

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: *RX.PA.081.2*

REVISION DATE: *04/17*

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**POLICY TITLE:** *Abilify (aripiprazole) Step Therapy*  
**DEPARTMENT:** *Clinical Pharmacy Services- Utilization Management*  
**ORIGINAL DATE:** *April 2008 (as adopted from UPMC Health Plan)*

**Last P & T Committee Approval Date:** *April 2017*

**Product Applicability:** *mark all applicable products below:*

<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HMO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PPO <i>Products:</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small <i>Exchange:</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Shop <input type="checkbox"/> All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indiv. <input type="checkbox"/> Indiv. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large
<b>OTHER</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self-funded/ASO

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define the prior authorization process for Abilify (aripiprazole).

Abilify (aripiprazole) is indicated for:

- Treatment of schizophrenia in adults and adolescents 13 to 17 years of age
- Acute treatment of manic or mixed episodes associated with bipolar I disorder as monotherapy and as an adjunct to lithium or valproate in adults and pediatric patients 10 to 17 years of age
- Maintenance treatment of bipolar I disorder in adults
- Adjunctive treatment of major depressive disorder in adults
- Treatment of irritability associated with autistic disorder in pediatric patients 6 to 17 years of age
- Acute treatment of agitation associated with schizophrenia or bipolar I disorder in adults
- Treatment of Tourette's disorder in pediatric patients 6 to 18 years of age

*Abilify (aripiprazole)*

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## DEFINITIONS

N/A

## POLICY

It is the policy of the Health Plan to maintain a prior authorization process that promotes appropriate utilization of specific drugs with potential for misuse or limited indications. This process involves a review using Food and Drug Administration (FDA) criteria to make a determination of Medical Necessity, and approval by the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee of the criteria for prior authorization, as described in RX.002 Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and RX.003-Prior Authorization Process.

The drug, Abilify (aripiprazole), is subject to the prior authorization process.

## PROCEDURE

### Initial Authorization Criteria:

*Must meet all of the criteria listed under the respective header:*

- For automatic coverage, must have a documented claims history of two of the following:
  - SSRI (citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine, paroxetine, sertraline)
  - Duloxetine
  - Venlafaxine
  - Quetiapine
  - Risperidone
  - Olanzapine
  - Ziprasidone
- For members without a documented claims history, must have chart documentation of a trial and failure of 2 of the following:
  - SSRI (citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine, paroxetine, sertraline)
  - Duloxetine
  - Venlafaxine
  - Quetiapine
  - Risperidone
  - Olanzapine
  - Ziprasidone



**Limitations:**

Length of Authorization (if above criteria met)	
Initial Authorization	Up to duration of member's membership with plan (if indefinite auth)
Reauthorization	N/A

If the established criteria are not met, the request is referred to a Medical Director for review.

**REFERENCES**

1. Abilify [package insert]. Tokyo, Japan: Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co.; Feb 2017.
2. Berman RM, Marcus RN, Swanink R, McQuade RD, Carson WH, Corey-Lisle PK, and Khan A. The efficacy and safety of aripiprazole as adjunctive therapy in major depressive disorder: a multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. J Clin Psychiatry. 2007;68:843-53.

**RECORD RETENTION**

Records Retention for Evolent Health documents, regardless of medium, are provided within the Evolent Health records retention policy and as indicated in CORP.028.E Records Retention Policy and Procedure.

**REVIEW HISTORY**

DESCRIPTION OF REVIEW / REVISION	DATE APPROVED
<i>Annual review</i>	<i>02/16, 02/17</i>
<i>Criteria Update</i>	<i>05/16, 12/16, 04/17</i>

