Avonex (interferon beta-1a) is a preferred product and will only be considered for coverage under the pharmacy benefit when the following criteria are met:

Members must be clinically diagnosed with one of the following disease states and meet their individual criteria as stated.

### RELAPSING-REMITTING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS, SECONDARY PROGRESSIVE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

For initial authorization:
1. Medication must be prescribed by, or in consultation with, or under the guidance of a neurologist; AND
2. Chart notes have been provided confirming diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis.
3. Dosage allowed: 30 mcg once weekly.

*If member meets all the requirements listed above, the medication will be approved for 12 months.*

For reauthorization:
1. Member has documented biological response to treatment.

*If member meets all the reauthorization requirements above, the medication will be approved for an additional 12 months.*

CareSource considers Avonex (interferon beta-1a) not medically necessary for the treatment of the following disease states based on a lack of robust clinical controlled trials showing superior efficacy compared to currently available treatments:

- Clinically Isolated Syndrome (CIS) in Multiple Sclerosis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTION/DESCRIPTION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/13/2017</td>
<td>New policy for Avonex created. Not covered diagnosis added.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/06/2017</td>
<td>Confirmation of diagnosis based on McDonald criteria is no longer required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References:


Effective date: 12/20/2017
Revised date: 12/06/2017