Subject: **Victoza (liraglutide [rDNA origin] injection)***

Effective Date: **2/22/2011**

Department(s): **Utilization Management**

Policy: For members whose injectable medication is covered through the medical benefit, Victoza is reimbursable under Plans administered by QualCare, Inc. when medical necessity criteria specified below are met.

Objective: To ensure proper and consistent reimbursement for a medically necessary service.

Procedure: Victoza is considered medically necessary for the treatment of type II diabetes mellitus when there is documentation of all of the following:

A. The glycohemoglobin (A1c) value is greater than 7%.

And

B. Documented failure of three months use of exenatide (Byetta) to achieve an A1c of 7% or less.

Or

C. Documented intolerance to or contraindication to exenatide (Byetta).

References:

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Vilsbøll T, Zdravkovic M, Le-Thi T, Krarup T, Schmitz O, Courrèges JP, Verhoeven R, Bugánová I, Madsbad S. Liraglutide, a long-acting human glucagon-like peptide-1 analog, given as monotherapy significantly improves glycemic control and lowers body weight without risk of hypoglycemia in patients with type 2 diabetes. Diabetes Care. 2007 Jun;30(6):1608-10.

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Approved By/Date: QMC, 02/22/11

**Consistent with Summary Plan Description (SPD). When there is discordance between this policy and the SPD, the provisions of the SPD prevail