Esketamine (Spravato)

Goal(s):

- To ensure safe and appropriate use of esketamine in patients with treatment resistant depression or suicidal ideation.

Length of Authorization:

- Up to 6 months

Requires PA:

- Esketamine requires a prior authorization approval due to safety concerns (pharmacy and physician administered claims).

Covered Alternatives:

- Current PMPDP preferred drug list per OAR 410-121-0030 at www.orpdl.org
- Searchable site for Oregon FFS Drug Class listed at www.orpdl.org/drugs/

Approval Criteria		
1. What diagnosis is being treated?	Record ICD10 code.	
2. Is this an FDA approved indication?	**Yes**: Go to #3	**No:** Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness
3. Is the request for maintenance dosing of esketamine (for determining response to therapy) OR for continuation after initiation during a recent hospitalization?	**Yes:** Go to **Renewal Criteria**	**No:** Go to #4
4. Is the patient 65 years or older?	**Yes:** Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.	**No:** Go to #5
5. Is the member currently engaged in or been referred for psychotherapy?	**Yes:** Go to #6	**No:** Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.
6. Is the patient currently on a therapeutic dose of an oral antidepressant (Average minimum effective dose for antidepressants can be found at: https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/DSI-Pharmacy/MHCAGDocs/Switching-Between-Anti-Depressant-Medications.pdf)	**Yes:** Go to #7	**No:** Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness. Esketamine is indicated for use with an oral antidepressant.
7. Does the patient have treatment resistant depression (failure of two separate antidepressant trials which were each given for at least 6 weeks at therapeutic doses)?	**Yes:** Go to #10	**No:** Go to #8

Approval Criteria		
8. Is the request for treatment of major depressive disorder in the setting of acute suicidal ideation or behavior?	**Yes:** Go to #9	**No:** Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness. Recommend an adequate trial (minimum of 6-8 weeks) of 2 or more antidepressants.
9. Is there a documented plan to optimize oral antidepressant treatment in one of the following ways: a. Titrating the dose of the current antidepressant to a therapeutic level b. Switching to a different antidepressant OR c. Adding oral augmentation therapy (e.g., a second antidepressant, an atypical antipsychotic, or mood stabilizer)?	**Yes:** Go to #10	**No:** Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.
10. Does the patient have documentation of any of the following: • Current Aneurysmal vascular disease or arterial venous malformation OR • History of Intracerebral hemorrhage OR • Current Pregnancy OR • Current Uncontrolled hypertension (e.g., >140/90 mmHg)	**Yes:** Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.	**No:** Approve up to 28 days for induction (either 56 mg and/or 84 mg for titration) not to exceed 24 units total to be covered within the approved time window. The approved time window typically spans 60 days to accommodate scheduling visits.

Renewal Criteria		
1. Is there documentation that the patient demonstrated an adequate response during the 4-week induction phase (an improvement in depressive symptoms)?	**Yes:** Go to #2	**No**: Go to #4
2. Is the request for administration of esketamine once weekly or every 2 weeks?	**Yes:** Go to #3	**No**: Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.

Renewal Criteria		
3. Has the patient been adherent to oral antidepressant therapy?	**Yes:** Approve for up to 6 months (maximum of 12 per 28 days)	**No:** Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.
4. Has the patient been on therapy for at least 4 weeks?	**Yes:** Pass to RPh. Deny; medical appropriateness.	**No:** Approve for completion of induction phase (total 28 days of treatment with a maximum of 24 nasal spray devices (each device contains 28 mg of esketamine)

P&T/DUR Review: 6/24(KS); 2/24; 12/23 (KS); 2/23, 10/21; 2/21; 7/19
Implementation:7/1/24; 1/1/22; 3/1/21; 8/19/19