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| **Document:** | **In-Office Excimer Letter** |
| **Author:** | Global Vitiligo Foundation |
| **Date:** |  |

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| **Patient name:** |  |
| **Patient DOB:** |  |
| **Patient address:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |
| **Medical Policy#:**  |  |
| **Service requested:** | In-office excimer laser treatment |
| **Diagnosis:** | Vitiligo, ICD-10 code L80 |
| **CPT code:** | 96920, 96921, or 96922 |
| **Procedure/Treatment:** | Phototherapy with excimer laser |

To Whom It May Concern,

The above patient has been under my care for the treatment of vitiligo since \*\*\*. Vitiligo is an autoimmune disease causing disfiguring depigmentation of the body. The significant emotional distress and decreased quality of life of patients caused by untreated vitiligo reinforces the fact that vitiligo is not a cosmetic disease. This patient suffers from vitiligo over \*\*\*(specify locations)\*\*\*, involving approximately \*\*\*% body surface area (including highly visible areas like the face and hands). The Xenon-Chloride 308nm Excimer laser is a safe and effective method of delivering light therapy to patients with vitiligo. This form of light therapy is especially useful in patients with localized disease, as the laser allows for targeting of individual lesions. This avoids unnecessary exposure of unaffected skin to UVB light and permits higher treatment dosages compared to full body treatment in a light box.

The efficacy of the xenon-chloride 308nm excimer laser has been proven through numerous well‐designed and peer‐reviewed clinical studies as well as extensive clinical use (over 2,000,000 procedures in the U.S.). In addition, excimer laser-induced repigmentation has been shown to improve quality of life in patients with vitiligo. It is a safe, effective and beneficial treatment option for patients suffering from vitiligo, and is considered one of the standard of care therapeutic options for vitiligo, as described in the treatment guidelines published by the American Academy of Dermatology.

I have prescribed excimer laser phototherapy two to three times weekly for this patient in order to prevent disease progression and reverse depigmentation. Due to the severity and extent of the disease, I believe that excimer laser treatments will be required for an extended period of time, likely a minimum of 9-12 months of treatment. I believe this is a medically necessary treatment for this patient and should be covered by their insurance provider.

Please contact me if you need any further information.

Sincerely,

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*, M.D.

\*\*(title)\*\*, Dermatology

1. Ezzedine K, Sheth V, Rodrigues M, Eleftheriadou V, Harris JE, Hamzavi IH, et al. Vitiligo is not a cosmetic disease. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. 2015;73(5):883-5. Epub 2015/10/18. doi: 10.1016/j.jaad.2015.07.039. PubMed PMID: 26475548.
2. Al-Shobaili HA. Treatment of vitiligo patients by excimer laser improves patients' quality of life. Journal of cutaneous medicine and surgery. 2015;19(1):50-6. Epub 2015/03/17. doi: 10.2310/7750.2014.14002. PubMed PMID: 25775664.
3. Taieb A, Alomar A, Bohm M, Dell'anna ML, De Pase A, Eleftheriadou V, et al. Guidelines for the management of vitiligo: the European Dermatology Forum consensus. The British journal of dermatology. 2013;168 (1):5-19. Epub 2012/08/07. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2133.2012.11197.x. PubMed PMID: 22860621.
4. Alhowaish, A.K., Dietrich, N., Onder, M., & Fritz, K., (2012). Effectiveness of a 308-nm excimer laser in treatment of vitiligo: a review*. Lasers in Medical Science*, 28(3), 1035-41.