



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Illinois**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois Provider Manual

HMO Scope of Benefits Section

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, a Division of Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company,
an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Hyaluronan (Durolane, Orthovisc, Monovisc, Euflexxa, Supartz, Hymovis, Gel-ONE, GelSyn-3, GenVisc 850, Hyalgan, Visco-3, Synvisc/Synvisc-One and TriVisc)+

Benefit

Treatment with Hyaluronan (including, but not limited to: Durolane, Orthovisc, Monovisc, Euflexxa, Supartz, Hymovis, Gel-ONE, GelSyn-3, GenVisc 850, Hyalgan, Visco-3, Synvisc/Synvisc-One and TriVisc) is in benefit for members if determined medically necessary by the Primary Care Physician (PCP).

Interpretation

Hyaluronan is a naturally-occurring polysaccharide macromolecule. It is a major component of synovial fluid and of articular cartilage. Hyaluronan contributes to the viscosity of the synovial fluid and lubricates the joint. The joint is thus subject to less wear and damage.

Osteoarthritis is a common disease in which synovial fluid is less abundant or less viscous. These and other disease factors result in pain, deformity and stiffness of the arthritic joint.

Commercial preparations of Hyaluronan are currently derived from rooster combs. The preparation is injected directly into the knee joint in a series of weekly treatments. The FDA has classified Hyaluronan as a device, rather than a drug. The IPA purchases these injectables for subsequent reimbursement from the HMO.

Paid by	Professional Charges	IPA
	Injection material	HMO*

*The IPA may either purchase the material and receive reimbursement from the HMO

OR

*Forward the claim to the HMO who will pay the provider directly.

Claims should be stamped group approved.

Please make a notation on the claim that this is a Hyaluronan (Durolane, Orthovisc, Monovisc, Euflexxa, Supartz, Hymovis, Gel-ONE, GelSyn-3, GenVisc 850, Hyalgan, Visco-3, Synvisc/Synvisc-One and TriVisc) claim.

Note: Autologous Cultured Chondrocytes, implant (J7330) has been classified as a drug, not a device. Therefore, the financial liability is:

Professional and Drug Charges	IPA (Administered in an outpatient setting)
Outpatient Surgical and Inpatient Facility Charges	HMO