tradipitant (Nereus™)

EOCCO POLICY

Policy Type: PA/SP Pharmacy Coverage Policy: EOCCO344

Description

Tradipitant (Nereus) is an orally administered substance P/neurokinin-1 (NK-1) receptor antagonist.

Length of Authorization

- Initial: Six months
- Renewal: 12 months

Quantity Limits

Product Name	Indication	Dosage Form	Quantity Limit
tradipitant (Nereus)	Prevention of vomiting induced by motion in adults	85 mg capsules	8 capsules/30 days

Initial Evaluation

I. **Tradipitant (Nereus)** may be considered medically necessary when the following criteria are met:
   A. Member is 18 years of age or older; **AND**
   B. A diagnosis of **motion sickness** when the following are met:
      1. Diagnosis is complicated by a significant history of vomiting defined by consistent vomiting with most episodes of motion sickness; **AND**
   C. Provider attestation that the member is not diagnosed with any nausea-inducing disorder other than motion sickness (e.g., pregnancy, chemotherapy-induced nausea/vomiting, migraine, gastrointestinal disorders [GERD, ulcers, appendicitis, cholecystitis], infections/illness, taking nausea-inducing medications [e.g., glucagon-like peptide-1 agonists [GLP-1's], etc.); **AND**
   D. Treatment with the following has been ineffective, contraindicated, or not tolerated:
      1. Scopolamine transdermal patches; **AND**
      2. First-generation antihistamine (e.g., dimenhydrinate, promethazine, diphenhydramine, meclizine); **AND**
   E. Provider attestation that the member will practice behavioral modifications (e.g., avoidance of motion sickness stimuli, looking at a stable visual reference point, driving vs being passenger, etc.)

II. Tradipitant (Nereus) is considered <u>not medically necessary</u> when criteria above are not met and/or when used for:
   A. Motion sickness without history of vomiting
   B. Idiopathic and/or diabetic gastroparesis

III. Tradipitant (Nereus) is considered <u>investigational</u> when used for all other conditions, including but <u>not limited to</u>:
   A. Functional dyspepsia

B. Chemotherapy-induced nausea/vomiting
C. Pruritus associated with atopic dermatitis
D. Nausea/vomiting after GLP-1 agonist use
E. Treatment of COVID-19 infection

Renewal Evaluation

I. Member has received a previous prior authorization approval for this agent through this health plan or has been established on therapy from a previous health plan; **AND**
II. Member is not continuing therapy based off being established on therapy through samples, manufacturer coupons, or otherwise. If they have, initial policy criteria must be met for the member to qualify for renewal evaluation through this health plan; **AND**
III. Member has exhibited improvement or stability of disease symptoms [e.g., decreased frequency of vomiting].

Supporting Evidence

I. Quantity limits for use of tradipitant (Nereus) has been set to 8 capsules per 30 days. Results from clinical trials showed that participants did not take more than 8 doses in a 30-day period. Quantity requests beyond 8 capsules per 30 days has not been sufficiently studied nor deemed medically necessary to address motion sickness induced-vomiting.
II. Tradipitant (Nereus) has only been studied in the setting of adult patients aged 18 years of age or older. Tradipitant (Nereus) has not been FDA-approved for use in pediatric patients, and there are currently no scientific studies to evaluate the use of this agent in pediatric patients under the age of 18 years.
III. Motion sickness is a syndrome that occurs in response to real or perceived motion, which can include gastrointestinal, central nervous system, and autonomic symptoms. The most common symptoms of motion sickness are nausea, followed by vomiting. Motion sickness can be induced in almost all people with sufficient provocation, with incidence dependent on specific conditions encountered (e.g., voyages at sea, commercial airline flights, bus rides, etc.). Symptoms typically self-resolve within one or two days, and treatment is not generally necessary or recommended unless the patient has a ~~significant~~ history of motion sickness that impairs daily function. Nausea can progress to vomiting, which can impair a patient's normal functions and/or quality of life if occurrences are frequent and occurring in the majority of motion sickness-inducing events partaken by the patient.
IV. Tradipitant (Nereus) is a substance P/neurokinin-1 (NK-1) receptor antagonist. It is a capsule that is taken as a one-time dose prior to an anticipated event of motion sickness. Tradipitant (Nereus) is FDA-approved for use only in the setting of motion sickness. While vomiting can be caused by a variety of factors such as dyspepsia, gastroparesis, migraines, and chemotherapy, the safety and efficacy of tradipitant (Nereus) has not been evaluated in disease states other than motion sickness. Clinical trials evaluating the safety and efficacy of tradipitant (Nereus) in motion sickness excluded patients who were diagnosed with any nausea-inducing disorder other than motion sickness.

V. Tradipitant (Nereus) was studied in two Phase 3, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials (Motion Syros and Motion Serifos). In Motion Syros and Motion Serifos, a total of 365 and 316 participants were randomized in a 1:1:1 ratio to receive either 170 mg (n = 120, 106), 85 mg of tradipitant (Nereus) (n=123, 104), or placebo (n=122, 106) as a one-time dose prior to being assigned to one of thirty-four, four-hour boat voyages. The primary outcome was overall vomiting. Key secondary endpoints of Motion Syros were nausea severity score, overall motion sickness assessment questionnaire (MSAQ) score, and Patient Global Impression of Severity (PGI-S) score. Motion Serifos did not evaluate secondary endpoints. Most participants across all cohorts were female (56.3-66.7%), with a mean age of 46.3-48.6 years old, BMI of 27.1-27.4, and of white racial background (77.8-84.7%).

- Both Phase 3 studies were adequately randomized, blinded, and placebo controlled. Vomiting is a clinically meaningful outcome of the Motion Sickness Severity Scale (MSSS), and both doses of tradipitant (Nereus) showed a statistically and clinically significant difference in reducing occurrence of vomiting compared to placebo. However, secondary outcomes were not statistically significant in the Motion Syros trial. Although Motion Syros and Motion Serifos demonstrated clinically significant outcomes in vomiting, the trials did not demonstrate significant changes in nausea. Nausea is a significant component of motion sickness and the inability to demonstrate reduction in nausea limits tradipitant (Nereus)'s clinical application. Therefore, the overall quality of evidence is considered low.

VI. Symptoms of motion sickness typically self-resolve within one or two days, and treatment is not generally necessary or recommended unless the patient has a significant history of motion sickness that impairs daily function. There are some trials that found support for environmental changes such as looking at a stable visual reference point, and/or driving vs being passenger significantly reduced motion sickness. There are currently no universally accepted guidelines for the treatment of motion sickness; however, American Family Physician (AFP) does provide evidence-based recommendations for pharmacological treatment of motion sickness. The AFP (2012) recommends scopolamine and first generation antihistamines (e.g., dimenhydrinate, chlorpheniramine, diphenhydramine, meclizine) as prescription therapies for the prevention of motion sickness. AFP (2012) has not been updated to include tradipitant (Nereus) for the prevention/treatment of motion sickness. There are currently no head-head trials evaluating the superiority of tradipitant (Nereus) to standard of care motion sickness therapy. Trial of lifestyle modifications and standard of therapy is both cost effective and clinically appropriate.

Investigational or Not Medically Necessary Uses

I. Tradipitant (Nereus) has not been FDA-approved, or sufficiently studied for safety and efficacy for the conditions or settings listed below:
   A. **Motion sickness in the absence of vomiting**
      i. Results from the Motion Syros and Motion Serifos studies showed a statistically and clinically significant difference in vomiting caused by motion sickness when compared to placebo but failed to show a statistically significant difference

between tradipitant (Nereus) and placebo for the management of nausea. Results from Motion Syros and Motion Serifos led to the FDA-approval of tradipitant (Nereus) for the prevention of vomiting induced by motion in adults. There is currently insufficient evidence to support a benefit of tradipitant (Nereus) for prevention of nausea caused by motion sickness in the absence of vomiting.

B. **Idiopathic and/or diabetic gastroparesis**
    i. There is a completed Phase 3, multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to assess the efficacy of tradipitant (Nereus) in relieving symptoms of gastroparesis. Following submission of results, the FDA issued a complete response letter (CRL) declining approval due to lack of efficacy. The use of tradipitant (Nereus) for the treatment of gastroparesis is considered not medically necessary.
C. **Functional dyspepsia**
    i. There is currently a Phase 2, randomized, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the effects of tradipitant (Nereus) relative to placebo on gastric motor functions, satiation, and postprandial symptoms in patients with functional dyspepsia. This study is currently only enrolling by invitation and is estimated to be completed in June of 2026. At this time, there is insufficient scientific evidence to support the efficacy and safety of tradipitant (Nereus) for the treatment of functional dyspepsia
D. **Chemotherapy-induced nausea/vomiting**
    i. Tradipitant (Nereus) was evaluated in the setting of motion sickness. There are currently no studies to evaluate tradipiant (Nereus) in the prevention, nor the treatment of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting (CINV). There is insufficient scientific evidence to support the efficacy and safety of tradipitant (Nereus) in the setting of CINV.
E. **Pruritus associated with atopic dermatitis**
    i. There is currently a Phase 3, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled (EPIONE) trial to investigate the efficacy and safety of tradipitant (Nereus) to treat atopic dermatitis. The study has released results, but quality control review has not been concluded. At this time, there is insufficient scientific evidence to support the use of tradipitant (Nereus) for the treatment of atopic dermatitis.
F. **Nausea/vomiting after GLP-1 agonist use**
    i. There is currently a proof of concept, Phase 2, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the effects of tradipitant (Nereus) on nausea and vomiting After GLP-1R agonist administration in healthy overweight class I or class II obese volunteers. The study is completed but results have not been released nor published. At this time, there is insufficient scientific evidence to support the efficacy and safety of tradipitant (Nereus) for the management of nausea and vomiting caused by GLP-1R use.
G. **Treatment of COVID-19 infection**

i. There is currently a Phase 3, randomized, double-blind placebo-controlled (ODYSSEY) trial to investigate the efficacy and safety of tradipitant 85 mg orally given twice daily to treat inflammatory lung injury associated with severe or critical COVID-19 infection. The study is currently in review for quality control. At this time, there is insufficient scientific evidence to support the use of tradipitant (Nereus) for the treatment of COVID-19.

References

1. Tradipitant (Nereus) [prescribing information]. Washington, D.C.: Vanda Pharmaceuticals; December 2025.
2. Polymeropoulos VM, Kiely L, Bushman ML, et al. Motion Syros: tradipitant effective in the treatment of motion sickness; a multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. Front Neurol. 2025;16:1550670. Published 2025 Mar 4. doi:10.3389/fneur.2025.1550670
3. Sutton M, Mounsey AL, Russell RG. FPIN's Clinical Inquiries. Treatment of motion sickness. Am Fam Physician. 2012;86(2):192-195.
4. Gastroenterology Advisor. FDA Approves Novel Motion Sickness Treatment Nereus. Updated January 7, 2026. Accessed February 9, 2026. FDA Approves Novel Motion Sickness Treatment Nereus - Gastroenterology Advisor

Related Policies

Currently there are no related policies

Policy Implementation/Update:

Action and Summary of Changes	Date
Policy created	05/2026