

**Clinical Policy: OnabotulinumtoxinA (Botox)**

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.232

Effective Date: 07.01.16

Last Review Date: 05.19

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)  
[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

**Description**

OnabotulinumtoxinA (Botox<sup>®</sup>) is an acetylcholine release inhibitor and a neuromuscular blocking agent.

**FDA Approved Indication(s)**

Botox is indicated for:

- Treatment of overactive bladder (OAB) with symptoms of urge urinary incontinence, urgency, and frequency, in adults who have an inadequate response to or are intolerant of an anticholinergic medication
- Treatment of urinary incontinence due to detrusor overactivity associated with a neurologic condition [e.g., spinal cord injury (SCI), multiple sclerosis (MS)] in adults who have an inadequate response to or are intolerant of an anticholinergic medication
- Prophylaxis of headaches in adult patients with chronic migraine (≥ 15 days per month with headache lasting 4 hours a day or longer)
- Treatment of upper and lower limb spasticity in adult patients
- Treatment of upper limb spasticity in pediatric patients 2 to 17 years of age
- Treatment of cervical dystonia (CD) in adult patients, to reduce the severity of abnormal head position and neck pain
- Treatment of severe axillary hyperhidrosis that is inadequately managed by topical agents in adult patients
- Treatment of blepharospasm associated with dystonia in patients ≥ 12 years of age
- Treatment of strabismus in patients ≥ 12 years of age

Limitation(s) of use:

Safety and effectiveness of Botox have not been established for:

- Prophylaxis of episodic migraine (14 headache days or fewer per month)
- Treatment of hyperhidrosis in body areas other than axillary

**Policy/Criteria**

*Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.*

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation<sup>®</sup> that Botox is **medically necessary** when one of the following criteria is met:

ContentsDescription..... 1  
Policy/Criteria..... 1

I. Initial Approval Criteria.....	2
A. Cervical Dystonia (must meet all): .....	2
B. Blepharospasm (a focal dystonia) or Strabismus (must meet all): .....	3
C. Other Dystonias – Off Label Use (must meet all): .....	3
D. Upper and Lower Limb Spasticity (must meet all):.....	3
E. Spasticity Associated with Cerebral Palsy – Off Label Use (must meet all): .....	4
F. Chronic Migraine (must meet all):.....	4
G. Primary Axillary Hyperhidrosis (must meet all): .....	5
H. Overactive Bladder and Urinary Incontinence (must meet all): .....	5
I. Esophageal Achalasia – Off Label Use (must meet all): .....	5
J. Hirschsprung’s Disease and Internal Anal Sphincter Achalasia – Off Label Use (must meet all): .....	6
K. Chronic Anal Fissure – Off Label Use (must meet all): .....	6
L. Other diagnoses/indications:.....	6
II. Continued Approval.....	7
A. Chronic Migraine (must meet all):.....	7
B. Esophageal Achalasia (must meet all):.....	7
C. All Other Indications in Section I (must meet all):.....	7
D. Other diagnoses/indications (1 or 2):.....	8
Background.....	8
References.....	

**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

**I. Initial Approval Criteria**

**A. Cervical Dystonia** (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of CD (*see Appendix D*):
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist, orthopedist, physiatrist, or physical medicine and rehabilitation specialist;
3. Age ≥ 16 years;
4. Experiencing involuntary contractions of the neck and shoulder muscles (e.g., splenius capitis, sternocleidomastoid, levator scapulae, scalene, trapezius, semispinalis capitis) resulting in abnormal postures or movements of the neck, shoulder or head;
5. Contractions are causing pain and functional impairment;
6. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
7. Dose does not exceed 400 units per treatment session.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer

**B. Blepharospasm (*a focal dystonia*) or Strabismus (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis (a or b):
  - a. Blepharospasm (i.e., abnormal contraction of eyelid muscles);
  - b. Strabismus (i.e., misalignment of the eyes);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist or ophthalmologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  12 years;
4. Member has significant disability in daily functional activities due to interference with vision;
5. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
6. Dose does not exceed (a or b):
  - a. Blepharospasm: 5 units per site per treatment session (maximum of 200 units total in a 30-day period);
  - b. Strabismus: 25 units per muscle per treatment session.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer

**C. Other Dystonias (off-label) (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of dystonia (*see definitions and types in Appendices D and E*);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist, orthopedist, physiatrist, or physical medicine and rehabilitation specialist;
3. Failure of a trial of carbidopa/levodopa or trihexyphenidyl unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
4. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
5. Dose does not exceed 400 units per single treatment with the following exceptions:
  - a. Oromandibular dystonia: 25 units per muscle per treatment session;
  - b. Laryngeal dystonia (spasmodic dysphonia): 3 units per treatment session.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer

**D. Upper and Lower Limb Spasticity (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of upper or lower limb spasticity;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist, orthopedist, physiatrist, or physical medicine and rehabilitation specialist;
3. Meets (a or b):
  - a. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
  - b. Age 2 years to 17 years and member has a diagnosis of upper limb spasticity;

4. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
5. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
  - a. If age  $\geq$  18 years, dose does not exceed 400 units per treatment session.
  - b. If age is 2 years to 17 years, dose does not exceed 6 units/kg or 200 units (whichever is lower) per treatment session for upper limb spasticity.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

**E. Spasticity Associated with Cerebral Palsy (off-label) (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of spasticity associated with cerebral palsy (CP);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist , physiatrist, or physical medicine and rehabilitation specialist;
3. Age  $\geq$  2 years;
4. Focal increased muscle tone interferes with function or is likely to lead to joint contracture with growth;
5. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
6. Dose does not exceed 400 units per treatment session.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

**F. Chronic Migraine (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of chronic migraine ( $\geq$  15 days per month for at least 3 months with headache lasting 4 hours a day or longer);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist or pain specialist;
3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
4. Failure of an 8-week trial of at least 2 oral migraine preventative therapies (e.g., antiepileptic drugs: divalproex sodium, sodium valproate, topiramate; beta-blockers: metoprolol, propranolol, timolol; antidepressants: amitriptyline, venlafaxine), unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
5. Botox is not prescribed concurrently with injectable CGRP inhibitors (e.g., Aimovig<sup>™</sup>, Ajoovy<sup>™</sup>, Emgality<sup>™</sup>);
6. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
7. Dose does not exceed 200 units per treatment session.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 24 weeks (two 12-week treatment sessions)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

**G. Primary Axillary Hyperhidrosis\*** (must meet all):

*\*The treatment of hyperhidrosis is a benefit exclusion for HIM*

1. Diagnosis of severe primary axillary hyperhidrosis (e.g., resulting in medical complications such as skin maceration and infection or significant disruption of professional/social life);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist or dermatologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
4. Failure of a 6-month trial of topical aluminum chloride, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
5. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
6. Dose does not exceed 50 units per axilla per treatment session.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**HIM – Benefit Exclusion (Not Approvable)**

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

**H. Overactive Bladder and Urinary Incontinence** (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis (a or b):
  - a. Overactive bladder;
  - b. Urinary incontinence associated with a neurologic condition (e.g., spinal cord injury, MS);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist or urologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
4. Failure of a trial of at least two anticholinergic agents and one oral beta-3 agonist medication (e.g., oxybutynin chloride, tolterodine tartrate, mirabegron), each used for at least 30 days, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
5. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
6. Dose does not exceed (a or b):
  - a. Overactive bladder: 100 units per treatment session;
  - b. Urinary incontinence: 200 units per treatment session.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

**I. Esophageal Achalasia (off-label)** (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of esophageal achalasia (i.e., failure of relaxation of the lower esophageal sphincter accompanied by loss of peristalsis in the distal esophagus);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
4. Member is not a good candidate for pneumatic dilation or myotomy (e.g., high surgical risk due to age, comorbidities);

5. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
6. Dose does not exceed 100 units.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

**J. Hirschsprung’s Disease and Internal Anal Sphincter Achalasia (off-label) (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis (a or b):
  - a. Hirschsprung’s disease (HD) (i.e., heritable motor disorder of the gut with failure of the colon to relax causing functional obstruction; usually diagnosed infancy or childhood) (i or ii):
    - i. Botox will be used for constipation due to increased internal anal sphincter tone after surgery;
    - ii. Member is diagnosed with ultra-short segment HD;
  - b. Internal anal sphincter (IAS) achalasia (i.e., lack of rectoanal inhibitory reflex on anal manometry; presents in infancy – may mimic HD);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist;
3. Failure of a trial of stool softeners and laxatives;
4. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
5. Dose does not exceed 100 units.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

**K. Chronic Anal Fissure (off-label) (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of chronic anal fissures;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist or colorectal surgeon;
3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
4. Failure of a trial of nitroglycerin 0.2% ointment, unless contraindicated or clinically significant side effects are experienced;
5. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
6. Dose does not exceed 100 units.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

**L. Other diagnoses/indications:**

1. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is

NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

## II. Continued Approval

### A. Chronic Migraine (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met all initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If member has received 2 or more Botox treatment sessions, has experienced and maintained a 30% reduction in monthly migraine headache frequency from baseline;
4. It has been at least 12 weeks since the last injection of Botox;
5. Botox is not prescribed concurrently with injectable CGRP inhibitors (e.g., Aimovig, Ajovy, Emgality);
6. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
7. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 200 units per treatment session.

#### Approval duration:

**Medicaid/HIM** – 24 weeks (two 12-week treatment sessions)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer

### B. Esophageal Achalasia (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met all initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. It has been at least 24 weeks since the last injection of Botox;
4. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
5. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 100 units per treatment session.

#### Approval duration:

**Medicaid/HIM** – 24 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer

### C. All Other Indications in Section I (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. It has been at least 12 weeks since the last injection of Botox;
4. Provider submits treatment plan detailing the quantity (in units) of Botox to be injected in each muscle site, anticipated frequency of injection, and total dose per visit;
5. Meets (a or b):

- a. If request is for upper limb spasticity and member is between 2 and 17 years of age, Botox administration has not exceeded 8 Units/kg body weight or 300 Units over the last 3 months;
- b. For all other indications in this Section, Botox administration has not exceeded 400 units over the last 3 months;
6. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed any of the following (a-i):
  - a. CD, CP: 400 units per treatment session;
  - b. Upper/lower limb spasticity (meets a or b):
    - i. Age  $\geq$  18 years: 400 units per treatment session;
    - ii. If age is 2 years to 17 years, 6 units/kg or 200 units (whichever is lower) per treatment session for upper limb spasticity;
  - c. Blepharospasm: 5 units per site per treatment session (maximum of 200 units total in a 30-day period);
  - d. Strabismus: 25 units per muscle per treatment session;
  - e. Oromandibular dystonia: 25 units per muscle per treatment session;
  - f. Laryngeal dystonia (spasmodic dysphonia): 3 units per treatment session;
  - g. Primary axillary hyperhidrosis: 50 units per axilla per treatment session;
  - h. Overactive bladder, HD, IAS achalasia, chronic anal fissures: 100 units per treatment session;
  - i. Urinary incontinence: 200 units per treatment session.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** - 12 weeks (single treatment session)

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

**D. Other diagnoses/indications (1 or 2):**

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy.

**Approval duration: 12 weeks (single treatment session);** or

2. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

**III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:**

- A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off label use policies – CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents;
- B. Cosmetic treatment of hyperfunctional wrinkles of the upper face including glabellar frown lines, deep forehead wrinkles and periorbital wrinkles (crow’s feet).

**IV. Appendices/General Information**

*Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

CD: cervical dystonia

CP: cerebral palsy

FDA: Food and Drugs Administration

HD: Hirschsprung’s disease

IAS: internal anal sphincter

MS: multiple sclerosis



SCI: spinal cord injury  
 TMD: temporomandibular disorders

TMJ: temporomandibular joint

*Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives*

*This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.*

<b>Drug Name</b>	<b>Dosing Regimen</b>	<b>Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose</b>
carbidopa/levodopa (Sinemet <sup>®</sup> , Duopa <sup>®</sup> , Rytary <sup>®</sup> )	<b>Other Dystonias</b> (see appendices C and D) 25 mg/100 mg PO QD, and increase by 1 tablet every 3 to 5 days.	1,200 mg/day of levodopa
trihexyphenidyl	<b>Other Dystonias</b> (see appendices C and D) 30 mg PO QD	30 mg/day
lactulose	<b>Hirschsprung's Disease, Internal Anal Sphincter Achalasia, Chronic anal fissure</b> 15-30 ml PO QD	60 mL/day
Senokot <sup>®</sup> (sennosides)	<b>Hirschsprung's Disease, Internal Anal Sphincter Achalasia, Chronic anal fissure</b> Two 8.6 mg tabs PO QD-BID	34.4 mg/day
Metamucil <sup>®</sup> (psyllium)	<b>Chronic anal fissure</b> One rounded tsp in 8 oz liquid PO up to TID	3 doses/day
Dulcolax <sup>®</sup> (bisacodyl)	<b>Hirschsprung's Disease, Internal Anal Sphincter Achalasia, Chronic anal fissure</b> 5 to 15 mg PO or 10 mg PR QD	30 mg/day
FiberCon <sup>®</sup> (Calcium polycarbophil)	<b>Chronic anal fissure</b> Two 625 mg tabs PO QD-QID	5000 mg/day
Citrucel <sup>®</sup> (Methylcellulose)	<b>Chronic anal fissure</b> Caplet: 2 caplets up to 6 times daily Powder: 2 grams in 8 oz of cold water by mouth up to 3 times daily	12 caplets/day or 6 grams/day
MiraLax <sup>®</sup> (Polyethylene glycol 3350)	<b>Hirschsprung's Disease, Internal Anal Sphincter Achalasia, Chronic anal fissure</b> 17 grams of polyethylene glycol 3350 in 4-8 oz water by mouth once daily	17 grams/day

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
Colace <sup>®</sup> (Docusate sodium)	<b>Hirschsprung's Disease, Internal Anal Sphincter Achalasia, Chronic anal fissure</b> 50-200 mg PO QD-QID	200 mg/day
nitroglycerin 0.2% ointment (Rectiv <sup>®</sup> )	<b>Chronic anal fissure</b> 15 to 30 mg (2.5 to 5 cm as squeezed from the tube, about 1 to 2 inches), applied topically to the skin every 8 hours while awake and at bedtime; frequency of application may be increased to every 6 hours if needed. Alternatively, a regimen providing a 12-hour nitrate-free interval may be used; apply dosage once each morning, then reapply 6 hours later	75 mg (12.5 cm as squeezed from the tube)/day
oxybutynin (Ditropan <sup>®</sup> /XL, Gelnique <sup>®</sup> )	<b>Overactive Bladder</b> Immediate-release tablets: 5 mg orally two to three times daily  Extended-release tablets: 5-10 mg orally once daily  Topical gel: Apply contents of one sachet topically once daily	Immediate-release: 20 mg/day  Extended-release: 30 mg/day  Gel: one sachet/day
tolterodine tartrate (Detrol <sup>®</sup> /LA)	<b>Overactive Bladder</b> Immediate-release tablets: 2 mg orally twice daily  Extended-release tablets: 4 mg orally once daily	4 mg/day
Myrbetriq <sup>®</sup> (mirabegron)	<b>Overactive Bladder</b> 25 mg orally once daily	50 mg/day
Anticonvulsants such as: divalproex (Depakote <sup>®</sup> ), topiramate (Topamax <sup>®</sup> )	<b>Chronic Migraines</b> <i>Refer to prescribing information</i>	<i>Refer to prescribing information</i>
Beta blockers such as: propranolol (Inderal <sup>®</sup> ), metoprolol (Lopressor <sup>®</sup> ), timolol	<b>Chronic Migraines</b> <i>Refer to prescribing information</i>	<i>Refer to prescribing information</i>
Antidepressants/tricyclic antidepressants such as: amitriptyline (Elavil <sup>®</sup> ), venlafaxine (Effexor <sup>®</sup> )	<b>Chronic Migraines</b> <i>Refer to prescribing information</i>	<i>Refer to prescribing information</i>

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as: fenoprofen (Nalfon <sup>®</sup> ), ibuprofen (Motrin <sup>®</sup> ), ketoprofen (Orudis <sup>®</sup> ), naproxen (Naprosyn <sup>®</sup> )	<b>Chronic Migraines</b> <i>Refer to prescribing information</i>	<i>Refer to prescribing information</i>
Drysol <sup>®</sup> (aluminum chloride)	<b>Primary Axillary Hyperhidrosis</b> Apply topically once daily	One application/day

*Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name<sup>®</sup> (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name<sup>®</sup>) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.*

*Appendix C: Contraindications and Boxed Warnings*

- Contraindication(s):
  - Hypersensitivity to any botulinum toxin preparation or to any of the components in the formulation
  - Infection at the proposed injection site
  - Intradetrusor injections: urinary tract infection or urinary retention
- Boxed warning(s): distant spread of toxin effect

*Appendix D: Definition and Classification of Dystonia*

- Dystonia is defined as a movement disorder characterized by sustained or intermittent muscle contractions causing abnormal, often repetitive, movements, postures, or both.
  - Dystonic movements are typically patterned and twisting, and may be tremulous.
  - Dystonia is often initiated or worsened by voluntary action and associated with overflow muscle activation.
- Dystonia is classified along two axes:
  - Clinical characteristics: Age at onset, body distribution, temporal pattern, associated features (additional movement disorders or neurological features) - *the clinical characteristics fall into several specific dystonia syndromes that help to guide diagnosis and treatment;*
  - Etiology: Nervous system pathology, inheritance.

*Appendix E: Descriptions and Examples of Dystonia Syndromes\**

Category	Subcategory	Description and Examples
Isolated dystonias	Early-onset generalized isolated dystonia	Dystonia with focal-onset in childhood often progresses to generalized involvement. Cases may be sporadic, familial, genetically defined or without known cause. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early-onset generalized dystonia (DYT-TOR1A)</li> <li>• Adolescent-onset dystonia of mixed type (DYT-THAP1)</li> </ul>

Category	Subcategory	Description and Examples
	Adult-onset focal or segmental isolated dystonia	Usually begins after age 30 years. Most are sporadic without identifiable cause. Rarely progress to generalized dystonia but can extend to contiguous body regions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult-onset segmental dystonia (DYT-GNAL)</li> <li>• Cervical dystonia</li> <li>• Blepharospasm</li> <li>• Writer’s cramp</li> <li>• Oromandibular dystonia</li> <li>• Laryngeal dystonia (spasmodic dysphonia)</li> <li>• Limb dystonia</li> </ul>
Combined dystonias	Dystonia-parkinsonism	Disorders that combine dystonia and parkinsonian features. May be accompanied by pyramidal tract involvement or nonmotor features including cognitive decline. Many are inherited. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dopa-responsive dystonia (DYT-GCH1, DYT-TH, and DYT-SPR)</li> <li>• Wilson disease</li> <li>• Early-onset parkinsonism (PARK-PARKIN)</li> <li>• Conditions associated with neurodegeneration with brain iron accumulation</li> </ul>
	Myoclonus-dystonia	Disorders in which there is a combination of dystonia and myoclonus. Dystonia may be mild and myoclonus generally predominates. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Myoclonus-dystonia (DYT-SGCE)</li> </ul>
	Paroxysmal dyskinesia with dystonia	Disorders characterized by episodes of spontaneous or induced dyskinesia with dystonia. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paroxysmal nonkinesigenic dyskinesia (DYT-MR1)</li> </ul>

*\*Table adapted with permission from: Comella C. Classification and evaluation of dystonia. In: UpToDate, Post TW (Ed), UpToDate, Waltham, MA. Available at [www.uptodate.com](http://www.uptodate.com). Accessed on June 22, 2017.*

*Appendix F: General Information*

- The potency units of botulinum toxin products are specific to the preparation and assay method utilized. They are not interchangeable with other preparations of botulinum toxin products and, therefore, units of biological activity of one product cannot be compared to nor converted into units of any other botulinum toxin products assessed with any other specific assay method.
- Safety and effectiveness have not been established for the prophylaxis of episodic migraine (14 headache days or fewer per month) and is a Class III recommendation in Micromedex.
- Indication specific dosage and administration recommendations should be followed for Botox. When initiating treatment, the lowest recommended dose should be used. In treating adult patients for one or more indications, the maximum cumulative dose should not exceed 400 Units, in a 3 month interval.
- For detrusor overactivity associated with a neurologic condition there was no additional benefit of Botox 300 Units over 200 Units.

- Safety and effectiveness have not been uniformly established for the treatment of temporomandibular disorders (TMD). Use of botulinumtoxin for this indication is a Class IIb recommendation in Micromedex based on a single study from 1999. A review of two clinical studies (from 2002 and 2011) (15 and 21 patients) found no significant differences in pain reduction between botulinumtoxin and placebo. Other small studies (from 2005 - Italy and 2008 - Turkey) have been performed and showed improvement in objective measures of pain (20 patients and 26 patients). The most common total dose of BTX-A used in the studies was 25u for each temporalis muscle and 50u for each masseter muscle. The studies did not repeat the dosing, but measured efficacy at 16 weeks post dose. The 2003 Guidelines for diagnosis and management of disorders involving the temporomandibular joint and related musculoskeletal structures mention Botox as a possible treatment option for temporomandibular joint (TMJ) based on its mechanism of action and the pathophysiology of TMD.
  - TMD “gold standard” treatment continues to be: 1) TMJ intraoral orthotic; 2) Muscle relaxants by mouth; and 3) Home muscle relaxation exercises/techniques.
- Limb spasticity may be caused by heredity spastic paraplegia, multiple sclerosis or other demyelinating diseases of the central nervous system, spastic hemiplegia, infantile cerebral palsy, and stroke.

**V. Dosage and Administration**

<b>Botox (onabotulinumtoxin A) Dose Chart</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Average Duration of Effect</b>	<b>Average Dose</b>	<b>Maximum dose per treatment session</b>
Blepharospasm	12.5 weeks	5 units per site	200 units total in a 30-day period
Strabismus	6-8 weeks to 6-12 months	2.5 to 5 units per muscle (max 25 units)	25 units
Cervical dystonia	4 weeks to 3 months	200 to 300 units divided among affected muscles	400 units
Oromandibular dystonia*	10 to 14 weeks	25 units per muscle per treatment	100 units
Spasmodic dysphonia*	3-6 months	0.031 to 10 units per vocal cord. 5 to 30 units in abductor muscle	400 units
Overactive bladder	12 weeks	Total dose 100 Units, as 0.5 mL (5 Units) injections across 20 sites into the detrusor. Repeat doses should be 12 weeks apart	400 units
Spastic muscle contracture of pediatric cerebral palsy*	1-6 months	3 to 6 units/kg (maximum 12 units/kg). total dose 82 to 220 units divided among affected muscles	100 units

Botox (onabotulinumtoxin A) Dose Chart			
Condition	Average Duration of Effect	Average Dose	Maximum dose per treatment session
Childhood myoclonus following failure of Baclofen, benzodiazepines, and antiseizure medications*	4-8 months	8 to 80 units/kg	400 units
Chronic anal fissure*	Single Injection	20 units both sides	80 units/kg
Internal anal sphincter achalasia*	Single treatment. Patient may require repeat treatment. Adults or children	15 units to 25 units in each quadrant or up to 50 units on either side of IAS	100 units
Axillary hyperhidrosis	4-12 months	50 units per axilla	100 units
Migraines	3-4 months	155 to 195 total units given in 5 to 40 units/site	200 units
Neurogenic bladder	8-12 months	200 units given in multiple sites	200 units
Adult upper limb spasticity	12 weeks	12.5 units to 50 units in one site	400 units
Adult lower limb spasticity	12 weeks	300 units to 400 units divided among 5 muscles	400 units
Pediatric upper limb spasticity	12 weeks	3 units/kg to 6 units/kg divided among the affected muscles	6 units/kg or 200 units, whichever is lower

\*off-label uses

## VI. Product Availability

Vial of powder for solution for injection: 100 units, 200 units

## VII. References

1. Botox Prescribing Information. Irvine, CA: Allergan, Inc.; June 2019. Available at [http://www.allergan.com/assets/pdf/botox\\_pi.pdf](http://www.allergan.com/assets/pdf/botox_pi.pdf). Accessed July 15, 2019.
2. OnabotulinumtoxinA. In: Micromedex. Ann Arbor, MI: Truven Health Analytics; 2019. Available from: [www.micromedexsolutions.com](http://www.micromedexsolutions.com). Accessed January 25, 2019.

### ***Dystonias, Spasticity, Chronic Migraine***

3. Simpson DM, Hallett M, Ashman EJ et al. Practice guideline update summary: botulinum neurotoxin for the treatment of blepharospasm, cervical dystonia, adult spasticity, and headache: Report of the Guideline Development Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2016; 86(19): 1818-1826.

4. Simpson DM, Gracies JM, Graham HK et al. Assessment: botulinum neurotoxin for the treatment of spasticity (an evidence-based review): Report of the Therapeutics and Technology Assessment Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2008; 70(19): 1691-1698.
5. Simpson DM, Blitzer A, Brashear A, et al. Assessment: botulinum neurotoxin for the treatment of movement disorders (an evidence-based review): Report of the Therapeutics and Technology Assessment Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2008; 70: 1699-1706.
6. Delgado MR, Hirtz D, Aisen M et al. Practice parameter: pharmacologic treatment of spasticity in children and adolescents with cerebral palsy (an evidence-based review). *Neurology*. 2012; 74(4): 336-343.
7. Silberstein SD, Holland S, Freitag F et al. Evidence-based guideline update: Pharmacologic treatment for episodic migraine prevention in adults: Report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology and the American Headache Society. *Neurology*. 2012; 78(17): 1337-1345.
8. Delnooz CC, van de Warrenburg BP. Current and future medical treatment in primary dystonia. *Ther Adv Neurol Disord*. 2012; 5(4): 221-240.
9. Hallet M, Benecke R, Blitzer A, Comella CL. Treatment of focal dystonias with botulinum neurotoxin. *Toxicon*. 2009; 54(5): 628-633.
10. Jankovic J. Treatment of dystonia. *Lancet Neurol*. 2006; 5(10): 864-872.
11. Albanese A, Bhatia K, Bressman SB, et al. Phenomenology and classification of dystonia: a consensus update. *Mov Disord*. June 15, 2013; 28(7): 863-873. doi:10.1002/mds.25475.
12. Cloud LJ, Jinnah HA. Treatment strategies for dystonia. *Expert Opin Pharmacother* 2010; 11(1):5-15.
13. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. Evidence-based recommendations on botulinum toxin type A for the prevention of headaches in adults with chronic migraine. Technology appraisal guidance [TA260]; June 2012. Available at: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta260>. Accessed January 25, 2019.

**Primary Axillary Hyperhidrosis, Overactive Bladder, Urinary Incontinence**

14. Naumann M, So Y, Argoff, CE, et al. Assessment: Botulinum neurotoxin in the treatment of autonomic disorders and pain (an evidence-based review) Report of the Therapeutics and Technology Assessment Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2008; 70: 1707-1714.
15. Pariser DM, Ballard A. Topical therapies in hyperhidrosis care. *Dermatol Clin*. October 2014; 32(4): 485-90. doi: 10.1016/j.det.2014.06.008. Epub 2014 Jul 29.
16. Gormley EA, Lightner DJ, Burgio KL et al. Diagnosis and treatment of overactive bladder (non-neurogenic) in adults: AUA (American Urological Association)/SUFU guideline. American Urological Association Education and Research, Inc. Available at <http://www.auanet.org/education/guidelines/overactive-bladder.cfm>. Published May 2014. Accessed January 25, 2019.
17. Gormley EA, Lightner DJ, Faraday M, Vasavada SP. Diagnosis and treatment of overactive bladder (non-neurogenic) in adults: AUA/SUFU guideline amendment. *Journal of Urology*. 2015; 193(5): 1572-1580.
18. Nambiar A, Lucas M. Chapter 4: Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of overactive bladder (OAB) and neurogenic detrusor overactivity (NDO). *Neurol Urodynam*. 2014; 33(S3): S21-S25.

***Esophageal Achalasia***

19. Vaezi MF, Pandolfino JE, Vela MF. ACG (American College of Gastroenterology) clinical guideline: Diagnosis and management of achalasia. *Am J Gastroenterol.* 2013; 108(8): 1238-1259.

***Hirschsprung’s Disease, Internal Anal Sphincter Achalasia***

20. Koivusalo AI, Pakarinen MP, Rintala RJ. Botox injection treatment for anal outlet obstruction in patients with internal anal sphincter achalasia and Hirschsprung’s disease. *Pediatr Surg Int.* 2009; 25: 873-876.

***Chronic Anal Fissures***

21. Nelson RL, Thomas K, Morgan J, Jones A. Non-surgical therapy for anal fissure. *Cochrane Database of Sys Rev.* February 15 2012; (2): CD003431. doi: 10.1002/14651858.CD003431.pub3.

22. Utzig MJ, Kroesen AJ, Buhr HJ. Concepts in pathogenesis and treatment of chronic anal fissure: A review of the literature. *Am J Gastroenterol.* 2003; 98(5): 968-974.

**Coding Implications**

Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

<b>HCPCS Codes</b>	<b>Description</b>
J0585	Injection, onabotulinumtoxinA, 1 unit

<b>Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>P&amp;T Approval Date</b>
Policy split from CP.PHAR.09. Added new FDA indication of lower limb spasticity per FDA labeling. Added compendial indication of laryngeal spasm/spasmodic dysphonia. -Overactive bladder: modified requirement for trial/failure of previous therapy to include oral beta-3 agonist medications per AUA guidelines. -Migraine: modified continuation criteria to require 30% reduction in headache frequency after 2 injections rather than just 1 per literature review and NICE guidelines. -Added general max dosing limit for cerebral palsy and spastic conditions and indication-specific max dosing limit for cervical dystonia, strabismus, primary axillary hyperhidrosis, upper limb spasticity, overactive bladder, urinary incontinence, and chronic migraine per PI. -Added indication-specific max dosing limit for chronic anal fissures, esophageal achalasia, laryngeal spasm/spasmodic dysphonia, Hirschsprung’s disease, and dystonias per literature review. -Added prescriber requirement for overactive bladder, urinary incontinence, chronic migraines, upper limb spasticity, primary axillary	05.16	07.16



Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
<p>hyperhidrosis, chronic anal fissures, cerebral palsy, esophageal achalasia, dystonias, Hirschsprung’s disease, and spastic conditions.                      -Added age restriction for upper limb spasticity and primary axillary hyperhidrosis per PI, and for chronic anal fissures, esophageal achalasia, and Hirschsprung’s disease per literature review.                      -Added route of administration for each labeled indication per PI.                      -Removed reauthorization criteria requiring attestation of significant improvement in symptoms and/or health-related quality of life.                      Added positive response to therapy to continuation criteria.</p>		
<p>-Chronic migraine initial approval duration lengthened from 12 to 24 weeks (from one to two treatment sessions) to allow assessment of response as outlined in continuation criteria.</p>	11.16	
<p>The off-label criteria set entitled “Spastic Conditions” is deleted due to its broad scope; off-label requests not covered elsewhere in the policy are referred to the CP.PHAR.57.Global Biopharm policy so that they may be reviewed individually.                      Requirement that provider submits detailed treatment plan added to curtail abuse</p>	02.17	
<p>Indications reorganized. Definition of CD is edited per AAN guidelines. Laryngeal dystonia is merged with off-label dystonias which in turn are entitled “Other Dystonias”. Clarified “blepharospasm” as a focal dystonia. Deleted causes and classifications of blepharospasm; blepharospasm and strabismus definitions are added. Dystonia information is added at Appendices B and C. Added esophageal achalasia definition. IAS achalasia is given its own line item. HD and IAS achalasia definitions added.                      Background FDA indication section and references categorized. “Non-cosmetic” parenthetical added to the background FDA indication section; cosmetic coverage restriction reworded under the “Other Diagnoses/Indications” section to include notation of glabellar lines.</p>	06.17	07.17
<p>2Q 2018 annual review: combined Medicaid and Commercial lines of business; added HIM line of business; expanded maximum dose for chronic migraine treatment to 200 units per treatment per 2012 NICE guidelines; Hirschsprung’s Disease and Internal Anal Sphincter Achalasia: removed requirement for dietary and fluid control; added physical medicine and rehabilitation specialist for cervical dystonia, other dystonia, upper and lower limb spasticity, and spasticity associated with CP; added pain specialist for migraine; Medicaid: lowered age limit for CD to 16 from 18 years; added physiatrist to accepted specialist for spasticity associated with CP; Commercial: approval durations changed from length of benefit to 6 months or to member’s renewal date, whichever is longer for initial and continued approval; references reviewed and updated.</p>	04.24.18	05.18

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
2Q 2019 annual review: added requirement that Botox is not prescribed concurrently with injectable CGRP inhibitors; removed coverage for hyperhidrosis for HIM due to benefit exclusion; references reviewed and updated.	01.15.19	05.19
RT4: criteria added for newly FDA approved indication for pediatric extension of upper limb spasticity.	07.23.19	

**Important Reminder**

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

This clinical policy is the property of the Health Plan. Unauthorized copying, use, and distribution of this clinical policy or any information contained herein are strictly prohibited. Providers, members and their representatives are bound to the terms and conditions expressed herein through the terms of their contracts. Where no such contract exists, providers, members and their representatives agree to be bound by such terms and conditions by providing services to members and/or submitting claims for payment for such services.

**Note:**

**For Medicaid members**, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

**For Health Insurance Marketplace members**, when applicable, this policy applies only when the prescribed agent is on your health plan approved formulary. Request for non-formulary drugs must be reviewed using the formulary exception policy.

©2016 Centene Corporation. All rights reserved. All materials are exclusively owned by Centene Corporation and are protected by United States copyright law and international copyright law. No part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, modified, distributed, displayed, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means, or otherwise published without the prior written permission of Centene Corporation. You may not alter or remove any trademark, copyright or other notice contained herein. Centene<sup>®</sup> and Centene Corporation<sup>®</sup> are registered trademarks exclusively owned by Centene Corporation.