

PHARMACY POLICY STATEMENT

North Carolina Marketplace

DRUG NAME	Ozurdex (dexamethasone)
BENEFIT TYPE	Medical
STATUS	Prior Authorization Required

Uveitis

For **initial** authorization:

1. Member is at least 18 years of age; AND
2. Medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with an ophthalmologist; AND
3. Member has a documented diagnosis of non-infectious uveitis affecting the posterior segment of the eye; AND
4. Member has tried and failed at least one of the following for at least 3 months:
 - a) Systemic corticosteroid (e.g., prednisone)
 - b) Non-biologic immunosuppressive (e.g., mycophenolate mofetil, methotrexate, cyclosporine, tacrolimus); AND
5. Member does NOT have any of the following:
 - a) Active or suspected ocular or periocular infections
 - b) Glaucoma with a cup to disc ratio of greater than 0.8
 - c) Torn or ruptured posterior lens capsule.
6. **Dosage allowed/Quantity limit:** One implant (0.7 mg) per eye
Limit: 2 implants (1 per eye) per 6 months

If all the above requirements are met, the medication will be approved for 3 months.

For **reauthorization**:

1. Chart notes must show improved or stabilized visual acuity following treatment and/or an improved vitreous haze score; AND
2. At least 6 months have elapsed since the prior treatment (of the same eye); AND
3. Member has recurrent symptoms.

If all the above requirements are met, the medication will be approved for an additional 3 months.

Diabetic Macular Edema (DME)

DATE	ACTION/DESCRIPTION
11/03/2021	New policy created for Ozurdex.
10/23/2023	Updated references. Changed treatment interval from 6 months to 4 months for RVO.

References:

1. Ozurdex [prescribing information]. Allergan USA, Inc.; 2020.
2. Tan HY, Agarwal A, Lee CS, et al. Management of noninfectious posterior uveitis with intravitreal drug therapy. *Clin Ophthalmol.* 2016;10:1983-2020. Published 2016 Oct 13. doi:10.2147/OPHTH.S89341
3. Reddy A, Liu SH, Brady CJ, Sieving PC, Palestine AG. Corticosteroid implants for chronic non-infectious uveitis. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev.* 2023;1(1):CD010469. Published 2023 Jan 16.
4. Wu X, Tao M, Zhu L, Zhang T, Zhang M. Pathogenesis and current therapies for non-infectious uveitis. *Clin Exp Med.* 2023;23(4):1089-1106. doi:10.1007/s10238-022-