

PREFERRED SPECIALTY MANAGEMENT POLICY

- POLICY:** Antibiotics (Inhaled) – Tobramycin Products Preferred Specialty Management Policy
- Bethkis® (tobramycin inhalation solution – Chiesi, generic)
 - TOBI® (tobramycin inhalation solution – Mylan, generic)
 - TOBI® Podhaler (tobramycin inhalation powder – Novartis)

REVIEW DATE: 03/27/2024

OVERVIEW

Tobramycin products are indicated for the management of cystic fibrosis in patients with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. TOBI (generic) is specifically indicated in patients ≥ 6 years of age.^{1,3,5} Kitabis Pak (tobramycin inhalation solution, authorized generic) is another inhaled tobramycin product; the branded product is not included in this policy. Tobramycin inhalation solution products are given by nebulization.¹⁻³ Tobramycin inhalation solution (TOBI [generic] and Kitabis Pak [authorized generic]) is inhaled using the PARI LC PLUS nebulizer, a reusable “jet nebulizer”, with DeVilbiss Pulmo-Aide compressor, administered over a period of approximately 15 minutes.^{1,2,5} Bethkis (generic) is inhaled using the PARI LC PLUS nebulizer and the PARI Vios® Air compressor, administered over a period of approximately 15 minutes.³ TOBI Podhaler consists of a dry powder formulation of tobramycin for oral inhalation only with the Podhaler device.⁴

POLICY STATEMENT

This Preferred Specialty Management (PSM) program has been developed to encourage the use of Preferred Products. For all Non-Preferred products, the patient is required to meet the respective standard *Prior Authorization Policy* criteria. The program also directs the patient to try at least one Preferred Product prior to the approval of a Non-Preferred Product. Patients meeting the Prior Authorization criteria for a Non-Preferred Product who have not tried the Preferred Product will be directed to the Preferred Products. The Preferred Products (tobramycin inhalation solution [generics for Bethkis, Kitabis Pak, and TOBI] and TOBI Podhaler) do not require Prior Authorization. Requests for coverage of the Non-Preferred Products will be determined by exception criteria (below). Kitabis Pak (brand only) is not address in this PSM program. All approvals for Preferred and Non-Preferred Products are provided for 1 year unless otherwise noted below. In cases where approval is authorized in months, 1 month is equal to 30 days.

Automation: None.

Preferred Product: Tobramycin inhalation solution (generics to Bethkis, TOBI, and Kitabis Pak), TOBI Podhaler

Non-Preferred Product: Bethkis, TOBI

03/27/2024

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RECOMMENDED EXCEPTION CRITERIA

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REFERENCES

1. Tobramycin Inhalation Solution [prescribing information]. Princeton, NJ: Dr. Reddy; February 2023.
2. TOBI® inhalation solution [prescribing information]. Morgantown, WV: Mylan; February 2023.
3. Bethkis® inhalation solution [prescribing information]. Woodstock, IL: Chiesi; February 2023.
4. TOBI® Podhaler inhalation powder [prescribing information]. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis; February 2023.
5. Tobramycin Inhalation Solution Pak [prescribing information]. Glen Allen, VA: Genericus; January 2024.

