

# PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

**BRAND NAME**  
(generic)

(acamprosate calcium)

**Status: CVS Caremark Criteria**  
**Type: Initial Prior Authorization**

## POLICY

### FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS

Acamprosate calcium is indicated for the maintenance of abstinence from alcohol in patients with alcohol dependence who are abstinent at treatment initiation. Treatment with acamprosate calcium should be part of a comprehensive management program that includes psychosocial support.

The efficacy of acamprosate calcium in promoting abstinence has not been demonstrated in subjects who have not undergone detoxification and not achieved alcohol abstinence prior to beginning acamprosate calcium treatment. The efficacy of acamprosate calcium in promoting abstinence from alcohol in polysubstance abusers has not been adequately assessed.

### COVERAGE CRITERIA

The requested drug will be covered with prior authorization when the following criteria are met:

- The patient has a diagnosis of alcohol use disorder as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)

**AND**

- The requested drug will be used as part of a comprehensive management program that includes psychosocial support

**AND**

- The patient is, or the patient will be, abstinent from alcohol at treatment initiation

**AND**

- The patient has experienced an inadequate treatment response to oral naltrexone

**OR**

- The patient has experienced an intolerance to oral naltrexone

**OR**

- The patient has a contraindication that would prohibit a trial of oral naltrexone

### REFERENCES

1. Acamprosate calcium [package insert]. Pennington, NJ: Zydus Pharmaceuticals USA Inc.; September 2019.
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3. Micromedex (electronic version). IBM Watson Health, Greenwood Village, Colorado, USA. Available at: <https://www.micromedexsolutions.com>. Accessed October 15, 2021.
4. Prescribing Medications for Alcohol Dependence Excerpt from Helping Patients Who Drink Too Much: A Clinician's Guide. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. NIH Publication 07-3769. <https://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/Practitioner/CliniciansGuide2005/PrescribingMeds.pdf>. October 2008 Update. Accessed October 15, 2021.
5. Naltrexone [package insert]. Cranbury, NJ: Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc.; October 2014.

6. Pharmacotherapy for Adults with Alcohol-Use Disorders in Outpatient Settings - Research Protocol. AHRQ Effective Health Care Program. <http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productid=1483>. April, 26, 2013. Accessed October 15, 2021.
7. Jonas DE, Amick HR, Feltner C, et al. Pharmacotherapy for Adults With Alcohol Use Disorders in Outpatient Settings A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. *JAMA*. 2014;311(18):1889–1900.
8. Salisbury-Afshar E. Implementing AHRQ Effective Health Care Reviews: Pharmacotherapy for Adults with Alcohol Use Disorder. *American Family Physician*. 2016;94(2): 155-157.
9. Reus VI, Fochtman LJ, Bukstein O, et al. The American Psychiatric Association Practice Guideline for the Pharmacological Treatment of Patients with Alcohol Use Disorder. *The American Journal of Psychiatry*. January 5, 2018.