



Therapeutic Class ReviewSM

Nasal Corticosteroids – Beconase AQ[®]

April 2007

Available Therapeutic Alternatives:

Preferred/Formulary	Non-Preferred/Non-Formulary
beclomethasone (Beconase AQ [®]) [Glaxo]	
budesonide (Rhinocort AQ [®]) [AstraZeneca]	
flunisolide (Nasarel [®] , Nasalide [®]) - generics	
fluticasone (Flonase [®]) - generics	
mometasone (Nasonex [®]) [Schering]	
triamcinolone (Nasacort AQ [®]) [Aventis]	

Executive Summary:

- The nasal corticosteroid market has substantially changed in the last 5 years with generic options available for Flonase, Nasalide, and Nasarel.
- From previous P and T and Class reviews, all products are considered similar in efficacy and safety.
- Beclomethasone (Beconase AQ) has a long track record for safety and efficacy; however, it is now the most expensive option, with no added clinical value.

Conclusion:

Beclomethasone (Beconase AQ) is non-preferred/non-formulary because:

- Market changes now make generic options the best value.
- Maintaining beclomethasone (Beconase AQ) as preferred/formulary would increase overall costs.

Appendix 1: Nasal Corticosteroid Product Comparison

Product /Patent Expiration	Min Age	Status Patent Exp.	Qty	Dose	Puffs per day	Cost per canister	Puffs per canister	Days per package	Cost per puff	Approximate Cost per day
Beconase AQ [®]	6yo+	F Not listed	25 gm	1-2 puffs each nostril BID	4-8	\$114	180	22.5 - 45 days	\$0.63	\$2.53 - \$5.06
Rhinocort Aqua [®]	6yo+	F 4/2017	8.6 gm	1-4 puffs each nostril QD	2-8	\$92	120	15 - 60 days	\$0.77	\$1.53 - \$6.12
flunisolide (Nasarel [®])	6yo+	F	25 gm	1 puff BID-TID; Max 8 puffs each nostril daily.	4-16	\$29	200	12.5 - 50 days	\$0.14	\$0.58 - \$2.30
fluticasone (Flonase [®])	4yo+	F	16 gm	1-2 puffs each nostril QD - BID	2-8	\$48	120	15 - 60 days	\$0.40	\$0.80 - \$3.20
Nasonex [®]	2yo+	F 7/2014	17 gm	1-2 puffs each nostril QD	2-4	\$91	120	30 - 60 days	\$0.76	\$1.52 - \$3.05
Nasacort AQ [®]	6yo+	F 7/2017	16.5 gm	1-2 puffs each nostril QD	2-4	\$93	120	30 - 60 days	\$0.78	\$1.55 - \$3.11

F = Formulary

* Cost estimate based on AWP (average wholesale price) listed in First Data Bank or MAC (Maximum Allowable Cost) as of January 18, 2007.