

Initial Step Therapy; Post Step Therapy Prior Authorization Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs)

Generic Step Therapy Plans (GSTP)

Products Referenced by this Document

Brand Name	
Pexeva	
Trintellix	

Initial Step Therapy

If the patient has filled a prescription for at least a 30 day supply of at least one generic Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI) or at least one generic Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI) combination product within the past 730 days under a prescription benefit administered by CVS/Caremark, then the requested branded drug will be paid under that prescription benefit. If the patient does not meet the initial step therapy criteria, then the claim will reject with a message indicating that a prior authorization (PA) is required. The prior authorization criteria would then be applied to requests submitted for evaluation to the PA unit.

Coverage Criteria

Authorization may be granted for the requested drug when ONE of the following criteria are met:

• The patient has experienced an inadequate treatment response after at least a 30 day trial of at least ONE generic SSRI or at least ONE generic SSRI combination product.

GSTP SSRIs 384-D P07-2024 v2_R.docx

© 2025 CVS Caremark. All rights reserved.

This document contains confidential and proprietary information of CVS Caremark and cannot be reproduced, distributed or printed without written permission from CVS Caremark. This document contains prescription brand name drugs that are trademarks or registered trademarks of pharmaceutical manufacturers that are not affiliated with CVS Caremark.

- The patient has a documented contraindication or a potential drug interaction that would prohibit a trial of at least ONE generic SSRI or at least ONE generic SSRI combination product.
- The patient has experienced an intolerance to at least ONE generic SSRI or at least ONE generic SSRI combination product.

Duration of Approval (DOA)

• 384-D: DOA: 24 months

References

N/A

GSTP SSRIs 384-D P07-2024 v2_R.docx

© 2025 CVS Caremark. All rights reserved.

This document contains confidential and proprietary information of CVS Caremark and cannot be reproduced, distributed or printed without written permission from CVS Caremark. This document contains prescription brand name drugs that are trademarks or registered trademarks of pharmaceutical manufacturers that are not affiliated with CVS Caremark.