Synvisc (sodium hyaluronate) is a non-preferred product and will only be considered for coverage under the medical 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.

### OSTEOARTHRITIS OF THE KNEE

**For Initial authorization:**
1. Member must be 40 years old or older; AND
2. Member must have a diagnosis of osteoarthritis confirmed by radiological evidence (e.g. Kellgren-Lawrence Scale score of grade 2 or greater); AND
3. Medication must be prescribed by an orthopedic surgeon, interventional pain physicians, rheumatologists, physiatrists (PM&R) and all sports medicine subspecialties; AND
4. Member tried and failed an intra-articular corticosteroid injection(s) in which efficacy was < 4 weeks duration; AND
5. Documentation that member tried and failed ALL of the following:
   a) Weight loss attempts or attempts at lifestyle modifications to promote weight loss (only for members with BMI ≥ 30); AND
   b) Sufficient trial (e.g. 2 to 3 months) of non-pharmacologic therapies (bracing/orthotics, physical/occupational therapy); AND
   c) At least 3 simple analgesic therapies (acetaminophen, NSAIDs, oral or topical salicylates); AND
6. Member is not using medication for hip or shoulder related conditions, AND
7. Member is not allergic to avian proteins, feathers, and egg products; AND
8. Member has tried and failed to respond to treatment with Supartz FX or Durolane or Gelsyn-3 (documented in chart notes and confirmed by claims history).

9. **Dosage allowed:** Inject 16 mg (2 mL) once weekly for 3 weeks (total of 3 injections).

**If member meets all the requirements listed above, the medication will be approved for 6 months.**

For reauthorization:
1. Member must have documented significant pain relief that was achieved with the initial course of treatment; AND
2. Initial course of treatment has been completed for 6 months or longer; AND
3. Member meets all of the criteria for the initial approval.
If member meets all the reauthorization requirements above, the medication will be approved for an additional 6 months.

CareSource considers Synvisc (sodium hyaluronate) 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:

- Refractory interstitial cystitis
- Arthropathy – Disorder of shoulder
- Intravitreal tamponade
- Keratoconjunctivitis sicca
- Subacromial impingement, Syndrome of the shoulder

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTION/DESCRIPTION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05/23/2017</td>
<td>New policy for Synvisc created. Minimum age and BMI requirements changed. Limits of additional courses of treatment changed. Trial of Supartz FX or Gel-One added.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/04/2017</td>
<td>Trial of Gelsyn-3 added as additional option to the other preferred products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/15/2018</td>
<td>Trial of another preferred product Durolane was added. Non-preferred product Gel-One was removed from trial requirements.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

References:


Effective date: 07/01/2018
Revised date: 05/15/2018