Subject: Victoza (liraglutide [rDNA origin] injection)*

Effective Date: 2/22/2011

Department(s): Utilization Management

Policy: For members whose injectable medication is covered through the medical benefit, Victoza is reimbursable under Plans administered by QualCare, Inc. when medical necessity criteria specified below are met.

Objective: To ensure proper and consistent reimbursement for a medically necessary service.

Procedure: Victoza is considered medically necessary for the treatment of type II diabetes mellitus when there is documentation of all of the following:

A. The glycohemoglobin (A1c) value is greater than 7%.

And

B. Documented failure of three months use of exenatide (Byetta) to achieve an A1c of 7% or less.

Or

C. Documented intolerance to or contraindication to exenatide (Byetta).
References:


Marre M, Shaw J, Brändle M, Bebakar WM, Kamaruddin NA, Strand J, Zdravkovic M, Le Thi TD, Colagiuri S; LEAD-1 SU study group. Liraglutide, a once-daily human GLP-1 analogue, added to a sulphonylurea over 26 weeks produces greater improvements in glycaemic and weight control compared with adding rosiglitazone or placebo in subjects with Type 2 diabetes (LEAD-1 SU). Diabet Med. 2009 Mar;26(3):268-78.


**Consistent with Summary Plan Description ( SPD). When there is discordance between this policy and the SPD, the provisions of the SPD prevail**