

<p><i>Policy Name</i></p> <p>Solumedrol IV Use at Home Service:</p>	<p><i>Policy Number</i></p> <p>MP-ME-FP-01-24</p>	<p><i>Scope</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MMM MA <input type="checkbox"/> MMM Multihealth</p>		
<p><i>Service Category</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Anesthesia <input type="checkbox"/> Surgery <input type="checkbox"/> Radiology Procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Pathology and Laboratory Procedures </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicine Services and Procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation and Management Services <input type="checkbox"/> DME/Prosthetics or Supplies <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ </td> </tr> </table>			<input type="checkbox"/> Anesthesia <input type="checkbox"/> Surgery <input type="checkbox"/> Radiology Procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Pathology and Laboratory Procedures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicine Services and Procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation and Management Services <input type="checkbox"/> DME/Prosthetics or Supplies <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
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<p><i>Service Description</i></p> <p>Solumedrol (Methylprednisolone sodium succinate) is a corticosteroid used for reducing inflammation in various medical conditions such as severe allergic reactions, asthma, autoimmune disorders, and specific types of arthritis. The home infusion service allows patients to receive this medication intravenously in the comfort of their own home, administered by a trained healthcare professional or self-administered after proper education and training. This service is typically provided for patients who require ongoing steroid therapy but can be managed outside of the hospital.</p>				

Medical Necessity Guidelines

Indications for Use:

- Solumedrol IV home therapy is considered medically necessary when the patient has a documented need for corticosteroid treatment that cannot be effectively administered orally or in outpatient clinic settings.
- It is necessary for conditions such as:
 - Exacerbation of chronic conditions like asthma, COPD, or multiple sclerosis (MS)
 - Acute allergic reactions or severe allergic asthma unresponsive to other treatments
 - Certain autoimmune conditions like lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, or vasculitis
 - Pre-existing conditions that prevent oral intake or absorption
- The patient should be stable enough for home care, with adequate support systems in place.
- The prescribing physician must provide a detailed treatment plan, including the dosage, frequency, and expected duration of therapy.
- Monitoring and follow-up by a healthcare provider is required to assess efficacy and manage side effects.
- FDA approved dose IV for home service:
 - The FDA-approved dose of Solumedrol (Methylprednisolone Sodium Succinate) for intravenous (IV) administration depends on the specific condition being treated. However, home use of Solumedrol IV typically involves lower to moderate doses as determined by the prescribing physician based on the severity of the condition and the patient's response to treatment.
 - Here are some general guidelines:
 - Acute Asthma Exacerbation:
 - Initial dose: 40 mg to 60 mg IV per day, typically divided into two doses, for a short-term course (e.g., 3-10 days).
 - Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Exacerbation:
 - High doses are typically used during MS flare-ups, such as 500 mg to 1 gram IV once daily for 3 to 5 days. Home administration may require close monitoring, especially if high doses like this are used.

- Autoimmune Disorders (e.g., Lupus, Rheumatoid Arthritis):
 - 40 mg to 125 mg IV, depending on the severity of the flare-up and response to previous treatment.
- Severe Allergic Reactions:
 - An initial dose of 40 mg to 125 mg IV may be used to manage acute symptoms.
- Organ Transplantation:
 - Higher doses, such as 250 mg to 1 gram IV, may be used for short-term therapy during acute rejection episodes, but this would be less common in a home setting.
- Considerations for Home Use:
 - Lower Doses: For home IV therapy, the doses are generally kept lower to minimize the risks of complications and side effects (such as infections, hyperglycemia, and hypertension).
 - Duration: Solumedrol IV therapy in the home setting is usually short-term (e.g., a few days to a few weeks), with doses tapering off as the condition improves.
- Monitoring Requirements:
 - Patients receiving higher doses (e.g., over 125 mg IV) should be monitored carefully for potential side effects like infection, elevated blood sugar, blood pressure changes, or adrenal suppression.

Limits or Restrictions

Restrictions and Contraindications:

- **Eligibility:** Not all patients are candidates for home infusion. Patients with unstable conditions, complex medical needs, or poor home support systems may not be eligible.
- **Dosage:** Must align with clinical guidelines and be prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider. High doses or prolonged use may require additional monitoring.
- **Administration:** IV infusion must be done by a trained professional unless the patient or caregiver is thoroughly trained in sterile technique and administration procedures.
- **Monitoring:** Regular follow-up visits or remote monitoring may be required to evaluate the patient's response and check for side effects such as infections, high blood sugar, or electrolyte imbalances.
- **Duration:** Long-term or chronic use of Solumedrol at home may require additional justification. The therapy should not exceed the necessary duration without reassessment.
- **Contraindications:** Patients with systemic fungal infections, active infections, or uncontrolled diabetes should be evaluated carefully before being considered for home infusion.

Reference Information

- FDA Prescribing Information for Solumedrol, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), prescribing information for Solumedrol (Methylprednisolone Sodium Succinate), current version available as of 06/05/2024. Link: https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2024/011856s144lbl.pdf
- Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) Guidelines, Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention, Year: 2023 Report, Chapter: “Management of Severe Asthma and Exacerbations”; https://.ginasthma.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/.gina-2023-full-report-23_07_06-WMS.pdf.
- American Academy of Neurology (AAN) Guidelines, “Practice Guideline: Disease-modifying Therapies for Adults with Multiple Sclerosis “Authors: Rae-Grant et al., Year: 2018, Disease-modifying therapies for adults with MS, “Treatment of Acute Relapses”, Neurology Journal, Volume 90, Issue 17, Pages 777-788.
- American College of Rheumatology (ACR) Guidelines, 2022 ACR Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis and Lupus, 2022. Rheumatol.2023 May 25;75 (8):1299-1311.doi:10.1002/art.42507.
- “Glucocorticoid Use in Flares and Management of Chronic Inflammation” Arthritis Care & Research, Volume 74, Supplement 4, Pages S1–S20.
- National Home Infusion Association (NHIA) Guidelines, “ Infusion Therapy Standards of Practice” National Home Infusion Association (NHIA),2021, Chapter: “Corticosteroid Therapy in Home Settings”, Journal of Infusion Nursing, Volume 44, Supplement 1. Pages: S1–S160

Policy History

Policy History

Revision Type	Summary of Changes	P&T Approval Date	MPCC Approval Date
INTERNAL POLICY	Solumedrol (Methylprednisolone sodium succinate) is a corticosteroid used for reducing inflammation in various medical conditions such as severe allergic reactions, asthma, autoimmune disorders, and specific types of arthritis.		12/20/2024