

PHARMACY POLICY STATEMENT

North Carolina Marketplace

DRUG NAME	Visudyne (verteporfin)
BENEFIT TYPE	Medical
STATUS	Prior Authorization Required

Visudyne is a light activated drug used in photodynamic therapy (PDT) to treat certain cases of choroidal neovascularization (CNV). A course of therapy is a 2-step process. First, Visudyne is administered. Second, Visudyne is activated with light from a nonthermal diode laser. Photoactivation of Visudyne is controlled by the light dose delivered. Patients must avoid exposure of skin or eyes to direct sunlight or bright indoor light for 5 days following the procedure.

CNV is the creation of new blood vessels in the

