

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

DRUG CLASS	TOPICAL NONSTEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY DRUGS (NSAIDs)
BRAND NAME (generic)	(diclofenac sodium topical gel 1%) VOLTAREN GEL (OTC) (diclofenac sodium topical gel 1%)
Status: CVS Caremark® Criteria Type: Post Limit Prior Authorization	

POLICY

FDA-APPROVED INDICATIONS

Diclofenac sodium topical gel, 1%

Diclofenac sodium topical gel is indicated for the relief of the pain of osteoarthritis of joints amenable to topical treatment, such as the knees and those of the hands.

- Diclofenac sodium topical gel has not been evaluated for use on the spine, hip, or shoulder.

Voltaren Gel (OTC)

Voltaren Arthritis Pain is for the temporary relief of arthritis pain ONLY in the following areas:

- hand, wrist, elbow (upper body areas)
- foot, ankle, knee (lower body areas)

This product may take up to 7 days to work for arthritis pain; it is not for immediate relief. If no relief in 7 days, stop use.

COVERAGE CRITERIA

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

- The patient has osteoarthritis pain in joints susceptible to topical treatment such as feet, ankles, knees, hands, wrists, or elbows

AND

- The request is NOT for continuation of therapy

OR

- The request is for continuation of therapy

AND

- The patient has achieved or maintained a positive clinical response to the requested drug

AND

- The patient has been re-evaluated periodically to determine if treatment is still necessary

Quantity Limits apply.

1000 grams/25 days* or 3000 grams/75 days*

**The duration of 25 days is used for a 30-day fill period and 75 days is used for a 90-day fill period to allow time for refill processing.*

Duration of Approval (DOA):

- 1729-J: Initial therapy DOA: 4 months; Continuation of therapy DOA: 36 months

REFERENCES

1. Diclofenac sodium topical gel, 1% gel [package insert]. Durham, NC: Encube Ethicals, Inc.; February 2020.

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2. Voltaren Gel (OTC) [package insert]. Warren, NJ: GSK Consumer Healthcare; 2021.
3. Lexicomp Online, AHFS DI (Adult and Pediatric) Online. Waltham, MA: UpToDate, Inc.; 2023. <https://online.lexi.com>. Accessed April 25, 2023.
4. Micromedex (electronic version). Merative, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Available at: <https://www.micromedexsolutions.com/> (cited 04/25/2023).

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