Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) is a non-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.

**OPIOID DEPENDENCE**

For **initial** authorization:
1. All of the following:
   a) The individual has failed an adequate trial of the preferred generic buprenorphine/naloxone agent within the previous 120 days *(Note: Adequate trial is defined as at least 28 days of treatment)*; AND
   b) One of the following:
      i) The patient experienced therapeutic failure with the preferred generic buprenorphine/naloxone agent *(Note: Brand buprenorphine agents will not be approved for patients who report lesser efficacy as compared to the preferred generic buprenorphine agent unless it would be clinically inappropriate to address efficacy with dose adjustment.)*; OR
      ii) Generics caused adverse outcome; AND
   c) The prescriber has provided a copy and confirmation of a MedWatch form submission to the FDA documenting the therapeutic failure or adverse outcome experienced by the patient *(Note: The MedWatch form is available at [https://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/UCM163919.pdf](https://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Forms/UCM163919.pdf))*

OR

2. Both of the following:
   a) The individual has a hypersensitivity reaction to an inactive ingredient in the preferred generic buprenorphine agent(s); AND
   b) The hypersensitivity reaction(s) is clearly documented in the patient's medical record.

3. **Dosage allowed:** The maintenance dose of Bunavail buccal film is generally in the range of 2.1/0.3 mg buprenorphine/naloxone to 12.6/2.1 mg buprenorphine/naloxone per day. Dosages higher than this have not been demonstrated to provide any clinical advantage.
Additional Notes:

- GI upset or irritation is not generally considered an allergy or failed treatment. Patients should be referred to their physician or pharmacist for advice on dose adjustment, and/or other options to reduce GI upset/irritation.
- Common documented side effects attributed to the drug (i.e. headache, nausea, blurred vision, fatigue, muscle aches) are not considered an allergy and would be expected to occur at the same level in both the generic and brand agent.
- Drug hypersensitivity symptoms may include skin rash, hives, itching, fever, swelling, shortness of breath, wheezing, runny nose, itchy and/or watery eyes, and in severe cases, anaphylaxis.

If member meets all the requirements listed above, the medication will be approved for lifetime.

CareSource considers Bunavail (buprenorphine and naloxone) not medically necessary for the treatment of the diseases that are not listed in this document.

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTION/DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tr>
<td>06/21/2018</td>
<td>Generic buprenorphine-naloxone products prior authorization suspended and brand name formulations can be approved when criteria listed above are met.</td>
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References:


Effective date: 08/31/2018
Revised date: 06/21/2018