RATIONALE FOR INCLUSION IN PA PROGRAM

Background
Migraine is a chronic, recurrent condition that affects millions of people worldwide. An estimated 10-20% of the US population suffers from migraine headaches. Triptans are serotonin (5-HT) receptor agonists that interrupt attacks or episodes of migraine, but do not prevent migraines from happening. Most of these agents are FDA approved for use in patients 18 years of age and above (1).

This class of medications has potentially serious side effects, especially when taken in high doses. Life-threatening disturbances of cardiac rhythm and myocardial infarction have been reported, as well as stroke. Excessive use of triptans can lead to medication overuse headache (1).

Regulatory Status
FDA-approved indication: Relpax is indicated for the acute treatment of migraine with or without aura in adults (2).

Limitations of use: (2)
- Use only after a clear diagnosis of migraine has been established
- Not indicated for the prophylactic therapy of migraine
- Not indicated for the treatment of cluster headache

Off Label Use:
Triptans have been found to be safe and effective in the pediatric and adolescent population (3).

Summary
Migraine is a chronic, recurrent condition that affects millions of people worldwide (1). Triptans are serotonin (5-HT) receptor agonists that interrupt attacks or episodes of migraine, but do not prevent migraines from happening. This class of medications has potentially serious side effects, especially when taken in high doses. Life-threatening disturbances of cardiac rhythm and myocardial infarction have been reported, as well as stroke (2). Triptans have been found to be safe and effective in the pediatric and adolescent population (3).

Prior authorization is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate and cost effective use of Relpax while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.
References