Drug Name: Epogen and Procrit

Date: 09-2017
Revised: 8/2018

Drug Name:	**Epoetin alpha (Epogen® and Procrit®)**
Exclusion Criteria:	• Patient diagnosed with end-stage renal disease and currently on dialysis; or • Patients that have an anticipated outcome of cure; or • Patients with uncontrolled hypertension; or • Patients with pure red cell aplasia (PRCA) that develops after treatment with any erythropoietin drug; or • Diagnosis being treated is not FDA-approved or a recognized indication.
Required Medical Information:	• Patient is being treated for **chemotherapy-induced anemia;** o Patient has a hemoglobin level less than 10 g/dL; and o Patient has a minimum of two additional months of planned chemotherapy; or • Patient is being treated for **anemia related to chronic kidney failure**; and o Patient is not diagnosed with end-stage renal disease and currently on dialysis; and o Patient laboratory results (within 30 days of request) support all of the following: ▪ Transferrin saturation level above 20%, and ▪ Ferritin level greater than 100 ng/mL; and ▪ Hemoglobin less than 10 g/dL for initial or hemoglobin less than or equal to 11 g/dL for renewal; or • Patient is being treated for **anemia related to HIV therapy with zidovidine**; and o Patient is taking less than 4200 mg of zidovudine per week; and o Patient laboratory results (within 30 days of request) support all of the following: ▪ Endogenous serum erythropoietin level less than 500 mUnits/mL; and ▪ Hemoglobin level less than 12 g/dL; or • Patient is at **risk for requiring an allogenic blood transfusion due to elective surgery**; and o Patient laboratory results (within 30 days of request) support all of the following: ▪ Hemoglobin level between 10 and 13 g/dL.
Note(s):	Epogen is covered under the Medical Benefit as part of the ESRD bundle for members diagnosed with end-stage renal disease currently on dialysis. Epogen or any other Erythropoietin are not covered separately for these members.
Coverage Duration:	• **Initial**: 4 weeks • **Renewals**: 3 months