Ezetimibe/simvastatin (Vytorin®) is indicated as adjunctive therapy to diet to reduce elevated total-C, LDL-C, Apo B, TG, and non-HDL-C, and to increase HDL-C in patients with hyperlipidemia or mixed hyperlipidemia and to reduce elevated total-C and LDL-C in patients with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH), as an adjunct to other lipid lowering treatments.

The use of ezetimibe/simvastatin (Vytorin®) requires prior authorization (ie, clinical pharmacy and/or Medical Director review).

Ezetimibe/simvastatin (Vytorin®) is a combination of two drugs, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor (ezetimibe) and an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor (simvastatin). Ezetimibe reduces blood cholesterol by inhibiting absorption of cholesterol by the small intestine, leading to a decrease in the delivery of intestinal cholesterol to the liver. This mechanism is complementary to that of the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors.

Ezetimibe/simvastatin (Vytorin®) is approved when all of the following inclusion criteria are met:

- Documentation of a minimum 30-day trial and failure or contraindication/intolerance/allergy to one of the following agents:
  - Lovastatin-containing product
  - Pravastatin-containing product
Simvastatin-containing product
  • Documentation of a minimum 30-day trial and failure or contraindication/intolerance/allergy to rosuvastatin calcium (Crestor®)

**Policy Guideline Exclusion**

**Ezetimibe/simvastatin (Vytorin®)** is denied when any of the following exclusion criteria are present:

  • No documentation of a minimum 30-day trial and failure or contraindication/intolerance/allergy to one of the following agents:
    ○ Lovastatin-containing product
    ○ Pravastatin-containing product
    ○ Simvastatin-containing product
  • No documentation of a minimum 30-day trial and failure or contraindication/intolerance/allergy to rosuvastatin calcium (Crestor®)

**Policy List of Applicable Drugs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand Name</th>
<th>Generic Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vytorin</td>
<td>ezetimibe/simvastatin</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Dosing and Administration**

Refer to the specific manufacturer’s prescribing information for administration and dosage details for each specific agent.

**Policy References**


