

# OPTIMA HEALTH MEDICAID

## MEDICAL PRIOR AUTHORIZATION/STEP-EDIT REQUEST

**Directions:** The prescribing physician must sign and clearly print name (preprinted stamps not valid) on this request. All other information may be filled in by office staff; fax to **1-804-799-5118**. No additional phone calls will be necessary if all information (including phone and fax #s) on this form is correct. **If information provided is not complete, correct, or legible, authorization will be delayed.**

**Drug Requested: Immune Globulin Intravenous (IVIG) (immunodeficiency)**  
**{Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP)}**

**Circle the J Code below that applies:**

**J1459 / J1556 / J1561 / J1566 / J1568 / J1569 / J1572 / J1559 / J1599**

**MEMBER & PRESCRIBER INFORMATION:** Authorization may be delayed if incomplete.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Optima #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Prescriber Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Prescriber Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

DEA OR NPI #: \_\_\_\_\_

**DRUG INFORMATION:** Authorization may be delayed if incomplete.

Drug Form/Strength: \_\_\_\_\_

Dosing Schedule: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Therapy: \_\_\_\_\_

Diagnosis: \_\_\_\_\_ ICD Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_

Standard Review. In checking this box, the timeframe does not jeopardize the life or health of the member or the member's ability to regain maximum function and would not subject the member to severe pain.

Dosing should be calculated using adjusted body weight if the patient's actual body weight is **20% higher** than his or her ideal body weight (IBW).

(Adjusted body weight = IBW + 0.5 (actual body weight – IBW))

- IBW (kg) for males = 50 + [2.3 (height in inches – 60)]
- IBW (kg) for females = 45.5 + [2.3 x (height in inches – 60)]

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**\*IMPORTANT\* - If recommended adjusted body weight is not accepted, a PARTIAL approval will be granted.**

It is recommended to attempt to decrease/wean the dose for **renewal** requests when improvement has occurred and subsequently stop IVIG therapy if improvement is sustained with a dose reduction (this does not apply to authorizations for **Primary Immunodeficiency (PID)** as long as immunoglobulin levels are maintained in the appropriate range).

**CLINICAL CRITERIA:** Check below all that apply. All criteria must be met for approval. To support each line checked, all documentation, including lab results, diagnostics, and/or chart notes, must be provided or request may be denied.

**Initial Authorization Approval – 6 months**

- Progressive or relapsing motor and/or sensory symptoms of more than one limb **AND** hyporeflexia or areflexia in affected limbs present for at least 2 months;

**AND**

- Electrophysiologic findings indicate demyelinating neuropathy (**3 of the following 4 criteria are met per the American Academy of Neurology**):

- Partial conduction block\* of  $\geq 1$  motor nerve;

**OR**

- Reduced conduction velocity\* of  $\geq 2$  motor nerves;

**OR**

- Prolonged F-wave latencies\* of  $\geq 2$  motor nerves or the absence of F-waves;

**OR**

- Other causes of demyelinating neuropathy have been excluded (from the European Federation of Neurological Societies and the Peripheral Nerve Society):

- Borrelia burgdorferi* infection (Lyme disease), diphtheria, drug or toxin exposure probably to have caused the neuropathy;

**OR**

- Hereditary demyelinating neuropathy;

**OR**

- Prominent sphincter disturbance;

**OR**

- Diagnosis of multifocal motor neuropathy;

**OR**

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- IgM monoclonal gammopathy with high titre antibodies to myelin-associated glycoprotein;

**OR**

- Other causes for a demyelinating neuropathy including POEMS syndrome, osteosclerotic myeloma, diabetic and non-diabetic lumbosacral radiculoplexus neuropathy, PNS lymphoma and amyloidosis.

(\* - **Definitions from the American Academy of Neurology**)

**AND**

- Testing to support diagnosis should be provided. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) examination demonstrating elevated CSF protein with leukocyte count <10/mm<sup>3</sup>;
  - MRI showing gadolinium enhancement and/or hypertrophy of the cauda equina, lumbosacral or cervical nerve roots, or the brachial or lumbosacral plexuses;

**AND**

- Provide the member's baseline condition (before **ANY** treatment) using **one** of the following objective measurements:
  - Inflammatory neuropathy cause and treatment group (INCAT) sensory sum score

**OR**

- Assessment of grip strength via a hand-held dynamometer (e.g., Jamar, Vigorimeter),

**OR**

- Medical Research Council (MRC) scales or other similar, validated neurological scale

**AND**

- Recipients must have tried (**for at least 3 months**) and failed at least **one** corticosteroid **OR** has a contraindication or intolerance to the use of corticosteroids (**FAILED defined objective measurement such as INCAT score did not show improvement while on a steroid**).

- Has Recipient tried (**for at least 3 months**) and failed a corticosteroid (e.g., oral prednisolone, IV methylprednisolone)?  Yes  No

If **YES**, provide the following information:

Drug Name/Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Strength: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Therapy: \_\_\_\_\_

Dosing Schedule: \_\_\_\_\_

- Does Recipient have any contraindications or intolerances to corticosteroids?  Yes  No

If **YES**, please provide details: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Reauthorization of IVIG Approval – 12 months, if diagnosis is still present.** Significant improvement in clinical condition has been documented by an objective measurement such as the inflammatory neuropathy cause and treatment group (INCAT) sensory sum score; assessment of grip strength via a hand-held dynamometer (e.g., Jamar, Vigorimeter); or Medical Research Council (MRC) scales or other similar, validated neurological scales AND, when applicable, a reduction in the level of sensory loss should be noted.

• Check below **ALL** that apply:

- For long-term treatment, evidence that the dose has been periodically reduced or the treatment withdrawn, and the effects measured

**AND**

- ONE** of the following measurements would show improvement (the same assessment must be used with baseline assessment). Denial would define no change or worsening.

- Inflammatory neuropathy cause and treatment group (INCAT) sensory sum score,

**OR**

- Assessment of grip strength via a hand-held dynamometer (e.g., Jamar, Vigorimeter),

**OR**

- Medical Research Council (MRC) scales or other similar, validated neurological scale

**Medication being provided by: Please check applicable box below.**

- Location/site of drug administration: \_\_\_\_\_

- NPI or DEA # of administering location: \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

- Specialty Pharmacy – PropriumRx

**For urgent reviews:** Practitioner should call Optima Pre-Authorization Department if they believe a standard review would subject the member to adverse health consequences. Optima's definition of urgent is a lack of treatment that could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the member or the member's ability to regain maximum function.

***\*\*Use of samples to initiate therapy does not meet step edit/ preauthorization criteria.\*\****

***\*Previous therapies will be verified through pharmacy paid claims or submitted chart notes.\****