



Zilretta® (triamcinolone acetonide ER) (Intra-articular)

Document Number: SHP-0448

Last Review Date: 10/03/2023

Date of Origin: 04/03/2019

Dates Reviewed: 04/2019, 05/2020, 10/2020, 10/2021, 10/2022, 10/2023

I. Length of Authorization ¹

Coverage will be provided for one dose per knee and may NOT be renewed.

II. Dosing Limits

A. Quantity Limit (max daily dose) [NDC Unit]:

- Zilretta 32 mg single-dose vial: 1 vial per knee

B. Max Units (per dose and over time) [HCPCS Unit]:*

- 64 billable units one time only*

**Max units are based on administration to both knees*

III. Initial Approval Criteria ¹

Coverage is provided in the following conditions:

- Patient must try and have an inadequate response, contraindication, or intolerance to an adequate trial of triamcinolone acetonide injectable suspension (Kenalog®).

- Patient is at least 18 years of age; **AND**

Universal Criteria ^{1,8,13}

- Patient does not have any conditions which would preclude intra-articular injections (e.g., active joint infection, unstable joint, etc.); **AND**
- Patient has not received therapy with intra-articular hyaluronic acid derivative drugs within the previous 6 months of therapy; **AND**
- Patient has not received therapy with intra-articular short-acting corticosteroid type drugs within the previous 3 months of therapy; **AND**

Osteoarthritis of the knee † ^{1,8,12-14}

- Patient has a radiographically* confirmed diagnosis of osteoarthritis of the knee; **AND**

- The patient has had a trial and failure to BOTH of the following conservative methods which have not resulted in functional improvement after at least three (3) months:
 - Non-Pharmacologic (i.e., physical, psychosocial, or mind-body approach [e.g., exercise-land based or aquatic, physical therapy, tai chi, yoga, weight management, cognitive behavioral therapy, knee brace or cane, etc.]); **AND**
 - Pharmacologic Approach (e.g., topical NSAIDs, oral NSAIDs with or without oral proton pump inhibitors, COX-2 inhibitors, topical capsaicin, acetaminophen, tramadol, duloxetine, etc.); **AND**
- The patient has failed to adequately respond to, or has a contraindication to, aspiration and injection of a short-acting intra-articular corticosteroid; **AND**
- The patient reports pain which interferes with functional activities (e.g., ambulation, prolonged standing)

**Note: Imaging is not required to make the diagnosis in patients with a typical presentation of OA¹¹*

† FDA Approved Indication(s); ‡ Compendia Recommended Indication(s); ☐ Orphan Drug

IV. Renewal Criteria ¹

Coverage cannot be renewed.

V. Dosage/Administration (per knee) ¹

Indication	Dose
Osteoarthritis of the knee	Administer 32 mg as a single intra-articular injection to the affected knee(s).

VI. Billing Code/Availability Information

HCP Code:

- J3304 – Injection, triamcinolone acetonide, preservative-free, extended-release, microsphere formulation, 1 mg; 1 billable unit = 1 mg

NDC:

- Zilretta single-dose kit (containing 32 mg triamcinolone acetonide extended-release injectable powder for suspension with 5 mL of sterile diluent): 65250-0003-xx

VII. References

1. Zilretta [package insert]. San Diego, CA; Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; March 2022. Accessed August 2023.
2. Conaghan PG, Hunter DJ, Cohen SB, et al; FX006-2014-008 Participating Investigators. Effects of a single intra-articular injection of a microsphere formulation of triamcinolone acetonide on knee osteoarthritis pain: a double-blinded, randomized, placebo-controlled, multinational study. J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2018;100(8):666-677.

3. Russell SJ, Sala R, Conaghan PG, et al. Triamcinolone acetonide extended-release in patients with osteoarthritis and Type 2 diabetes: a randomized, phase 2 study. *Rheumatology*. 2018.
4. Hochberg MC, Altman RD, April KT, et al. American College of Rheumatology 2012 recommendations for the use of nonpharmacologic and pharmacologic therapies in osteoarthritis of the hand, hip, and knee. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)*. 2012 Apr;64(4):465-74.
5. McAlindon TE, Bannuru RR, Sullivan MC, et al. OARSI guidelines for the non-surgical management of knee osteoarthritis. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage*. 2014 Mar;22(3):363-88. doi: 10.1016/j.joca.2014.01.003. Epub 2014 Jan 24.
6. Brown GA. AAOS clinical practice guideline: treatment of osteoarthritis of the knee: evidence-based guideline, 2nd edition. *J Am Acad Orthop Surg*. 2013 Sep;21(9):577-9. doi: 10.5435/JAAOS-21-09-577.
7. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. NICE 2014. Osteoarthritis-Care and management in adults. Published Feb 2014. Clinical guideline CG177. <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg177/evidence/full-guideline-pdf-191761309>. Accessed August 2018.
8. Gandek B. Measurement properties of the Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index: a systematic review. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)*. 2015 Feb;67(2):216-29. doi: 10.1002/acr.22415.
9. Kolasinski SL, Neogi T, Hochberg MC, et al. 2019 American College of Rheumatology/Arthritis Foundation Guideline for the Management of Osteoarthritis of the Hand, Hip, and Knee *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2020 Feb;72(2):220-233. doi: 10.1002/art.41142. Epub 2020 Jan 6.
10. Bannuru RR, Osani MC, Vaysbrot EE, et al. OARSI guidelines for the non-surgical management of knee, hip, and polyarticular osteoarthritis. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage*. 2019 Nov;27(11):1578-1589. doi: 10.1016/j.joca.2019.06.011. Epub 2019 Jul 3.
11. Sakellariou G, Conaghan PG, Zhang W, et al. EULAR recommendations for the use of imaging in the clinical management of peripheral joint osteoarthritis. *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases* 2017;76:1484-1494.
12. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. NICE 2022. Osteoarthritis in over 16s: diagnosis and management. Published Oct 2022. Clinical guideline NG226. <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng226>. Accessed August 2023.
13. Brophy RH, Fillingham YA. AAOS Clinical Practice Guideline Summary: Management of Osteoarthritis of the Knee (Nonarthroplasty), Third Edition. *J Am Acad Orthop Surg*. 2022 May 1;30(9):e721-e729. doi: 10.5435/JAAOS-D-21-01233.
14. American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Management of Osteoarthritis of the Knee (NonArthroplasty) Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline. <https://www.aaos.org/oak3cpg> Published August 30, 2021.

Appendix 1 – Covered Diagnosis Codes

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description
M17.0	Bilateral primary osteoarthritis of knee
M17.10	Unilateral primary osteoarthritis, unspecified knee
M17.11	Unilateral primary osteoarthritis, right knee
M17.12	Unilateral primary osteoarthritis, left knee
M17.2	Bilateral post-traumatic osteoarthritis of knee
M17.30	Unilateral post-traumatic osteoarthritis, unspecified knee
M17.31	Unilateral post-traumatic osteoarthritis, right knee
M17.32	Unilateral post-traumatic osteoarthritis, left knee
M17.4	Other bilateral secondary osteoarthritis of knee
M17.5	Other unilateral secondary osteoarthritis of knee
M17.9	Osteoarthritis of knee, unspecified

Appendix 2 – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Medicare coverage for outpatient (Part B) drugs is outlined in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual (Pub. 100-2), Chapter 15, §50 Drugs and Biologicals. In addition, National Coverage Determination (NCD), Local Coverage Articles (LCAs), and Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) may exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. They can be found at: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx>. Additional indications may be covered at the discretion of the health plan.

Medicare Part B Covered Diagnosis Codes (applicable to existing NCD/LCD/LCA): N/A

Medicare Part B Administrative Contractor (MAC) Jurisdictions		
Jurisdiction	Applicable State/US Territory	Contractor
E (1)	CA, HI, NV, AS, GU, CNMI	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
F (2 & 3)	AK, WA, OR, ID, ND, SD, MT, WY, UT, AZ	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
5	KS, NE, IA, MO	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
6	MN, WI, IL	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
H (4 & 7)	LA, AR, MS, TX, OK, CO, NM	Novitas Solutions, Inc.
8	MI, IN	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
N (9)	FL, PR, VI	First Coast Service Options, Inc.
J (10)	TN, GA, AL	Palmetto GBA, LLC
M (11)	NC, SC, WV, VA (excluding below)	Palmetto GBA, LLC
L (12)	DE, MD, PA, NJ, DC (includes Arlington & Fairfax counties and the city of Alexandria in VA)	Novitas Solutions, Inc.
K (13 & 14)	NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, ME, NH	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
15	KY, OH	CGS Administrators, LLC