Restasis® (cyclosporine ophthalmic emulsion) Prior Approval
May 2016

OVERVIEW
Restasis is a topical emulsion which contains cyclosporine, an immunosuppressive agent when administered systemically. It also has anti-inflammatory effects with some evidence suggesting that it is a disease-modifying agent rather than being a merely palliative treatment for dry eye syndrome. Restasis is indicated to increase tear production in patients whose tear production is presumed to be suppressed due to ocular inflammation associated with keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS). Increased tear production was not seen in patients currently taking topical anti-inflammatory drugs or using punctal plugs. Though its exact mechanism to alleviate ocular inflammation and to increase tear production is unknown, it is thought to act as a partial immunomodulator.

RECOMMENDED AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA
Coverage of Restasis is recommended in those who meet the following criteria:

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-Approved Indication

1. Dry Eye Conditions due to Ocular Inflammation Associated with Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca (KCS). Approve.

Other Uses with Supportive Evidence

2. Dry Eye Conditions due to Systemic Inflammatory Diseases (e.g., Sjögren syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis [RA], systemic lupus erythematosus [SLE]). Approve.

Approval Duration 365 days (1 year)

References