

INTRAVITREAL INJECTIONS FOR RETINAL CONDITIONS X.153

OVERVIEW

The intent of the vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) inhibitor drug policy is to ensure appropriate selection of patients for therapy based on product labeling, clinical guidelines and clinical studies. VEGF, through its promotion of angiogenesis and vascular permeability is a central component of the pathologic process driving wet age related macular degeneration (AMD), as well as other choroidal and reintal vascular disorders. The VEGF inhibitors referenced within this policy are administered via intravitreal injection.

*Avastin (bevacizumab) is the best value VEGF inhibitor for the treatment of choroidal and retinal vascular disorders addressed within this policy, has the support of peer reviewed literature, and DOES NOT require preauthorization.
DATES

- Original Effective
04-01-2020
- Last Review
11-11-2020
- Next Review
11-13-2021

POLICY

EYLEA

I. Evlea (aflibercept) may be considered **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

A. Prescribed by an ophthalmologist,

AND

B. Diagnosis of neovascular (wet) age related macular degeneration (AMD),

OR

C. Diagnosis of macular edema due to retinal vein occlusion (RVO)

OR

D. Diagnosis of diabetic macular edema (DME)

OR

E. Diabetic retinopathy (DR) in patient with DME

AND

Treatment with bevacizumab has been ineffective, not tolerated or contraindicated

Initial Approval: 1 year

Dosing of Eylea

Neovascular (wet) age related macular degeneration: 2 mg administered via intravitreal injection every 4 weeks for the first 12 weeks, followed by 2 mg every 8 weeks.

Macular edema due to retinal occlusion: 2 mg monthly

Diabetic macular edema & diabetic retinopathy: 2 mg administered via intravitreal injection every 4 weeks for the first 5 injections, followed by 2 mg every 8 weeks. **Authorization will be reviewed annually to confirm maintenance or improvement of visual acuity (e.g., stabilization or gain of Snellen and/or ETDRS letters, stabilization or gain of ETDRS-DRSS score).