



STANDARD COMMERCIAL DRUG FORMULARY  
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION GUIDELINES

PITOLISANT

Generic	Brand	HICL	GCN	Exception/Other
PITOLISANT	WAKIX	45575		

**GUIDELINES FOR USE**

**INITIAL CRITERIA (NOTE: FOR RENEWAL CRITERIA SEE BELOW)**

1. Does the patient have a diagnosis of narcolepsy as demonstrated by cataplexy **AND** meet the following criterion?
  - Therapy is prescribed by or given in consultation with a neurologist, psychiatrist, or specialist in sleep medicine

If yes, **approve for 6 months by HICL with a quantity limit of #2 per day.**

**APPROVAL TEXT:** Renewal requires that the patient has demonstrated 25% or more improvement in Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) scores compared to baseline, **OR** the patient has shown improvement in cataplexy compared to baseline.

If no, continue to #2.

2. Does the patient have a diagnosis of excessive daytime sleepiness (EDS) with narcolepsy **AND** narcolepsy is confirmed by **ONE** of the following criteria?
  - The patient has a Multiple Sleep Latency Test (MSLT) showing both a mean sleep latency of 8 minutes or less **AND** 2 or more early-onset rapid eye movement (REM) sleep test periods (SOREMPs)
  - The patient has a Multiple Sleep Latency Test (MSLT) showing both a mean sleep latency of 8 minutes or less **AND** one early-onset rapid eye movement (REM) sleep test period (SOREMP) **AND** additionally one SOREMP (within approximately 15 minutes) on a polysomnography the night preceding the MSLT, with the polysomnography ruling out non-narcolepsy causes of excessive daytime sleepiness (EDS)
  - The patient has low orexin/hypocretin levels on a cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) assay

If yes, continue to #3.

If no, do not approve.

**DENIAL TEXT:** See the initial denial text at the end of the guideline.

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**



STANDARD COMMERCIAL DRUG FORMULARY  
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION GUIDELINES

PITOLISANT

INITIAL CRITERIA (CONTINUED)

3. Does the patient meet **ALL** of the following criteria?

- The patient has Excessive Daytime Sleepiness (EDS) persisting for at least 3 months and Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) score of more than 10
- Therapy is prescribed by or given in consultation with a neurologist, psychiatrist, or specialist in sleep medicine
- The patient had a trial of or contraindication to one generic typical stimulant (e.g., amphetamine sulfate, methylphenidate, etc.) **AND** solriamfetol, armodafinil, or modafinil

If yes, **approve for 6 months by HICL with a quantity limit of #2 per day.**

**APPROVAL TEXT:** Renewal requires that the patient has demonstrated 25% or more improvement in Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) scores compared to baseline, **OR** the patient has shown improvement in cataplexy compared to baseline.

If no, do not approve.

**INITIAL DENIAL TEXT:** The guideline named **PITOLISANT (Wakix)** requires a diagnosis of narcolepsy as demonstrated by cataplexy **OR** excessive daytime sleepiness (EDS) with narcolepsy. In addition, the following criteria must be met:

**For the diagnosis of narcolepsy as demonstrated by cataplexy, approval requires:**

- Therapy is prescribed by or given in consultation with a neurologist, psychiatrist, or specialist in sleep medicine

**For the diagnosis of excessive daytime sleepiness (EDS) with narcolepsy, approval requires:**

- The patient has narcolepsy that is confirmed by **ONE** of the following:
  - The patient has a Multiple Sleep Latency Test (MSLT) showing both a mean sleep latency of 8 minutes or less **AND** 2 or more early-onset rapid eye movement (REM) sleep test periods (SOREMPs)
  - The patient has a Multiple Sleep Latency Test (MSLT) showing both a mean sleep latency of 8 minutes or less **AND** one early-onset rapid eye movement (REM) sleep test period (SOREMP) **AND** additionally one SOREMP (within approximately 15 minutes) on a polysomnography the night preceding the MSLT, with the polysomnography ruling out non-narcolepsy causes of excessive daytime sleepiness (EDS)
  - The patient has low orexin/hypocretin levels on a cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) assay
- The patient has Excessive Daytime Sleepiness (EDS) persisting for at least 3 months and Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) score of more than 10
- Therapy is prescribed by or given in consultation with a neurologist, psychiatrist, or specialist in sleep medicine
- The patient had a trial of or contraindication to one generic typical stimulant (e.g., amphetamine sulfate, methylphenidate, etc.) **AND** solriamfetol, armodafinil, or modafinil

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



STANDARD COMMERCIAL DRUG FORMULARY  
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION GUIDELINES

PITOLISANT

GUIDELINES FOR USE (CONTINUED)

RENEWAL CRITERIA

- Does the patient have a diagnosis of narcolepsy and meet **ONE** of the following criteria?
  - The patient has demonstrated 25% or more improvement in Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) scores compared to baseline, OR
  - The patient has shown improvement in cataplexy compared to baseline

If yes, **approve for 12 months by HICL with a quantity limit of #2 per day.**

If no, do not approve.

**RENEWAL DENIAL TEXT:** The guideline named **PITOLISANT (Wakix)** requires a diagnosis of narcolepsy. In addition, **ONE** of the following must be met:

- The patient has demonstrated 25% or more improvement in Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) scores compared to baseline, OR
- The patient has shown improvement in cataplexy compared to baseline

---

**RATIONALE**

For further information, please refer to the Prescribing Information and/or Drug Monograph for Wakix.

**REFERENCES**

- Wakix [Prescribing Information]. Plymouth Meeting, PA: Harmony Biosciences, LLC; August 2019.

Library	Commercial	NSA
Yes	Yes	No

Part D Effective: N/A

Commercial Effective: 10/21/19

Created: 10/19

Client Approval: 10/19

P&T Approval: 07/19