# NC Division of Medical Assistance Outpatient Pharmacy Prior Approval Criteria

Medicaid and Health Choice Effective Date: 11/14/2012

Victrelis (boceprevir)

Therapeutic Class Code: W5V

Therapeutic Class Description: Hepatitis C Virus NS3/4A Serine Protease Inhibitor

Medication	Generic Code Number(s)	NDC Number(s)
Victrelis 200mg Capsules (boceprevir)	<del>29941</del>	

## **Eligible Beneficiaries**

NC Medicaid (Medicaid) beneficiaries shall be enrolled on the date of service and may have service restrictions due to their eligibility category that would make them ineligible for this service.

NC Health Choice (NCHC) beneficiaries, ages 6 through 18 years of age, shall be enrolled on the date of service to be eligible, and must meet policy coverage criteria, unless otherwise specified.

EPSDT Special Provision: Exception to Policy Limitations for Beneficiaries under 21 Years of Age

## 42 U.S.C. § 1396d(r) [1905(r) of the Social Security Act]

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) is a federal Medicaid requirement that requires the state Medicaid agency to cover services, products, or procedures for Medicaid beneficiaries under 21 years of age if the service is medically necessary health care to correct or ameliorate a defect, physical or mental illness, or a condition [health problem] identified through a screening examination (includes any evaluation by a physician or other licensed clinician). This means EPSDT covers most of the medical or remedial care a child needs to improve or maintain his/her health in the best condition possible, compensate for a health problem, prevent it from worsening, or prevent the development of additional health problems. Medically necessary services will be provided in the most economic mode, as long as the treatment made available is similarly efficacious to the service requested by the recipient's physician, therapist, or other licensed practitioner; the determination process does not delay the delivery of the needed service; and the determination does not limit the recipient's right to a free choice of providers.

EPSDT does not require the state Medicaid agency to provide any service, product, or procedure

- a. that is unsafe, ineffective, or experimental/investigational.
- b. that is not medical in nature or not generally recognized as an accepted method of medical practice or treatment.

Service limitations on scope, amount, duration, frequency, location of service, and/or other specific criteria described in clinical coverage policies may be exceeded or may not apply as long as the provider's documentation shows that the requested service is medically necessary "to correct or ameliorate a defect, physical or mental illness, or a condition" [health problem]; that is, provider documentation shows how the service, product, or procedure meets all EPSDT criteria, including to correct or improve or maintain the beneficiary's health in the best condition possible, compensate for a health problem, prevent it from worsening, or prevent the development of additional health problems.

## **EPSDT and Prior Approval Requirements**

a. If the service, product, or procedure requires prior approval, the fact that the beneficiary is under 21 years of age does **NOT** eliminate the requirement for prior approval.

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b. **IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** about EPSDT and prior approval is found in the *Basic Medicaid and NC Health Choice Billing Guide*, sections 2 and 6, and on the EPSDT provider page. The Web addresses are specified below.

Basic Medicaid and NC Health Choice Billing Guide: http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/basicmed/

EPSDT provider page: http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/epsdt/

Health Choice Special Provision: Exceptions to Policy Limitations for Health Choice Beneficiaries ages 6 through 18 years of age

EPSDT does not apply to NCHC beneficiaries. If a NCHC beneficiary does not meet the clinical coverage criteria within the Outpatient Pharmacy prior approval clinical coverage criteria, the NCHC beneficiary shall be denied services. Only services included under the Health Choice State Plan and the DMA clinical coverage policies, service definitions, or billing codes shall be covered for NCHC beneficiaries.

#### Criteria:

• Beneficiary is 18 or older

#### AND

• Beneficiary has confirmed diagnosis of HCV with genotype 1

### AND

- Beneficiary has at least 4 weeks of prior therapy with ribavirin and peginterferon
  AND
  - Beneficiary has concurrent therapy with ribavirin and peginterferon
    AND
- Beneficiary has no previous HCV NS3/4A protease inhibitor treatment for Hepatitis

### **Procedures:**

- Approval for up to 36 weeks for all beneficiaries meeting criteria
- Approval for up to 44 weeks for beneficiaries meeting criteria who are diagnosed with cirrhosis or for beneficiaries previously treated non responders to peginterferon and ribavirin or for untreated patients who are poor interferon responders.

#### References

1. Prescriber Information-Victrelis ® (boceprevir) Schering Corporation, a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., White House Station, New Jersey 08889. May 2011.