



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association

PHARMACY COVERAGE GUIDELINES
SECTION: DRUGS

ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 3/15/2018
LAST REVIEW DATE: 5/20/2021
LAST CRITERIA REVISION DATE: 5/20/2021
ARCHIVE DATE:

ADZENYS ER™ (amphetamine) extended-release oral suspension
ADZENYS XR-ODT® (amphetamine) extended-release orally disintegrating tablet
DYANAVEL® XR (amphetamine) extended-release oral suspension

Coverage for services, procedures, medical devices and drugs are dependent upon benefit eligibility as outlined in the member's specific benefit plan. This Pharmacy Coverage Guideline must be read in its entirety to determine coverage eligibility, if any.

This Pharmacy Coverage Guideline provides information related to coverage determinations only and does not imply that a service or treatment is clinically appropriate or inappropriate. The provider and the member are responsible for all decisions regarding the appropriateness of care. Providers should provide BCBSAZ complete medical rationale when requesting any exceptions to these guidelines.

The section identified as "Description" defines or describes a service, procedure, medical device or drug and is in no way intended as a statement of medical necessity and/or coverage.

The section identified as "Criteria" defines criteria to determine whether a service, procedure, medical device or drug is considered medically necessary or experimental or investigational.

State or federal mandates, e.g., FEP program, may dictate that any drug, device or biological product approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may not be considered experimental or investigational and thus the drug, device or biological product may be assessed only on the basis of medical necessity.

Pharmacy Coverage Guidelines are subject to change as new information becomes available.

For purposes of this Pharmacy Coverage Guideline, the terms "experimental" and "investigational" are considered to be interchangeable.

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This Pharmacy Coverage Guideline does not apply to FEP or other states' Blues Plans.

Information about medications that require precertification is available at www.azblue.com/pharmacy.

Some large (100+) benefit plan groups may customize certain benefits, including adding or deleting precertification requirements.

All applicable benefit plan provisions apply, e.g., waiting periods, limitations, exclusions, waivers and benefit maximums.

Precertification for medication(s) or product(s) indicated in this guideline requires completion of the [request form](#) in its entirety with the chart notes as documentation. **All requested data must be provided.** Once completed the form must be signed by the prescribing provider and faxed back to BCBSAZ Pharmacy Management at (602) 864-3126 or emailed to Pharmacyprecert@azblue.com. **Incomplete forms or forms without the chart notes will be returned.**

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Criteria:

- **Criteria for initial therapy:** Adzenys ER (amphetamine, extended release suspension), Adzenys XR-ODT (amphetamine, extended release oral disintegrating tablet), and Dyanavel XR (amphetamine, extended release suspension) is considered **medically necessary** and will be approved when **ALL** of the following criteria are met:
1. Prescriber is a physician specializing in the patient's diagnosis or is in consultation with a Psychiatrist
 2. Individual is 6 years of age or older
 3. A confirmed diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
 4. Individual has failure, contraindication or intolerance to a trial of **BOTH** of the following:
 - a. A long acting methylphenidate product **OR** a long acting dexmethylphenidate product
 - b. Adderall XR **OR** a long acting dextroamphetamine product **OR** lisdexamfetamine
 5. There are **NO** contraindications.
 - a. Contraindications include:
 - i. Known hypersensitivity to amphetamine products or other ingredients
 - ii. Use of monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) or within 14 days of the last MAOI dose.
 6. There is no history of risky, harmful, non-medical or inappropriate use of these and other substances that might be unhealthy, hazardous or a problem (i.e.; multiple providers, multiple pharmacy or multiple controlled substances)
 7. There are no known structural cardiac abnormalities, cardiomyopathy, serious heart arrhythmia, coronary artery disease, or other serious heart problems
 8. No history of uncontrolled mood disorder

Initial approval duration: 30 tablets per month for 12 months

- **Criteria for continuation of coverage (renewal request):** Adzenys ER (amphetamine, extended release suspension), Adzenys XR-ODT (amphetamine, extended release oral disintegrating tablet), and Dyanavel XR (amphetamine, extended release suspension) is considered **medically necessary** and will be approved when **ALL** of the following criteria are met:
1. Individual continues to be seen by a physician specializing in the patient's diagnosis or is in consultation with a Psychiatrist
 2. Individual's condition responded while on therapy
 - a. Response is defined as **TWO** of the following:

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- i. Achieved and maintains at least a 50% reduction from baseline in core symptoms of hyperactivity, impulsivity, and attention
 - ii. Achieved and maintains at least a 50% improvement from baseline in SKAMP rating scale
 - iii. Improved attention and social skills
 - iv. No aggressive behaviors
3. Individual has been adherent with the medication
4. Individual has not developed any contraindications or other significant level 4 adverse drug effects that may exclude continued use
 - a. Contraindications as listed in the criteria for initial therapy section
 - b. Significant adverse effect such as:
 - i. Psychotic symptoms
 - ii. Mania
 - iii. Delusional thinking
 - iv. Aggressive behavior or hostility
 - v. Any cardiovascular events
 - vi. Hypertension
 - vii. Seizures
 - viii. Priapism
 - ix. Peripheral vasculopathy including digital ulceration, Raynaud phenomenon
 - x. Visual disturbance
 - xi. Tourette syndrome or tics
5. There are no significant interacting drugs

Renewal duration: 30 tablets per month for 12 months

Description:

Adzenys ER (amphetamine, extended release suspension), Adzenys XR-ODT (amphetamine, extended release oral disintegrating tablet), and Dyanavel XR (amphetamine, extended release suspension) are central nervous system stimulants indicated for the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in individuals 6 years of age or older. Amphetamines are non-catecholamine sympathomimetic amines with stimulant activity. The mode of therapeutic action in ADHD is not known. Amphetamines are thought to block the reuptake of norepinephrine and dopamine into the presynaptic neuron and increase the release of these monoamines into the extraneuronal space.

ADHD is one of the most commonly diagnosed neurobehavioral disorders of childhood. It is more frequently diagnosed in males than in females. ADHD is characterized by inattention, hyperactivity that exceeds the usual developmental pattern, and impulsivity that impair activities of daily living. Comorbidities are also common and

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may include mood disorder, anxiety disorder, substance abuse, tics, learning difficulties, and disruptive behaviors such as oppositional defiance or conduct disorder. Symptoms can persist into adolescence and into adulthood.

The published literature suggests that central nervous system (CNS) stimulant medications are considered first line therapy in uncomplicated ADHD. Methylphenidate or mixed Amphetamine salts, or Dextroamphetamine are often recommended as first line therapy. Evidence for the use of Methylphenidate is derived from well-designed efficacy and safety trials. Due to limited number of trial information the strength of evidence for the other stimulants is ranked as fair.

When one stimulant fails to manage the condition due to an inadequate response or intolerable adverse effects occur, it is suggested to change to another one of the first line stimulants within a different class. Approximately 50% of individuals not responding to one stimulant may respond to the other. It is further suggested that if two first line stimulants are ineffective, non-stimulant medications may be added or used as mono-therapy. Use of non-stimulant medications may also be beneficial in situations such as concerns about substance abuse or diversion, tic disorder, impulsivity, sleep problems, anxiety, psychosis, aggression, or cardiac abnormalities associated with use of stimulants. Non-stimulant medications may include Atomoxetine, Clonidine, or Guanfacine.

There are many agents available with brand and generic options for the treatment of ADHD. Several agents are available as both immediate acting and long acting formulations. Comparative trials of stimulant medications are lacking, but it is apparent that all stimulant medications have similar effects and adverse effects and given the extensive evidence of efficacy and safety, they still remain agent first choice. There are clinically meaningful differences in dosing, time to onset, route, duration of action, and cost among the various compounds. Sustained-release formulations of stimulants may show benefit over immediate release forms at specific times of day depending on the pharmacokinetics of the specific formulation used, but overall differences on safety and efficacy are not found.

For individuals with swallowing difficulties, many capsule forms of extended release stimulants can be opened and sprinkled onto food. Liquid formulations are also available and some products have a chewable dosage form that can be used.

Definitions:

ADHD medications – stimulants:

Methylphenidate-type products:		
Methylphenidate		
Aptensio XR	ER Cap 24 h	10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 mg
Concerta	ER Tab	18, 27, 36, 54 mg
Daytrana	Transdermal	10 mg/9 hr, 15 mg/9 hr, 20 mg/9 hr, 30 mg/ 9 hr
Metadate CD	ER Cap	10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 mg
Metadate ER	ER Tab	20 mg
Methylin	Tab chewable	2.5, 5, 10 mg
	Solution	5 mg / 5 mL, 10 mg / 5 mL
Methylphenidate	Tab	5, 10, 20 mg

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	Tab chewable	2.5, 5, 10 mg
	Solution	5 mg /5 mL, 10 mg / 5 mL
Methylphenidate ER	ER Tab	10, 18, 20, 27, 36, 54 mg
Methylphenidate ER	ER Tab 24 h	18, 27, 36, 54 mg
Methylphenidate ER (CD)	ER Cap	10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 mg
Methylphenidate ER (LA)	ER Cap 24 h	20, 30, 40 mg
Quillivant XR	ER Suspension	25 mg / 5 mL
Ritalin	Tab	5, 10, 20 mg
Ritalin LA	ER Cap 24 h	10, 20, 30, 40, 60 mg
Ritalin SR	ER Tab	20 mg
Dexmethylphenidate		
Dexmethylphenidate	Tab	2.5, 5, 10 mg
Dexmethylphenidate ER	ER Cap 24 h	5, 10, 15, 30, 40 mg
Focalin	Tab	2.5, 5, 10 mg
Focalin XR	ER Cap 24 h	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 mg
Listing does not imply formulary status or need for precertification or need step-therapy		

Amphetamine-type products:		
Amphetamine		
Adzenys XR-ODT	Tab ODT 24h	3.1, 6.3, 9.4, 12.5, 15.7, 18.8 mg
Dyanavel XR	Suspension	2.5 mg/mL
Evekeo	Tab	5, 10 mg
Mixed salts: Amphetamine (25%) / Dextroamphetamine (75%)		
Adderall	Tab	5, 7.5, 10, 12.5, 15, 20, 30 mg
Adderall XR	ER Cap 24 h	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 mg
Amphetamine / Dextroamphetamine	Tab	5, 7.5, 10, 12.5, 15, 20, 30 mg
	ER Cap 24 h	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 mg
Dextroamphetamine		
Dexedrine	ER Cap 24 h	5, 10, 15 mg
Dextroamphetamine	Tab	5, 10 mg
	Solution	5 mg / 5 mL
Dextroamphetamine ER	ER Cap 24 h	5, 10, 15 mg
ProCentra	Solution	5 mg / 5 mL
Zenzedi	Tab	2.5, 5, 7.5, 10, 15, 20, 30 mg
Lisdexamfetamine		
Vyvanse	Cap	10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70 mg
Methamphetamine		
Desoxyn	Tab	5 mg
Methamphetamine	Tab	5 mg
Listing does not imply formulary status or need for precertification or need step-therapy		

ADHD medications – non-stimulants:

Norepinephrine re-uptake inhibitor		
Atomoxetine (Strattera)	Cap	10, 18, 25, 40, 60, 80, 100 mg

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Clonidine – central alpha-2 agonist		
Catapres	Tab	0.1, 0.2, 0.3 mg
Clonidine	Tab	0.1, 0.2, 0.3 mg
Clonidine ER	ER Tab 12 h	0.1 mg
Kapvay (clonidine ER)	ER Tab 12 h	0.1, 0.2 mg
Guanfacine – central alpha-2a agonist		
Guanfacine	Tab	1, 2 mg
Guanfacine ER	ER Tab 24 h	1, 2, 3, 4 mg
Intuniv (guanfacine ER)	ER Tab 24 h	1, 2, 3, 4 mg
Tenex	Tab	1, 2 mg

Listing does not imply formulary status or need for precertification or need step-therapy

Swanson, Kotkin, Agler, M-Flynn, and Pelham (SKAMP) rating scale:

The SKAMP rating scale is a validated 13-item teacher-rated scale that assesses manifestations of ADHD in a classroom setting. The SKAMP rating scale consists of 13 items rated on a 7-point impairment scale (0 = normal to 6 = maximal impairment). The combined scores for the SKAMP are obtained by summing the values of all 13 items.

	Impairment Scale 0-7
1. Getting started on assignments for classroom periods	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
2. Sticking with tasks or activities for the allotted time	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
3. Attending to an activity or a discussion of the class	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
4. Stopping and making transition to the next period	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
5. Interacting with other children	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
6. Interacting with the teacher or aide	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
7. Remaining quiet according to classroom rules	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8. Staying seated according to classroom rules	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
9. Completing assigned work	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
10. Performing work accurately	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
11. Being careful and neat while writing or drawing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
12. Complying with the teacher's usual requests or directions	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
13. Following the rules established for the classroom	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Resources:

Adzenys ER (amphetamine) extended release suspension product information, revised by Neos Therapeutics, LP. 09-2017, at DailyMed <http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov> accessed January 25, 2021.

Adzenys XR-ODT (amphetamine) extended release oral disintegrating tablet product information, revised by Neos Therapeutics, LP. 02-2018, at DailyMed <http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov> accessed January 25, 2021.



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Brent D, Bukstein O, Solanto MV. Treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in adults. In: UpToDate, Stein MB, Friedman M (Ed), UpToDate, Waltham MA.: UpToDate Inc. <http://uptodate.com>. Accessed on January 25, 2021.
