

Effective date: 06/01/2021
Review date: 03/2021, 02/2022, 3/2023, 12/2023, 01/2024, 04/2025, 03/2026
Pharmacy Scope: Medicaid
Medical Scope: Medicaid, Commercial, Medicare

SEROSTIM (somatropin)

POLICY

I. INDICATIONS

The indications below, including FDA-approved indications and compendial uses, are considered a covered benefit provided that all the approval criteria are met, and the member has no exclusions to the prescribed therapy.

FDA-Approved Indications

Serostim is indicated for the treatment of HIV patients with wasting or cachexia to increase lean body mass and body weight and improve physical endurance. Concomitant antiretroviral therapy is necessary.

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and are not medically necessary.

II. CRITERIA FOR INITIAL APPROVAL

Treatment of HIV patients with wasting or cachexia to increase lean body mass and body weight, and improve physical endurance

Authorization of 12 weeks may be granted when all of the following criteria are met:

- A. Member is diagnosed with HIV-associated wasting/cachexia
- B. Member is currently on antiretroviral therapy
- C. Trial with suboptimal response or contraindication or intolerance to at least three alternative therapies, such as cyproheptadine, dronabinol, megestrol acetate or testosterone therapy if hypogonadal
- D. BMI was less than 18.5 kg/m² prior to initiating therapy with Serostim (See Appendix A)

III. CONTINUATION OF THERAPY

Treatment of HIV patients with wasting or cachexia to increase lean body mass and body weight, and improve physical endurance

Authorization of 12 weeks may be granted when all of the following criteria are met:

- A. Member is diagnosed with HIV-associated wasting/cachexia
- B. Member is currently on antiretroviral therapy
- C. Member is currently receiving treatment with Serostim excluding obtainment as samples or via manufacturer's patient assistance programs
- D. Current BMI is less than 27 kg/m² (See Appendix A)

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IV. APPENDIX

Appendix A – Calculation of BMI

$$\text{BMI} = \frac{\text{Weight (pounds)} \times 703}{[\text{Height (inches)}]^2} \quad \text{OR} \quad \frac{\text{Weight (kg)}}{[\text{Height (m)}]^2}$$

BMI classification:	Underweight	< 18.5 kg/m ²
	Normal weight	18.5 – 24.9 kg/m ²
	Overweight	25 – 29.9 kg/m ²
	Obesity (class 1)	30 – 34.9 kg/m ²
	Obesity (class 2)	35 – 39.9 kg/m ²
	Extreme obesity	≥ 40 kg/m ²

V. DOSING

Weight Range	Dose
>55 kg (>121 lb)	6mg* SC daily
45-55 kg (99-121 lb)	5mg* SC daily
35-45 kg (75-99 lb)	4mg* SC daily
<35 kg (<75 lb)	0.1mg/kg SC daily

*Based on an approximate daily dosage of 0.1 mg/kg

Investigational use: All therapies are considered investigational when used at a dose or for a condition other than those that are recognized as medically accepted indications as defined in any one of the following standard reference compendia: American Hospital Formulary Service Drug information (AHFS-DI), Thomson Micromedex DrugDex, Clinical Pharmacology, Wolters Kluwer Lexi-Drugs, or Peer-reviewed published medical literature indicating that sufficient evidence exists to support use. Neighborhood does not provide coverage for drugs when used for investigational purposes.

Applicable Codes:

Below is a list of billing codes applicable for covered treatment options. The tables below are provided for reference purposes and may not be all inclusive. Requests received with codes from tables below do not guarantee coverage. Requests must meet all criteria provided in the procedure section.

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The following HCPCS/CPT code is:

HCPCS Code	Description
J2941	Injection, somatropin, 1mg

I. REFERENCES

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