Criteria-Based Consultation Prescribing Program
CRITERIA FOR DRUG COVERAGE

Interferon beta-1a (Avonex)

Notes:
* Intolerance excludes adverse drug reactions that are expected, mild in nature, resolve with continued treatment, and do not require medication discontinuation

**Initiation (new start) criteria:** Non-formulary interferon beta-1a (Avonex) will be covered on the prescription drug benefit for 12 months when the following criteria are met:

- Prescribed by a Neurologist -AND-
- Diagnosis of Relapsing form of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) on the Problem list, including:
  - Non-Progressive Relapsing MS
  - Progressive Relapsing MS
  - Relapsing Remitting MS -AND-
- Patient has an allergy or is intolerance* to
  - Glatiramer acetate (Copaxone or Glatopa) -AND-
  - Interferon-beta1b (Extavia)

**Criteria for current Kaiser Permanente members already taking the medication who have not been reviewed previously:** Non-formulary interferon beta-1a (Avonex) will be covered on the prescription drug benefit for 12 months when the following criteria are met:

- See below for Continued use criteria for patients stable on the medication

**Criteria for new members entering Kaiser Permanente already taking the medication who have not been reviewed previously.** Non-formulary interferon beta-1a (Avonex) will be covered on the prescription drug benefit for 12 months when the following criteria are met:

- Diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) -AND-
- Currently stable on medication
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CRITERIA FOR DRUG COVERAGE

Interferon beta-1a (Avonex)

Continued use criteria for patients stable on the medication: Non-formulary interferon beta-1a (Avonex) will continue to be covered on the prescription drug benefit for 12 months when the following criteria are met:

- Prescribed by a Neurologist -AND-
- Patient has completed the following laboratory monitoring within the last 6 months:
  - Complete blood count with differential (CBC w/ diff)
  - Liver function test (alanine aminotransferase, ALT)
-AND-
- Patient is NOT using interferon beta-1a (Avonex) with another disease modifying treatment (i.e., glatiramer, interferon beta-1b, natalizumab, fingolimod, teriflunomide, dimethyl fumarate, rituximab)