



Zilretta Medical Policy

Drug(s) Applied:	Zilretta (triamcinolone acetonide extended-release)
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Criteria:

Drug(s) Applied are considered medically necessary when the requested drug meets ALL the criteria below:

I. Initial Therapy Criteria

A. Osteoarthritis of the knee documented by chart notes within past 120 days, and ALL of the following:

1. Diagnosis confirmed by radiographic evidence of the knee (e.g., joint space narrowing, subchondral sclerosis, osteophytes, and sub-chondral cysts) **and**
2. Documented knee pain which interferes with functional activities (e.g., ambulation, prolonged standing) **and**
3. Patient has tried and had an inadequate response with non-pharmacologic treatment options (e.g., physical therapy, regular exercise, aquatic exercise, weight reduction of $\geq 5\%$) **and**
4. Patient has tried and had an inadequate response to topical or oral NSAIDs for at least 3 consecutive months or patient has an intolerance or contraindication to all preferred NSAIDs **and**
5. Patient has tried and had an improvement in pain and functional capacity with both immediate-release triamcinolone acetate and methylprednisolone acetate injections each with less than 4 weeks of relief after each injection or has a documented intolerance to both (e.g. documented glucose spikes following the injections)

Approval Duration: 6 months

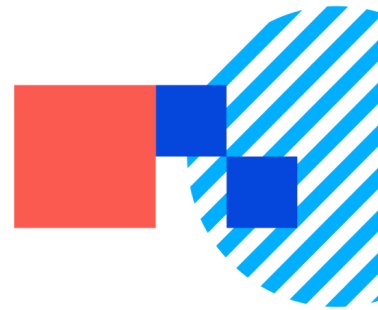
II. Continued Therapy Criteria

A. Osteoarthritis of the knee documented by chart notes within past 120 days, and ALL of the following:

1. Patient meets the initial therapy criteria above **and**
2. Patient has experienced improvement in pain and functional capacity following the previous injection **and**
3. At least 6 months has elapsed since the last prior Zilretta injection in the requested knee(s)

Approval Duration: 6 months





Curative considers all other indications as experimental and investigational including but not limited to osteoarthritis pain of the shoulder or hip.

Ultrasound guidance, fluoroscopic guidance, and knee arthrography for intraarticular steroid injections is considered experimental and investigational because it has not been established that this approach will improve health outcomes.

If submitting for medical billing:

J3304, triamcinolone acetonide extended-release (Zilretta), 1 unit = 1 mg

