

Insulin Pens

INDICATIONS AND USAGE¹

An insulin pen is an injection device, used by diabetics to give insulin shots. They are about the size and shape of a magic marker. It delivers insulin into the fatty tissue below the skin (usually in the arm, thigh, or stomach) via a short, thin disposable needle. Current FDA guidance does not recommend the breaking of insulin pen boxes that contain multiple pens, due to the potential for medication and dosing errors.

CRITERIA (used to determine appropriate utilization)¹

1. Recent updates to the manufacturer's packaging include a statement about dispensing insulin pens in the original sealed cartons only. If the pharmacist chooses to use professional judgement to open the carton, such as in long term care settings, you will not be subject to recovery, if the submitted claim is accurate. Pharmacies should always calculate and bill the true day supply and may reduce the day supply per the plan limitations.
2. If exact directions are not provided by the prescriber (I.E. "as directed" or "prn"), the pharmacist must contact the prescriber to obtain mathematically useful directions so an accurate day supply can be calculated and submitted. The prescriber's verbal indications must be documented on the original prescription in accordance with applicable legislation. Documentation should include changes to directions, authorizing agent, date, time and pharmacist's initials.

QUANTITY LIMITS

- Up to a maximum of 90-day supply on insulin pen products listed on Table 1 (To allow for the submission of the correct day supply, without breaking the box.)

REFERENCES / FOOTNOTES:

1. FDA advises health care professionals and patients about insulin pen packaging and dispensing. [press release]. Silver Spring, MD: US Food & Drug Administration; October 13, 2020. https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-advises-health-care-professionals-and-patients-about-insulin-pen-packaging-and-dispensing?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery Accessed on 10/26/2020.

ALASKA MEDICAID
Clinical Criteria for Use

Table 1.

ADMELOG SOLOSTAR
APIDRA SOLOSTAR
BASAGLAR KWIKPEN U-100
FIASP FLEXTOUCH
HUMALOG CARTRIDGE
HUMALOG JUNIOR KWIKPEN
HUMALOG KWIKPEN U-100
HUMALOG KWIKPEN U-200
HUMALOG MIX 50-50 KWIKPEN
HUMALOG MIX 75-25 KWIKPEN
HUMULIN 70/30 KWIKPEN
HUMULIN N KWIKPEN
HUMULIN R CARTRIDGE
HUMULIN R U-500 KWIKPEN
INSULIN ASPART FLEXPEN
INSULIN ASPART PENFILL
INSULIN ASPART PROT-INSULN ASP
INSULIN LISPRO JUNIOR KWIKPEN
INSULIN LISPRO KWIKPEN U-100
INSULIN LISPRO KWIKPEN U-100
INSULIN LISPRO PROTAMINE MIX
LANTUS SOLOSTAR
LEVEMIR FLEXTOUCH
NOVOLIN 70-30 FLEXPEN
NOVOLIN N FLEXPEN
NOVOLIN R FLEXPEN
NOVOLOG CARTRIDGE
NOVOLOG FLEXPEN
NOVOLOG MIX 70-30 FLEXPEN
SEMGLEE PEN
TOUJEO MAX SOLOSTAR
TOUJEO SOLOSTAR
TRESIBA FLEXTOUCH U-100
TRESIBA FLEXTOUCH U-200

Insulin Pen Clinical Criteria

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