

Division of Workers' Compensation Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

April 19, 2023
12:30pm to 2:30pm



State of California
Gavin Newsom
Governor

Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions**
George Parisotto, Administrative Director, DWC
- **Approval of Minutes from the January 18, 2023 Meeting**
Dr. Raymond Meister, Executive Medical Director, DWC
- **COVID Update**
Dr. Raymond Meister, Executive Medical Director, DWC
- **Discussion:**
 - Artificial Tears – *Kevin Gorospe Pharm D, DWC Consultant*
 - Topical Analgesics – *Kevin Gorospe Pharm D, DWC Consultant*
 - Topical Lidocaine – *Kevin Gorospe Pharm D, DWC Consultant*
 - MTUS Listings – Categories – *Kevin Gorospe Pharm D, DWC Consultant*
- **Additional Public Comments**
- **Review of Committee Recommendations**
- **Adjourn**

Welcome and Introductions

George Parisotto

Administrative Director, DWC

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Raymond Meister

Executive Medical Director, DWC

COVID Update

Dr. Raymond Meister

Executive Medical Director, DWC

Artificial Tears Update and Utilization

Kevin Gorospe Pharm D
DWC Consultant



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Artificial Tears

- Continuation of discussion from last P&T meeting
- Committee requested a review of coverage by other organizations
 - New York State Workers Compensation Formulary
 - Washington State Workers Compensation Formulary
- ACOEM references use of artificial tear ointments, carboxymethylcellulose solutions, sodium chloride solutions for various conditions
 - Evidence Support – Yes, Insufficient Evidence
 - Evidence – studies referenced used only sodium chloride solutions
 - Artificial tear ointments equivalent to the reference brand RFRESH PM (white petrolatum/mineral oil) have been discontinued
 - Only two non-solution products, both hypromellose gels, show as current

New York State Formulary

- Reviewed at

<https://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/hcpp/DrugFormulary/overview.jsp>

- artificial Tear ophth
- carboxymethylcell/glycerin/polysorb 80
- carboxymethylcellulose
- glycerin (ophth lubricant)
- glycerin/fypromellose/PEG 400
- hypromellose
- methylcellulose
- polyethylene glycol 400
- polyethylene glycol/polyvinyl alcohol
- polysorbate 80
- polyvinyl alcohol
- polyvinyl alcohol/povidone
- white petrolatum/mineral oil

Washington State Formulary

- Reviewed at <https://lni.wa.gov/patient-care/treating-patients/drugs-and-prescriptions/>
- Allows every product in the Therapeutic Class Code (TCC) for Artificial Tears

STATUS	TCC	THERAPEUTIC CLASS DESCRIPTION	PREFERRED DRUGS
A (Allowed)	Q6T	ARTIFICIAL TEARS	ALL

Products for review

- Committee requested utilization and pricing focused on three ingredients
 - Carboxymethylcellulose
 - Polyvinyl alcohol
 - Polyvinyl alcohol and povidone
- Utilization for most recent 12 months available was reviewed (June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022)
- Sodium chloride ophthalmic utilization and pricing also retrieved for reference (product listed in MTUS)
- Cost per day calculated
 - Based on 16 drops/day (2 drops each eye 4 times per day) for solutions
 - 5-day supply for 3.5-gram tube of ointment

Artificial Tears Products by RxCUI

- Utilization limited to four product ingredients strength combinations
- 98 percent of claims for two products
- No ophthalmic ointments in utilization

RXCUI	ACTIVE INGREDIENT - STRENGTH	TOTAL CLAIMS	AVERAGE PRICE PER DAY
142004	POLYVINYL ALCOHOL 1.4%	325	\$0.15
598050	POLYVINYL ALCOHOL 0.5% - POVIDONE 0.6%	245	\$0.11
630977	POLYVINYL ALCOHOL 2.7% - POVIDONE 2%	6	\$2.30
359969	POLYVINYL ALCOHOL 1.4% - POVIDONE 0.6%	4	\$0.23

Hypromellose Ophthalmic Gels

- For a non-solution alternative, there is only one RxCUI that appears to be on the market

RXCUI	ACTIVE INGREDIENT - STRENGTH	AVERAGE PRICE PER DAY
310932	HYPROMELLOSE 0.3%	\$0.89

Sodium Chloride by RxCUI

- For comparison there were a small number of sodium chloride ophthalmic ointment and solution claims.

RXCUI	ACTIVE INGREDIENT, FORM, STRENGTH	TOTAL CLAIMS	AVERAGE PRICE PER DAY
1298435	SODIUM CHLORIDE OPHTHALMIC OINTMENT 5%	13	\$2.59
750121	SODIUM CHLORIDE OPHTHALMIC SOLUTION 2%	1	\$0.81
730780	SODIUM CHLORIDE OPHTHAMIC SOLUTION 5%	17	\$0.53

Committee Discussion

Public Comments

Topical Analgesics

J. Kevin Gorospe Pharm D
DWC Consultant

Topical Analgesics

- Continuation of discussion from last P&T meeting
- Committee requested utilization and pricing for the highest used products
 - All products listed in the irritant/counterirritant category were in the search
 - capsaicin and trolamine salicylate containing products excluded
- Utilization for most recent 12 months available was reviewed (June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022)
- Products rolled up under RxCUI (products not associated with an RxCUI were excluded)
 - Products ranked by Total Claims for the period
 - Cut-off for review at 12 or more claims
- Per day costs were also calculated for patch and other topical products
 - 4 gm per day for creams, gels and ointments
 - 6 ml per day for liquids and sprays

ACOEEM Recommendations

- Recommendations for camphor, menthol and methyl salicylate are the same
 - Yes, insufficient evidence for Kienbock Disease
 - No, insufficient evidence for Hip Osteoarthritis
 - No Recommendation for
 - Acute or Chronic Cervicothoracic Pain
 - Chronic Fibromyalgia – Tender Points
 - Acute or Chronic Low Back Pain
 - Acute or Chronic Shoulder Pain
- ACOEM indicates there are no quality studies available regarding use of these products

Topical Analgesics (irritant/counter-irritant) in Other State Formularies

- New York State formulary
 - capsaicin
 - methyl salicylate
- Washington State formulary
 - capsaicin (generics only)
 - capsaicin/menthol (generics only)
 - capsaicin/methyl salicylate/menthol (generics only)
 - menthol (generics only)
 - menthol/aloe (generics only)
 - methyl salicylate/menthol/camphor (generics only)
 - methyl salicylate/menthol (generics only)
 - trolamine salicylate (generics only)

Highest Used

- All products were one of four active ingredients alone or combination
 - menthol
 - menthol and camphor
 - methyl salicylate
 - methyl salicylate and menthol
 - methyl salicylate, menthol and camphor
- The menthol and camphor combination was not among the highest used.
 - camphor for some products was not listed as an active ingredient, but was in the product for scent
- Some National Drug Codes were excluded due to one or both of the following:
 - Discontinued by manufacturer (i.e. obsolete)
 - No pricing on file

Top Topical Analgesics by RxCUI

RxCUI	ACTIVE INGREDIENTS	STRENGTH	DOSAGE FORM	CLAIM COUNT	TOTAL PAID	AVERAGE PRICE PER DAY
311498	METHYL SALICYLATE - MENTHOL	15% - 10%	CREAM	1123	\$5,824.17	\$0.12
415974	MENTHOL	4.0%	GEL	845	\$9,197.55	\$2.22
1793147	METHYL SALICYLATE - MENTHOL - CAMPHOR	10% - 6% - 3.1%	PATCH	786	\$8,442.86	\$1.61
238542	METHYL SALICYLATE	25%	CREAM	409	\$134,580.29	\$11.36
283083	METHYL SALICYLATE - MENTHOL - CAMPHOR	30% -10% - 4%	CREAM	229	\$1,496.45	\$0.18
808955	MENTHOL	3.5%	GEL	214	\$533.64	\$0.16
420222	MENTHOL	5.0%	PATCH	195	\$7,025.18	\$4.91
672562	METHYL SALICYLATE - MENTHOL	14% - 6%	OINTMENT	178	\$1,012.82	\$4.00
1148430	MENTHOL	4.0%	CREAM	174	\$58,770.96	\$11.44
853146	METHYL SALICYLATE - MENTHOL	10% - 3%	PATCH	169	\$8,724.28	\$9.71
311500	METHYL SALICYLATE - MENTHOL	30% - 10%	CREAM	119	\$1,208.26	\$0.24
282805	MENTHOL	2.5%	GEL	42	\$270.41	\$0.26
1486874	METHYL SALICYLATE - MENTHOL	10% - 3%	CREAM	36	\$12,244.21	\$10.98
311502	MENTHOL	2.0%	GEL	30	\$161.52	\$0.10
311510	METHYL SALICYLATE - MENTHOL	29% - 7.6%	OINTMENT	17	\$113.25	\$0.16

Top Topical Analgesics by Active Ingredients and Price per Day

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Committee Discussion

Public Comments

Topical Lidocaine Products

J. Kevin Gorospe Pharm D
DWC Consultant

Lidocaine

- Committee requested a summary of the recommendations of ACOEM regarding use of lidocaine topical products
- Committee requested a rollup of 4% and 5% non-combination lidocaine by product type (cream, gel, patch) by RxCUI
- Based on ACOEM recommendations, review restricted to patches only
- Utilization for the most recent 12 months available was reviewed (June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022)

ACOEM Recommendations

- ACOEM formulary lists lidocaine with reference brand of LIDODERM
- Recommended as Yes for
 - Yes, moderate evidence (B) for Chronic Neuropathic Pain
 - Yes, insufficient evidence for Acute and Chronic Tarsal Tunnel Syndrome
 - Yes, insufficient evidence for Chronic Persistent Pain
 - Yes, insufficient evidence for Kienbock Disease
- Cited evidence is specific to lidocaine patches

Topical Lidocaine in Other State Formularies

- New York State formulary
 - lidocaine 4% patches

- Washington State
 - lidocaine 4% OTC cream
 - lidocaine 4% gel
 - lidocaine 4% patches

Comparative Effectiveness of Patch Strengths

- As noted by ACOEM there is limited evidence regarding the effectiveness of lidocaine patches
- Studies that show some level of effectiveness, were performed on individuals with neuropathic pain using 5% patches
- Lidocaine 1.8% (ZTlido) patches are shown to be bioequivalent to 5% patches in studies
- Comparative studies of 4% versus 5% lidocaine patches were not found

Lidocaine Patches by RxCUI

RxCUI	ACTIVE INGREDIENTS	STRENGTH	DOSAGE FORM	CLAIM COUNT	TOTAL PAID	AVERAGE PRICE PER DAY
1737778	LIDOCAINE	4%	PATCH	1,530	\$30,527.78	\$12.07
1745091	LIDOCAINE	5%	PATCH	17,871	\$2,135,848.71	\$9.83
2001434	LIDOCAINE	1.8%	PATCH	NOT APPLICABLE	NOT APPLICABLE	\$21.51

- Added lidocaine 1.8% patch for reference; no utilization of the product – very high cost
- 4% patch Average Price per Day is \$5.13 if one high price product is excluded from calculation
- 5% patch Average Price per Day is \$3.50 excluding LIDODERM (brand product)

Committee Discussion

Public Comments

MTUS Listings – Categories

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Potential Recategorization

- Follow-up from last meeting
- Committee requested a clean-up of potential categories for consistency
- Re-categorize TNF products more appropriately
- Recommended changes are being referred to ACOEM for consideration

Committee Discussion

Public Comments

Review of Recommendations

Adjournment