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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Patient name:** |  |
| **Patient DOB:** |  |
| **Patient address:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |
| **Medical Policy#:**  |  |
| **Service requested:** | NBUVB treatment via inpatient phototherapy unit |
| **Diagnosis:** | Vitiligo, ICD-10 code L80 |
| **CPT code:** | 96900 |
| **Procedure/Treatment:** | Phototherapy with NBUVB without mineral oil |

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). Narrow Band Ultraviolet B (NBUVB) phototherapy is the treatment of choice for this illness and is recognized by the American Academy of Dermatology. It is considered medically necessary and has proven efficacy as a standard treatment to modify disease progression. NBUVB induced repigmentation has been shown to cause dramatic improvements in quality of life in patients with vitiligo.

I have prescribed NBUVB phototherapy 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 NBUVB 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, et al. Vitiligo is not a cosmetic disease. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. 2015;73(5):883-885.
2. Tjioe M, Otero ME, van de Kerkhof PC, Gerritsen MJ. Quality of life in vitiligo patients after treatment with long-term narrowband ultraviolet B phototherapy. J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol. 2005 Jan;19(1):56-60.
3. Gawkrodger DJ, et al. Guideline for the diagnosis and management of vitiligo. Br J Dermatol 2008; 159: 1051-76.