OVERVIEW
An anti-emetic drug is used to reduce or prevent nausea and vomiting.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION
Prior Authorization is not required.

POLICY STATEMENT
BlueCHiP for Medicare
Oral antiemetics are covered under Part B ONLY under the following circumstances:

- when provided by the facility/physician administering chemotherapy as a full replacement for an intravenous Anti-emetic drug as part of a Cancer Chemotherapeutic regimen. (This includes situations where the patient’s dosage will extend beyond the day of chemotherapy (i.e. three drug combination antiemetics)

In all other situation, oral antiemetics are covered under the member's Part D benefit.

All other Products
Oral antiemetic drugs are self administered and covered under the pharmacy benefit.

MEDICAL CRITERIA
None.

BACKGROUND
An anti-emetic drug is most commonly used for nauseas associated with chemotherapy or radiotherapy. The medication is typically given before administration of the treatment in order to block the chemicals from activating the brain’s nausea center. Anti-emetics may be taken orally, by injection, or by suppository.

COVERAGE
Benefits may vary between groups/contracts. Please refer to the appropriate benefit booklet, subscriber agreement, or subscriber agreement for the applicable benefits/coverage.

CODING
The following codes are covered for BlueCHiP for Medicare members as a Part B benefit:

J8498, J8501, J8540, J8597, Q0161, Q0162, Q163, Q0164, Q0165, Q166, Q0167, Q0168, Q0169, Q0173, Q0174, Q0175, Q0177, Q0180, Q0181, S0119

RELATED POLICIES
None
REFERENCES


