



UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy  
Clinical Pharmacy Programs

Program Number	2018 P 3101-2
Program	Step Therapy
Medication	Elidel® (pimecrolimus) and Protopic® (tacrolimus)
P&T Approval Date	9/2017, 9/2018
Effective Date	12/1/2018; Oxford only: 12/1/2018

**1. Background:**

Elidel (pimecrolimus) is indicated as second-line therapy for the short-term and non-continuous chronic treatment of mild to moderate atopic dermatitis in non-immunocompromised adults and children 2 years of age and older, who have failed to respond adequately to other topical prescription treatments, or when those treatments are not advisable. Protopic (tacrolimus) is indicated as second-line therapy for the short-term and non-continuous chronic treatment of moderate to severe atopic dermatitis in non-immunocompromised adults and children, who have failed to respond adequately to other topical prescription treatments for atopic dermatitis or when those treatments are not advisable.

Both Elidel and Protopic have demonstrated efficacy in the treatment of plaque psoriasis, and the American Academy of Dermatology recommend Elidel and Protopic for specific cases of facial and intertiginous psoriasis or situations where a topical corticosteroid may be associated with skin atrophy.

If a member has a prescription for a topical corticosteroid in claim's history in the previous 365 days, the prescription for Elidel or Protopic will process automatically. Elidel or Protopic as documented in claims history will be allowed continued coverage of their current therapy. Members new to therapy will be required to meet the below criteria.

**2. Coverage Criteria<sup>a</sup>:**

**A. Elidel or Protopic** will be approved based on **ONE** of the following criteria:

1. History of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to **one** topical corticosteroid

**-OR-**

2. Drug is being prescribed for the facial or groin area

**Authorization will be issued for 12 months.**

<sup>a</sup> State mandates may apply. Any federal regulatory requirements and the member specific benefit plan coverage may also impact coverage criteria. Other policies and

utilization management programs may apply.

**3. Additional Clinical Programs:**  
Supply limits may also be in place.

**4. References:**

1. Elidel Prescribing Information. Valeant Pharmaceuticals. Bridgewater, NJ. December 2017.
2. Protopic Prescribing Information. Astellas Pharma US, Inc. Northbrook, IL May 2012.

Program	Step Therapy – Elidel and Protopic
<b>Change Control</b>	
9/2017	New program.
9/2018	Annual Review. Updated references.