

## STEP THERAPY POLICY

- POLICY:** Topical Antibacterials Step Therapy Policy
- Altabax® (repatamulin ointment – Almirall)
  - Centany® (mupirocin ointment – Medimetriks Pharmaceuticals)
  - Centany® AT (mupirocin ointment – Medimetriks Pharmaceuticals)
  - Mupirocin cream – various (generics only)
  - Mupirocin ointment – various (generics only)
  - Xepi™ (ozenoxacin cream – Biofrontera)

**REVIEW DATE:** 10/28/2020; selected revision 01/27/2021

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### OVERVIEW

These topical antibacterials are generally indicated for the treatment of **dermatologic infections** caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* or *Streptococcus pyogenes*.

The approved indications for these products are as follows:

- Altabax is indicated for use in adults and pediatric patients  $\geq 9$  months of age for the topical treatment of impetigo (up to 100 cm<sup>2</sup> in total area in adults or 2% total body surface area in pediatric patients  $\geq 9$  months of age) due to *S. aureus* (methicillin-susceptible isolates only) or *S. pyogenes*.<sup>1</sup>
- Centany/Centany AT/mupirocin ointment are indicated for the topical treatment of impetigo due to *S. aureus* and *S. pyogenes*.<sup>2,3,7</sup> The safety and effectiveness of Centany/mupirocin ointment have been established in pediatric patients 2 months to 16 years of age. Centany AT differs from Centany in that it is packaged with gauze pads and cloth tape strips.
- Mupirocin cream is indicated for the treatment of secondarily infected traumatic skin lesions (up to 10 cm in length or 100 cm<sup>2</sup> in area) due to susceptible isolates of *S. aureus* and *S. pyogenes*.<sup>4</sup> The safety and effectiveness of mupirocin cream have been established in pediatric patients 3 months to 16 years of age.
- Xepi, a topical quinolone antimicrobial, is indicated for the topical treatment of impetigo due to *S. aureus* or *S. pyogenes* in adults and pediatric patients  $\geq 2$  months of age.<sup>5</sup>

Altabax and Xepi are applied twice daily (BID) and Centany/Centany AT/mupirocin ointment and mupirocin cream are applied three times a day (TID).<sup>1-5</sup>

### Guidelines

The Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) updated their practice guidelines for the diagnosis and management of skin and soft tissue infections in 2014.<sup>6</sup> (Note: The guidelines were released prior to the approval of Xepi). The IDSA notes that either topical mupirocin or Altabax should be used for 5 days for the treatment of bullous and nonbullous impetigo. Topical treatment with mupirocin or Altabax is as effective as oral antimicrobials for impetigo. However, systemic therapy is preferred in patients with numerous lesions or in outbreaks affecting several people, to decrease transmission of infection. A 7-day regimen of an oral agent active against *S. aureus* is recommended unless cultures show streptococci alone (and oral penicillin is the recommended agent).

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

This program has been developed to encourage the use of a Step 1 Product prior to the use of a Step 2 Product. If the Step Therapy rule is not met for a Step 2 Product at the point of service, coverage will be determined by the Step Therapy criteria below. All approvals are provided for 1 year in duration.

**Automation:** A patient with a history of one Step 1 Product within the 130-day look-back period is excluded from Step Therapy.

**Step 1:** Mupirocin ointment

**Step 2:** Altanax, Centany, Centany AT, Mupirocin cream (brand and generics), Xepi

### **CRITERIA**

1. If the patient has tried one Step 1 Product, approve a Step 2 Product.
2. No other exceptions are recommended.

### **REFERENCES**

1. Altanax<sup>®</sup> ointment [prescribing information]. Exton PA: Almirall LLC; September 2019.
2. Centany<sup>®</sup> ointment [prescribing information]. Fairfield, NJ: Medimetrix Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; May 2017.
3. Facts and Comparisons<sup>®</sup> Online. Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc.; 2020. Available at: <http://online.factsandcomparisons.com/login.aspx?url=/index.aspx&q=>. Accessed on October 22, 2020. Search terms: mupirocin.
4. Mupirocin cream [prescribing information]. Hawthorne, NY: Taro Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.; February 2020.
5. Xepi<sup>™</sup> cream [prescribing information]. Woburn, MA: Biofrontera Inc.; January 2020.
6. Stevens DL, Bisno AL, Chambers HF, et al. Practice guidelines for the diagnosis and management of skin and soft tissue infections, 2014 update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2014;59(2):e10-e52.
7. Centany<sup>®</sup> AT Description. Available at: <https://www.medimetrix.com/prescription-brands/centany-at-centany>. Accessed on January 25, 2021.