

Market Applicability							
Market	DC	GA	KY	MD	NJ	NY	WA
Applicable	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA

Qualaquin (quinine)

Override(s)	Approval Duration
Prior Authorization Quantity Limit	1 year

Medications	Quantity Limit
Qualaquin (quinine sulfate) Quinine sulfate-various	May be subject to quantity limit

APPROVAL CRITERIA

Requests for Qualaquin (quinine sulfate) may be approved if the following criteria are met:

- I. Individual has been diagnosed with uncomplicated malaria caused by one of the following:
 - A. *Plasmodium falciparum* known or suspected to be resistant to chloroquine (CDC); **OR**
 - B. Chloroquine-resistant *Plasmodium vivax* (AHFS, CDC); **OR**
 - C. An unidentified plasmodial species known or suspected to be resistant to chloroquine (AHFS, CDC);
- OR**
- II. Individual is using as interim treatment for severe malaria until intravenous artesunate is available (CDC);
- OR**
- II. Individual has been diagnosed with babesiosis caused by *Babesia microti* and treatment is in conjunction with IV or oral clindamycin (AHFS, DrugPoints B IIa).

Qualaquin (quinine sulfate) may **not** be approved for the following:

- I. Treatment or prevention of nocturnal recumbency leg muscle cramps or other related conditions, such as but not limited to:
 - A. Myoclonus; **OR**
 - B. Periodic Limb Movements of Sleep (PLMS); **OR**
 - C. Restless Leg Syndrome (RLS); **OR**
- II. Prevention of malaria; **OR**
- III. Individuals with severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh C); **OR**
- IV. Individuals with known prolongation of the QT interval; **OR**
- V. Individuals with myasthenia gravis; **OR**
- VI. Individuals with optic neuritis.

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Note: Qualaquin (quinine sulfate) has a black box warning for use to prevent or treat nocturnal leg cramps. Serious and life-threatening hematologic reactions, such as thrombocytopenia and hemolytic uremic syndrome/thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (HUS/TTP) may result. The risk associated with use in the absence of evidence of its effectiveness in the treatment or prevention of nocturnal leg cramps outweighs any potential benefit.

Key References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Guidelines for treatment of malaria in the United States. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/malaria/diagnosis_treatment/treatment.html. Last Updated: April 1, 2019. Accessed: September 18, 2019.
2. DailyMed. Package inserts. U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health website. <http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/about.cfm>. Accessed: September 17, 2019.
3. DrugPoints® System [electronic version]. Truven Health Analytics, Greenwood Village, CO. Updated periodically.
4. Lexi-Comp ONLINE™ with AHFS™, Hudson, Ohio: Lexi-Comp, Inc.; 2019; Updated periodically.

This policy does not apply to health plans or member categories that do not have pharmacy benefits, nor does it apply to Medicare. Note that market specific restrictions or transition-of-care benefit limitations may apply.