

# PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

<b>DRUG CLASS</b>	<b>ANTI OBESITY AGENTS</b>
<b>BRAND NAME (generic)</b>	<b>benzphetamine products</b>
	<b>diethylpropion products</b>
	<b>phendimetrazine products</b>
	<b>phentermine products</b>

**Status: CVS Caremark Criteria**  
**Type: Initial Prior Authorization**

## POLICY

### FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS

#### Benzphetamine

Benzphetamine is indicated in the management of exogenous obesity as a short term (a few weeks) adjunct in a regimen of weight reduction based on caloric restriction in patients with an initial body mass index (BMI) of 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or higher who have not responded to appropriate weight reducing regimen (diet and/or exercise) alone. The limited usefulness of agents of this class should be weighed against possible risks inherent in their use. Benzphetamine is indicated for use as monotherapy only.

#### Diethylpropion

Diethylpropion is indicated in the management of exogenous obesity as a short-term adjunct (a few weeks) in a regimen of weight reduction based on caloric restriction in patients with an initial body mass index of 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or higher and who have not responded to an appropriate weight reducing regimen (diet and/or exercise) alone. The usefulness of agents of this class should be measured against possible risk factors inherent in their use. Diethylpropion is indicated for use as monotherapy only.

#### Phendimetrazine

Phendimetrazine tartrate extended-release capsules are indicated in the management of exogenous obesity as a short term adjunct (a few weeks) in a regimen of weight reduction based on caloric restriction in patients with an initial body mass index (BMI) of greater than or equal to 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or greater than or equal to 27 kg/m<sup>2</sup> in the presence of other risk factors (e.g., controlled hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia) who have not responded to appropriate weight reducing regimen (diet and/or exercise) alone. The limited usefulness of agents of this class should be weighed against possible risks inherent in their use. Phendimetrazine tartrate is indicated for use as monotherapy only.

Phendimetrazine tartrate is indicated in the management of exogenous obesity as a short term adjunct (a few weeks) in a regimen of weight reduction based on caloric restriction in patients with an initial body mass index (BMI) of 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or higher who have not responded to appropriate weight reducing regimen (diet and/or exercise) alone. The limited usefulness of agents of this class should be weighed against possible risks inherent in their use. Phendimetrazine tartrate is indicated for use as monotherapy only.

#### Phentermine

Phentermine is indicated as a short-term (a few weeks) adjunct in a regimen of weight reduction based on exercise, behavioral modification, and caloric restriction, in the management of exogenous obesity for patients with an initial body mass index greater than or equal to 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, or greater than or equal to 27 kg/m<sup>2</sup> in the presence of other risk factors (e.g., controlled hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia). The limited usefulness of agents of this class should be measured against possible risk factors inherent in their use.

## **COVERAGE CRITERIA**

The requested drug will be covered with prior authorization when the following criteria are met:

- The patient has not received 3 months of therapy with the requested drug within the past 365 days  
**AND**
- The requested drug will be used with a reduced calorie diet and increased physical activity in the management of exogenous obesity  
**AND**
- The patient has participated in a comprehensive weight management program that encourages behavioral modification, reduced calorie diet and increased physical activity with continuing follow-up for at least 6 months prior to using drug therapy  
**AND**
  - The patient has a body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30 kg per square meter  
**OR**
  - The patient has a body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 27 kg per square meter **AND** has at least one weight related comorbid condition (e.g., hypertension, type 2 diabetes mellitus or dyslipidemia)
- **AND**
- If the request is for phentermine it will not be used in a patient who is also using Fintepla (fenfluramine)

## **REFERENCES**

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4. Phendimetrazine [package insert]. Northvale, NJ: Elite Laboratories, Inc.; January 2019.
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6. Lexicomp Online, AHFS DI (Adult and Pediatric) Online. Hudson, Ohio: UpToDate, Inc.; 2021; Accessed June 28, 2021.
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9. Jensen MD, et al. 2013 AHA/ACC/TOS guideline for the management of overweight and obesity in adults: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines and The Obesity Society. *Circulation*. 2013; 129:S102–S138
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