RATIONALE FOR INCLUSION IN PA PROGRAM

Background
Rayos is delayed-release prednisone used to treat rheumatological diseases that affect the joints and connective tissues to lessen the pain and inflammation associated with those conditions. The drug resembles the naturally occurring adrenocorticoids, which are important in bodies anti-inflammatory responses, metabolism, and other hormone responses. Since Rayos is delayed-release medication it allows for a 4 hour delayed effect, which allows patients to take at bedtime for deceased morning stiffness due to rheumatological disease (1).

Regulatory Status
FDA-approved indications: Rayos is a corticosteroid indicated: as an anti-inflammatory or immunosuppressive agent for certain allergic, dermatologic, gastrointestinal, hematologic, ophthalmologic, nervous system, renal, respiratory, rheumatologic, specific infectious diseases or conditions and organ transplantation; for the treatment of certain endocrine conditions; for palliation of certain neoplastic conditions (1).

The use of Rayos may increase risks for conditions related to corticosteroid therapy which include Cushing’s syndrome and hyperglycemia, especially with chronic use; therefore doses should be tapered gradually for withdrawal after chronic use (1).

Rayos may cause immunosuppression and increased risk for developing infections, reactivation of latent infections, and masking of infective symptoms. Rayos is not recommended in patients with active, severe infections until the infections are controlled (1).

Patients taking Rayos may also experience elevated blood pressure, hyperglycemia, salt and water retention, and hypokalemia, hence blood pressure, glucose levels, sodium, potassium serum levels should be monitored (1).

Summary
Rayos is delayed-release prednisone used to treat rheumatological diseases that affect the joints and connective tissues to lessen the pain and inflammation associated with those conditions. The use of Rayos may increase risks for conditions related to corticosteroid therapy which include Cushing’s syndrome and hyperglycemia. The use of Rayos may result in immunosuppression and
RAYOS
(delayed-release prednisone)

increases risk for developing infections. Patients taking Rayos may also experience elevated blood pressure, salt and water retention, and hypokalemia, hence blood pressure, sodium, potassium serum levels should be monitored (1).

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

References