VENTURA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE PLAN

RILUTEK (riluzole)

Effective Date: 1/28/14

Date Developed: 1/28/14 by Robert Sterling, MD

Last Approval Date: 1/26/16, 1/24/17, 1/23/18, 1/22/19, 2/18/20, 2/2/21; 8/3/21, 2/1/22, 1/31/23, 2/13/24

Rilutek is used in the palliative treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) to extend survival and/or time to tracheostomy. Its mechanism of action is not known. Pharmacologic properties include inhibitory effect on glutamate release, inactivation of voltage-dependent sodium channels; and ability to interfere with intracellular events that follow transmitter binding at excitatory amino acid receptors

Authorization: patients diagnosed with ALS

Dosing: 50mg every 12 hours, one hour before or two hours after a meal; little or no benefit to increased doses

NOTE: Significant drug interactions exist, requiring dose/frequency adjustment or avoidance. Consult drug interactions database for more information.

PRECAUTIONS: use with caution in patients with liver disease; a high-fat meal decreases absorption; smoking may decrease the serum concentration; neutropenia; hypersensitivity pneumonitis; nausea; abdominal pain; constipation or diarrhea; methemoglobinemia; asthenia

DRUG INTERACTIONS: CYP1A2 Inhibitors may increase the serum concentration; CYP1A2 Inducers may decrease the serum concentration

REFERENCES

Bensimon G, Lacomblez L, Meininger V, et al, "A Controlled Trial of Riluzole in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. ALS/Riluzole Study Group," *N Engl J Med*, 1994, 330(9):585-91

Wokke J, "Riluzole," *Lancet*, 1996, 348(9030):795-9.

Exservan (riluzole) [prescribing information]. Warren, NJ: Aquestive Therapeutics; April 2021.

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