



Prior Authorization Approval Criteria

Aplenzin (bupropion hydrobromide)

Generic name:	Bupropion hydrobromide
Brand name:	Aplenzin
Medication class:	Antidepressant
FDA-approved uses:	Treatment of major depressive disorder (MDD)
Available dosage forms:	174 mg, 348 mg and 522 mg tablets
Usual dose:	Start at 174 mg/day to a target dose of 348 mg/day
Approximate monthly cost:	174mg- \$174.30
Based on AWP from 2009	348mg- \$229.80
	522mg- \$522.90
Duration of therapy:	Indefinite

Criteria for use (*bullet points below are all inclusive unless otherwise noted*):

- Clinically diagnosed major depressive disorder (MDD).
- Must have tried and failed generic bupropion
- Must have tried and failed at least one generic SSRI or another antidepressant

Contraindications:

- Patients with seizure disorders
- Patients using other bupropion products, including Zyban
- Current or prior diagnosis of bulimia or anorexia nervosa
- Use of MAO inhibitor (stop MAOI at least 2 weeks prior to bupropion use)
- Patients allergic to any of the ingredients of Aplenzin
- Abrupt discontinuation of alcohol, sedatives (including benzodiazepines)

Not approved if:

- Patient has any contraindications to the use of Aplenzin.
- Patient does not meet the above-stated criteria.

Special considerations:

Switching From Other Forms of bupropion

The equivalent doses of *Aplenzin* to bupropion hydrochloride (HCl) are as follows:

Aplenzin 174 mg equals bupropion HCl 150 mg

Aplenzin 348 mg equals bupropion HCl 300 mg

Aplenzin 522 mg equals bupropion HCl 450 mg

FCHP Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee approval: _____

Date: _____

Adopted: 09/09/09