



## **Pramlintide (Symlin®)**

### **Prior Authorization Criteria for the TRICARE Pharmacy Program**

Pramlintide (Symlin) is indicated for:

- Type 1 diabetes, as an adjunct treatment in patients who use mealtime insulin therapy and who have failed to achieve desired glucose control despite optimal insulin therapy.
- Type 2 diabetes, as an adjunct treatment in patients who use mealtime insulin therapy and have failed to achieve desired glucose control despite optimal insulin therapy, with or without a concurrent sulfonylurea agent and/or metformin.

Pramlintide is not intended for all patients with diabetes. Pramlintide should only be used by patients who have not reached their blood glucose goals despite managing their insulin therapy, physical activity, and diet well, monitoring blood glucose as directed, and following-up with their providers on a regular basis. Patients using pramlintide must understand how to adjust pramlintide and insulin doses and be able to recognize hypoglycemia.

Pramlintide is used with insulin to improve blood sugar control after meals. There is an increased risk of insulin-induced severe hypoglycemia with the combination of insulin and pramlintide, particularly in patients with type 1 diabetes and usually within 3 hours following a pramlintide injection. Doses of insulin must be adjusted when pramlintide therapy is started, changed, or stopped. Pramlintide is not indicated for use in pediatric patients.

Pramlintide is given by subcutaneous injection immediately prior to each major meal ( $\geq 250$  kcal or containing  $\geq 30$  g of carbohydrate). In order to administer pramlintide using an insulin syringe, patients must use the dose conversion chart in the package insert. The dose is adjusted based on clinical response and the occurrence of adverse effects. Pramlintide should not be mixed in the same syringe with any type of insulin.

The following criteria were established by the DoD Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee for Pramlintide (Symlin) obtained through the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy or from a TRICARE retail network pharmacy. The prior authorization form for Pramlintide (Symlin) is available on the [TRICARE Pharmacy Prior Authorization page](#). This prior authorization does not have an expiration date.

Prior Authorization forms are available on the TRICARE Pharmacy website at [www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/medical-nonformulary.cfm](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/medical-nonformulary.cfm).

### **Prior Authorization Criteria for Pramlintide (Symlin)**

Coverage is provided for the use of pramlintide as an adjunct treatment in type 1 and type 2 diabetic patients 18 or older who use mealtime insulin therapy and who meet all of the following criteria:

- are currently on mealtime insulin
- have an HbA1c  $\leq 9\%$
- are monitoring blood glucose levels regularly and reliably (3 or more times per day) and are capable of monitoring blood glucose levels pre- and post-meals and at bedtime?
- have failed to achieve adequate control of blood glucose levels despite individualized management of their insulin therapy
- are receiving ongoing care under the guidance of a health care provider skilled in use of insulin and supported by the services of a diabetes educator

Coverage is not provided for patients who:

- have poor adherence to their current insulin regimen or blood glucose monitoring
- have a HbA1c  $>9\%$
- have experienced recurrent severe hypoglycemia requiring assistance within the past 6 months
- presence of hypoglycemia unawareness
- have a confirmed diagnosis of gastroparesis or require the use of drugs to stimulate gastrointestinal motility

*Criteria approved through the Uniform Formulary decision-making process  
(November 2010).*

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