# WELCHOL (COLESEVELAM)

**Products Affected**

- WELCHOL

## PA Criteria | Criteria Details
---|---
**Covered Uses** | *Adjunct to diet and exercise to:*
* Reduce elevated low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) in adults with primary hyperlipidemia as monotherapy or in combination with a hydroxymethyl-glutaryl-coenzyme A (HMG CoA) reductase inhibitor (statin).
* Reduce LDL-C levels in males and postmenarcheal females, 10 to 17 years of age, with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia as monotherapy or in combination with a statin after failing an adequate trial of diet therapy.
* Improve glycemic control in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus.

**Exclusion Criteria** | N/A

**Required Medical Information** | *Patient must be clinically diagnosed with primary hyperlipidemia and had failure, intolerance or contraindication to cholestyramine and colestipol.*

*OR*

*Clinically diagnosed with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia and between the ages of 10 and 17 and had failure, intolerance or contraindication to a statin (such as lovastatin, simvastatin, or pravastatin).*

*OR*

*Clinically diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus and had failure, intolerance or contraindication to metformin.*

**Age Restrictions** | *Must be 18 years or older for primary Hyperlipidemia or type 2 diabetes mellitus or*

*Between the ages of 10 and 17 with Heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia*

**Prescriber Restrictions** | *Must be prescribed by or in consultation with a cardiologist, endocrinologist or lipid specialist.*

**Coverage Duration** | *Indefinite*

**Other Criteria** | *Continuation of therapy criteria:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PA Criteria</th>
<th>Criteria Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Patient is tolerating treatment.</td>
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<td>*Patient has disease stabilization or improvement in disease (as defined by standard parameters for the patient's condition).</td>
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<td>*Benefit Type: Pharmacy</td>
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<td>*Adopted: 6/8/16</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*Reviewed: 3/8/17 added prerequisite drug &amp; continuation of therapy, 2/14/18: added Prescribed by or in consultation with a cardiologist, endocrinologist or lipid specialist, added statins such as lovastatin, simvastatin, or pravastatin to criteria for use, removed cautions, contraindications and special considerations.</td>
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