

# Alefacept (Amevive)

## Prior Authorization Criteria for the TRICARE Retail Pharmacy (TRRx) Program

Alefacept (Amevive) is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy. It is given by intramuscular injection as a course of 12 once-weekly injections. Retreatment with an additional 12-week course may be initiated provided that CD4+ T lymphocyte counts are within the normal range, and a minimum of a 12-week interval has passed since the previous course of treatment.

The use of alefacept in conditions other than plaque psoriasis is not well-supported by the clinical literature. Because alefacept reduces CD4+ and CD8+ counts, it should not be initiated in patients with HIV or with a CD4+ count below normal at the start of therapy. CD4+ counts should be monitored every two weeks during the 12-week dosing regimen. Patients receiving other immunosuppressive agents or phototherapy should not receive alefacept because of the possibility of excessive immunosuppression.

### SPECIAL NOTES

- Alefacept (Amevive) is not available through the TMOP.
- Alefacept (Amevive) may also be given by intravenous infusion, typically in an office or clinic setting; however, this is covered by TRICARE under the medical rather than pharmacy benefit.

The following criteria were established by the DoD Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee for alefacept (Amevive) obtained through the retail network pharmacies as part of the TRICARE Retail Pharmacy (TRRx) Program. The prior authorization form for alefacept (Amevive) is available on the [TRICARE Pharmacy Prior Authorization page](#). This prior authorization does not have an expiration date.

### Prior Authorization Criteria for Alefacept (Amevive)

Coverage provided for the treatment of:

- Adult patients with moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy

Coverage NOT provided for:

- Patients with HIV, patients with a CD4+ T lymphocyte count below normal at start of treatment, immunocompromised patients or those receiving other immunosuppressive agents or phototherapy
- Children (age < 18 years)

*Criteria approved through the DoD Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee process February 2008*