Calcipotriene and betamethasone dipropionate (Taclonex®/Taclonex Scalp®) is indicated for the topical treatment of psoriasis vulgaris in adults 18 years of age and older.

The use of calcipotriene and betamethasone dipropionate (Taclonex®/Taclonex Scalp®) requires prior authorization (ie, clinical pharmacy and/or Medical Director review).

Calcipotriene and betamethasone dipropionate (Taclonex®/Taclonex Scalp®) is a combination of calcipotriene and betamethasone dipropionate. Calcipotriene is a synthetic analog of vitamin D3. Calcipotriene inhibits keratinocyte proliferation and
induces terminal differentiation of keratinocytes which reverses the abnormal keratinocyte change in psoriasis. Betamethasone dipropionate is a steroid that induces phospholipase A2 inhibitory proteins. These proteins inhibit the release of arachidonic acid, which is the precursor to inflammatory mediators such as prostaglandins and leukotrienes.

**Policy Guideline Inclusion**

**Calcipotriene and betamethasone dipropionate (Taclonex®/Taclonex Scalp®)** is approved when both of the following inclusion criteria are met:

- Documentation of psoriasis vulgaris in adults 18 years of age or older
- Documentation of the trial and failure of/intolerance to concurrent use of calcipotriene (Dovonex®) and a topical betamethasone product

**Policy Guideline Exclusion**

**Calcipotriene and betamethasone dipropionate (Taclonex®/Taclonex Scalp®)** is denied when any of the following exclusion criteria are present:

- No documentation of psoriasis vulgaris in adults 18 years of age or older
- No documentation of the trial and failure of/intolerance to concurrent use of calcipotriene (Dovonex®) and a topical betamethasone product

**Policy List of Applicable Drugs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand Name</th>
<th>Generic Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taclonex/Taclonex</td>
<td>Calcipotriene and betamethasone dipropionate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scalp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dosing and Administration**

Refer to the specific manufacturer's prescribing information for administration and dosage details for each specific agent.

**Policy References**


Calcipotriene and betamethasone dipropionate (Taclonex®/Taclonex Scalp®). In: Drugdex [online through Micromedex Healthcare Series]. Greenwood


Taclonex Scalp® Topical Suspension [package insert]. Rockaway, NJ: Warner Chilcott; 2008. Also available online at:

**Policy Link to Related Policies**

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