025