

This policy has been developed through review of medical literature, consideration of medical necessity, generally accepted medical practice standards, and approved by the IEHP Pharmacy and Therapeutic Subcommittee.

Drug: Strattera (atomoxetine)

Class: ADHD

Formulary medication: Adderall, Adderall XR (amphetamine/dextroamphetamine); Metadate CD Concerta, Ritalin (Methylphenidate); Dextrostat (dextroamphetamine)

Effective Date: June 2003, updated January 2006

Policy/Criteria:

1. For attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
 - a. Failure of 1st line therapy drugs: at least TWO classes of psychostimulants must be used including amphetamines such as Adderall (amphetamine/dextroamphetamine) and methylphenidate such as Concerta, Metadate CD, and Ritalin (methylphenidate).
 - b. Clinical reason where CNS stimulants are contraindicated, or not tolerated.

Clinical Justification:

1. Atomoxetine appears to be effective in the treatment of ADHD, and will provide an alternative to stimulant medications.
2. CNS stimulant has strong clinical evidence to support the efficacy, safety, and tolerability.
3. Head-to-head comparative studies with sustained-release methylphenidate (Concerta) shows that children get more symptom relief from the methylphenidate formulation.
4. More head-to-head comparison trial data is needed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of atomoxetine.

REFERENCES:

1. Kratochvil CJ, Vaughan BS, Daughton JM, Mayfield-Jorgensen ML, Burke WJ. Atomoxetine in the treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. *Expert Rev Neurother*. 2004 Jul;4(4):601-11
2. Himpel S, Banaschewski T, Heise CA, Rothenberger A. The safety of non-stimulant agents for the treatment of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder. *Expert Opin Drug Saf*. 2005 Mar;4(2):311-21.
3. Adler LA, Spencer TJ, Milton DR, Moore RJ, Michelson D. Long-term, open-label study of the safety and efficacy of atomoxetine in adults with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder: an interim analysis. *J Clin Psychiatry*. 2005 Mar;66(3):294-9.

4. Banaschewski T, Roessner V, Dittmann RW, Santosh PJ, Rothenberger A. Non-stimulant medications in the treatment of ADHD. *Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 2004;13 Suppl 1:I102-16.
5. Medscape Abstract. Comparative Trial Shows Advantages to Once-Daily Methylphenidate Over Once-Daily Atomoxetine. APA 157th Annual Meeting: Abstract NR451. Presented May 4, 2004. <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/475153> Zerbe RL, et al. Clinical pharmacology of tomoxetine, a potential antidepressant. *J Pharmacol Exp Ther*. 1985;232:139-43.
6. Michelson D, et al. Atomoxetine in the treatment of children and adolescents with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder: A randomized, placebo-controlled, dose-response study. *Pediatrics*. 2001;108:E83. (www.pediatrics.org/cgi/content/full/108/5/e83)
7. Farid NA, et al. Single-dose and steady-state pharmacokinetics of tomoxetine in normal subjects. *J Clin Pharmacol*. 1985;25:296-301.
8. Desager J-P, et al. Pharmacokinetics (PK) of atomoxetine (ATM) in hepatically impaired (HI) patients [abstract]. *Clin Pharmacol Ther*. 2002;71(2):P99.
9. Ring BJ, et al. Identification of the human cytochromes P450 responsible for atomoxetine metabolism. *Drug Metab Dispos*. 2002;30:319-23.
10. Allen AJ, et al. Safety and efficacy of tomoxetine for ADHD in two double-blind, placebo-controlled trials [abstract]. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2001;49(8, suppl):32S-33S.
11. Dunn DW, et al. Efficacy of atomoxetine in placebo-controlled pediatric attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder trials [abstract]. *Ann Neurol*. 2001;50(3, suppl 1):S96.
12. Spencer T, et al. An open-label, dose-ranging study of atomoxetine in children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. *J Child Adolesc Psychopharmacol*. 2001;11:251-65.
13. Spencer T, et al. Effectiveness and tolerability of tomoxetine in adults with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. *Am J Psychiatry*. 1998;155:693-5.
14. Chouinard G, et al. An early phase II clinical trial of tomoxetine (LY139603) in the treatment of newly admitted depressed patients. *Psychopharmacology*. 1984;83:126-8.
15. Chouinard G, et al. An early phase II clinical trial with followup of tomoxetine (LY139603) in the treatment of newly admitted depressed patients. *Psychopharmacol Bull*. 1985;21:73-6.
16. Wernicke JF, et al. Safety of tomoxetine in clinical trials [abstract]. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2001;49(8, suppl):159S.
17. Kratochvil CJ, et al. An open-label trial of tomoxetine in pediatric attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. *J Child Adolesc Psychopharmacol*. 2001;11:167-70.
18. Steinberg S, Chouinard G. A case of mania associated with tomoxetine [letter]. *Am J Psychiatry*. 1985;142:1517-8.
19. Wernicke JF, et al. Safety of atomoxetine in placebo-controlled pediatric attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder trials [abstract]. *Ann Neurol*. 2001;50(3, suppl 1):S123-4.
20. Laws HF, et al. Subjective responses to LY139603 (tomoxetine) and methylphenidate [abstract]. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2001;49(8, suppl):20S.