

Clinical Policy: Crofelemer (Mytesi)

Reference Number: CP.CPA.32

Effective Date: 11.16.16

Last Review Date: 08.21

Line of Business: Commercial

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

Crofelemer (Mytesi[®]) is an anti-diarrheal.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Mytesi is indicated for the symptomatic relief of non-infectious diarrhea in adult patients with human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) on anti-retroviral therapy.

Policy/Criteria

Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation[®] that Mytesi is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Non-Infectious Diarrhea in HIV/AIDS (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS;
2. Age \geq 18 years;
3. Member has non-infectious diarrhea;
4. Member is currently receiving anti-retroviral therapy as evidenced by claims history;
5. Failure of an antidiarrheal medication (e.g., loperamide, diphenoxylate/atropine, bismuth subsalicylate), unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
6. Dose does not exceed 250 mg (2 tablets) per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications

1. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial.

II. Continued Therapy

A. Non-Infectious Diarrhea in HIV/AIDS (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;

3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 250 mg (2 tablets) per day.

Approval duration: 12 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy.

Approval duration: Duration of request or 6 months (whichever is less); or

2. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial.

III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:

A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off label use policies – CP.CPA.09 for commercial or evidence of coverage documents;

B. Irritable bowel syndrome with diarrhea.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

AIDS: acquired immune deficiency syndrome

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

HIV: human immunodeficiency virus

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
loperamide (Imodium [®])	2 mg PO after each loose stool	16 mg/day
diphenoxylate/atropine (Lomotil [®])	2 tablets (5-0.05 mg) PO QID	20 mg/day (diphenoxylate)
bismuth subsalicylate (PeptoBismol [®])	Regular strength: 524 mg PO every 0.5-1 hour as needed Extra strength: 1,050 mg PO every 1 hour as needed	Regular strength: 4,192 mg/day (8 doses/24 hours) Extra strength: 4,200 mg/day (4 doses/24 hours)

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name[®] (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name[®]) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

None reported

Appendix D: General Information

- Mytesi was known by the trade name Fulyzaq until October 2016.

- In a 12-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial evaluating 3 doses (125 mg, 250 mg, 500 mg BID) of Mytesi in 242 patients with diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome, Mytesi did not produce significant improvement in stool consistency, the primary endpoint.

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Non-infectious diarrhea in HIV/AIDS	One 125 mg tablet PO BID	250 mg/day

VI. Product Availability

Delayed-release tablet: 125 mg

VII. References

1. Mytesi Prescribing Information. San Francisco, CA: Napo Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; November 2020. Available at: www.mytesi.com. Accessed March 18, 2021.
2. Mangel AW, Chaturvedi P. Evaluation of crofelemer in the treatment of diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome patients. *Digestion*. 2008; 78(4): 180-186.
3. Micromedex[®] Healthcare Series [Internet database]. Greenwood Village, Colo: Thomson Healthcare. Updated periodically. Accessed May 21, 2019.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Converted to new template; minor changes to verbiage and grammar. References updated.	01.18.17	08.17
3Q 2018 annual review: policy name changed to reflect new trade name Mytesi; added age, max dose, and positive response to therapy; added requirement for current anti-retroviral therapy use per FDA indication; added bismuth subsalicylate as a trial/failure option per Mytesi clinical trial inclusion criteria; modified approval durations from length of benefit to 6/12 months; added IBS-D as a diagnosis not covered; references reviewed and updated.	05.10.18	08.18
3Q 2019 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	05.21.19	08.19
3Q 2020 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	04.20.20	08.20
3Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	03.18.21	08.21

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and

accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

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