VENTURA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE PLAN

Prior Authorization DRUG Guidelines

Alferon N (interferon alfa-n3)

Effective Date: 10/22/13

Date Developed: 9/3/13 by Albert Reeves MD

Last Approval Date: 1/26/16, 1/24/17, 1/23/18, 1/22/19

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Interferons (including **Alferon**) interact with cells through high-affinity cell surface receptors. Following activation, multiple effects occur. Cellular growth is inhibited, oncogene expression is suppressed, cell surface antigen expression is altered, phagocytic activity of macrophages is increased and cytotoxicity of lymphocytes for target cells is augmented

Pre-Authorization Criteria: Intralesional treatment of refractory or recurring external condylomata acuminata (venereal or genital warts) in patients 18 years of age or older.

Dosing: Condylomata acuminata: Intralesional: 250,000 units (0.05 mL) in each wart twice weekly for a maximum of 8 weeks; therapy should not be repeated for at least 3 months after the initial 8- week course of therapy; maximum dose per treatment session: 2.5 million units (0.5 mL).

How Supplied: 1 mL vial 5,000,000 units/mL

Precautions: flu-like symptoms (30%); hypersensitivity reaction; leukopenia

Note: **Due to differences in manufacturing, strength, and type of interferon, do not change from one brand of interferon to another; a change in dosage may be required.**

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References

1. Vial T and Descotes J, "Clinical Toxicity of the Interferons," *Drug Saf*, 1994, 10(2):115-50.

2. Alferon N (interferon alfa-n3) [prescribing information]. Philadelphia, PA: Hemispherx Biopharma; August 2012.

3. Andreone P, Cursaro C, Gramenzi A, Sbolli G, Fiorino S, Di Giammarino L, Miniero R, et al. IFN alfa-n3 vs IFN alfa-n3 plus ribavirin in chronic hepatitis C (CHC) resistant to other IFN alfa treatments:results of a randomized multicenter trial [Abstract]. HEPATOLOGY 1997; 26: 216A.

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