

## Clinical Policy: Cosyntropin (Cortrosyn)

Reference Number: LA.PHAR.203

Effective Date: 09.15.22

Last Review Date: 03.05.25

Line of Business: Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

**\*\*Please note: This policy is for medical benefit\*\***

### Description

Cosyntropin (Cortrosyn®) is a synthetic subunit of adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH).

### FDA Approved Indication(s)

Cortrosyn is indicated, in combination with other diagnostic tests, for use as a diagnostic agent in the screening of adrenocortical insufficiency in adult and pediatric patients.

### Policy/Criteria

*Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.*

It is the policy of Louisiana Healthcare Connections that Cortrosyn is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

#### I. Initial Approval Criteria

##### A. Presumed Adrenocortical Insufficiency (must meet all):

1. Prescribed for diagnostic testing of adrenocortical insufficiency;
2. If Cortrosyn is requested, member must use generic cosyntropin, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
3. Dose does not exceed a single dose of one of the following (a or b):
  - a. If age < 2 years: 0.125 mg (1 vial);
  - b. If age ≥ 2 years: 0.25 mg (1 vial).

**Approval duration: 1 dose**

##### B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to LA.PMN.255
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy LA.PMN.53

#### II. Continued Therapy

##### A. Presumed Adrenocortical Insufficiency

1. Re-authorization is not permitted. Members must meet the initial approval criteria.

**Approval duration: Not applicable**

**B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):**

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to LA.PMN.255
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy: LA.PMN.53

**III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:**

- A.** Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off label use policy LA.PMN.53

**IV. Appendices/General Information**

*Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

ACTH: adrenocorticotrophic hormone

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

*Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives*

Not applicable

*Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings*

- Contraindication(s): hypersensitivity to cosyntropin or to any excipients of Cortrosyn.
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

**V. Dosage and Administration**

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Diagnostic testing of adrenal insufficiency	Single dose administered by IV or IM injection  Adults: 0.25 mg Pediatric patients < 2 years: 0.125 mg Pediatric patients 2 to 17 years: 0.25 mg	See dosing regimen

**VI. Product Availability**

Vial for injection: 0.25 mg

**VII. References**

1. Cortrosyn Prescribing Information. Rancho Cucamonga, CA. Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; December 2023. Available at [https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda\\_docs/label/2023/016750s033lbl.pdf](https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2023/016750s033lbl.pdf). Accessed October 22, 2024.
2. Cosyntropin Drug Monograph. Clinical Pharmacology. Elsevier; 2022. Available at: <https://www.clinicalkey.com/pharmacology/>. Accessed October 19, 2023.

3. Bornstein, S, Allolio B, Arlt, Wiebke, et al. Diagnosis and Treatment of Primary Adrenal Insufficiency: An Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guideline. The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism. Feb 2016; 101(2): 364-389.

### **Coding Implications**

Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

<b>HCPCS Codes</b>	<b>Description</b>
J0834	Injection, cosyntropin, 0.25 mg

<b>Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>LDH Approval Date</b>
Converted corporate to local policy.	09.22	09.15.22
Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications. Modified dosing limits for age 2 or less to 0.125 mg per prescribing information; removed inactive HCPCS code J0833; references reviewed and updated. Added verbiage this policy is for medical benefit only.	06.02.23	10.05.23
Annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	05.06.24	07.29.24
Annual review; updated maximum dosing in those age 2 years and older to 0.25 mg as a single-dose per updated prescribing information; references reviewed and updated	03.05.25	

### **Important Reminder**

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. LHCC makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved.

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