

Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form

Last Reviewed: Nov. 11

For Prior Authorization please fax to: (877)974-4411 toll free, or (616)942-8206

This form applies to: Commercial Plan Medicaid Plan Medicare Plan

Chantix (varenicline)

Urgent Non-urgent

Note: Prior Authorization is required when used for greater than 12 weeks per calendar year

Member Name:	Member #:
DOB:	Gender:
Provider Name:	Provider Phone:
Provider Office Address:	
Provider Office Contact Name:	Provider Fax:
Provider Signature:	Provider NPI:
Date:	Member's PCP:

Product:

- Chantix tablets 0.5 mg
 Chantix tablets 1 mg

Dose: _____ Start date: _____

Priority Health precertification requirements:

Authorization of Chantix greater than 12 weeks requires:

- Patient has successfully quit smoking after 12 consecutive weeks of Chantix therapy

Patient has received Chantix therapy for _____ weeks

Patient has successfully quit smoking:

Yes

No – Rationale for use: _____

Authorization and limitation:

- If the patient has successfully quit smoking after 12 consecutive weeks of Chantix, authorization for an additional 12 weeks of therapy will be reviewed.
- Maximum length of therapy is 12 weeks per calendar year without Prior Authorization and 24 weeks (an additional 12 weeks) with Prior Authorization.

*** All fields must be complete and legible for Prior Authorization Review***

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YOUR OFFICE WILL RECEIVE A RESPONSE VIA FAX

Chantix (varenicline)

Summary of the Evidence

- Published literature for smoking cessation with varenicline as initial therapy includes two clinical trials, designed identically, that compare varenicline with bupropion SR and placebo.
- At the end of 52 weeks of follow-up, the evidence showed mixed results. One study found Chantix to be statistically more effective than bupropion. The other study found no statistical difference.
- All patients enrolled in the studies were also given smoking cessation reading material and weekly 10 minute consultations.
- Additional published literature has shown that in those patients who successfully quit smoking with Chantix after 12 weeks of therapy, an additional 12 weeks of therapy statistically improves the chances of remaining abstinent from smoking vs. placebo.
- For every 100 patients treated with varenicline or bupropion, approximately 78 and 85 patients, respectively, will not be abstinent from smoking after one year.**
- The Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) committee reviewed Chantix at the September 2006 meeting. The recommendation was to require a 3 month consecutive therapeutic trial with bupropion SR. If the patient does not become abstinent of smoke while taking bupropion, varenicline will be approved.

Clinical Efficacy: Quit rates

	Chantix (% quit)	Bupropion (% quit)	Placebo (% quit)	P-value
Study 1: JAMA 2006;296:47-55 n=1025, drug given for 12 weeks				
12 week follow-up	44.0	29.5	17.7	Chantix vs. placebo p<0.001 Chantix vs. bupropion p<0.001 Bupropion vs. placebo p<0.001
24 week follow-up	29.5	20.7	10.5	Chantix vs. placebo p<0.001 Chantix vs. bupropion p=0.007
52 week follow-up	21.9	16.1	8.4	Chantix vs. placebo p<0.001 Chantix vs. bupropion p=0.057
<i>Conclusion: Chantix is statistically significantly more effective than placebo but not statistically significantly more effective than bupropion after one year of follow-up.</i>				
Study 2: JAMA 2006;296:56-63 n=1027, drug given for 12 weeks				
12 week follow-up	43.9	29.8	17.6	Chantix vs. placebo p<0.001 Chantix vs. bupropion p<0.001
24 week follow-up	29.7	20.2	13.2	Chantix vs. placebo p<0.001 Chantix vs. bupropion p=0.003
52 week follow-up	23.0	14.6	10.3	Chantix vs. placebo p<0.001 Chantix vs. bupropion p=0.004
<i>Conclusion: Chantix is statistically significantly more effective than placebo and bupropion after one year of follow-up.</i>				
Study 3: JAMA 2006;296:64-71 n=1236, drug given for 12 weeks to participants from an open-label varenicline trial who were smoke-free after 12 weeks				
24 week follow-up	70.5	n/a	49.6	p<0.001
52 week follow-up	43.6	n/a	36.9	p<0.001
<i>Conclusion: Chantix is statistically significantly more effective than placebo in maintaining smoking abstinence when used for an additional 12 weeks after smoking abstinence on initial 12 weeks of therapy.</i>				