

Clinical Policy: Bendamustine (Bendeka, Treanda)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.307

Effective Date: 02.01.17

Last Review Date: 11.18

Line of Business: Commercial, Medicaid, HIM-Medical Benefit

[Coding Implications](#)[Revision Log](#)

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

Description

Bendamustine hydrochloride (Bendeka[®], Treanda[®]) is an alkylating drug.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Bendeka and Treanda are indicated for the treatment of patients with:

- Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL); Efficacy relative to first line therapies other than chlorambucil has not been established
- Indolent B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) that has progressed during or within six months of treatment with rituximab or a rituximab-containing regimen

Policy/Criteria

Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes and 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 Bendeka and Treanda are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria**A. Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia/Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) (i.e., small lymphocytic lymphoma [SLL]);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Dose does not exceed (i or ii):
 - i. Bendeka: 100 mg/m² on Days 1 and 2 of a 28-day cycle, up to 6 cycles;
 - ii. Treanda: 100 mg/m² on Days 1 and 2 of a 28-day cycle, up to 6 cycles;
 - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Non-Hodgkin B-Cell Lymphomas (must meet all):

1. One of the following diagnoses (a through j):
 - a. Indolent B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma that has progressed during or within six months of treatment with rituximab or a rituximab-containing regimen;
 - b. Follicular lymphoma;
 - c. Gastric MALT lymphoma;

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- d. Nongastric MALT lymphoma;
- e. Nodal marginal zone lymphoma;
- f. Splenic marginal zone lymphoma;
- g. Mantle cell lymphoma;
- h. Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma;
- i. AIDS-related B-cell lymphoma;
- j. Monomorphic post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder (PTLD) (B-cell type);
2. If the member has a diagnosis of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, AIDS-related B-cell lymphoma, or monomorphic PTLD (B-cell type), member has used appropriate prior therapy (*see Appendix B for examples*);
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
4. Age \geq 18 years;
5. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Dose does not exceed (i or ii):
 - i. Bendeka: 120 mg/m² on Days 1 and 2 of a 21-day cycle, up to 8 cycles;
 - ii. Treanda: 120 mg/m² on Days 1 and 2 of a 21-day cycle, up to 8 cycles;
 - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 6 months

C. Non-Hodgkin T-Cell Lymphomas (off-label) (must meet all):

1. One of the following diagnoses (a, b, c, or d):
 - a. Peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL) and (i);
 - b. Mycosis fungoides (MF)/Sezary syndrome (SS);
 - c. Primary cutaneous CD30+ T-cell lymphoproliferative disorders;
 - d. Adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma;
2. If the member has a diagnosis of PTCL or adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma, member has used appropriate prior therapy (*see Appendix B for examples*);
3. If member has a diagnosis of primary cutaneous CD30+ T-cell lymphoproliferative disorders, medication is prescribed as a single-agent therapy for relapsed/refractory disease;
4. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
5. Age \geq 18 years;
6. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Dose does not exceed the FDA approved maximum recommended dose for the relevant drug;
 - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 6 months

D. Hodgkin Lymphoma (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of classical Hodgkin lymphoma (HL);
2. Disease is relapsed or refractory;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
4. Age \geq 18 years;

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5. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Dose does not exceed the FDA approved maximum recommended dose for the relevant drug;
 - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 6 months

E. Multiple Myeloma (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of multiple myeloma (MM);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. Member has used appropriate prior therapy (*see Appendix B for examples*)
5. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Dose does not exceed the FDA-approved maximum recommended dose for the relevant drug;
 - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 6 months

F. Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia/Lymphoplasmacytic Lymphoma (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia (i.e., lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Dose does not exceed the FDA-approved maximum recommended dose for the relevant drug;
 - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 6 months

G. 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, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy**A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all):**

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Bendeka or Treanda for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for a dose increase, request meets (a or b):

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- a. New dose does not exceed (i or ii):
 - i. CLL/SLL:
 - a) Bendeka: 100 mg/m² on Days 1 and 2 of a 28-day cycle, up to 6 cycles;
 - b) Treanda: 100 mg/m² Days 1 and 2 of a 28-day cycle, up to 6 cycles;
 - ii. Non-Hodgkin indolent B-cell lymphoma:
 - a) Bendeka: 120 mg/m² on Days 1 and 2 of a 21-day cycle, up to 8 cycles;
 - b) Treanda: 120 mg/m² on days 1 and 2 of a 21-day cycle, up to 8 cycles;
- b. New dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

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, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

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, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

CLL: chronic lymphocytic leukemia
 FDA: Food and Drug Administration
 HL: Hodgkin lymphoma
 MF: mycosis fungoides
 MM: multiple myeloma
 NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network

NHL: non-Hodgkin lymphoma
 PTCL: peripheral T-cell lymphoma
 PTLN: post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder
 SLL: small lymphocytic lymphoma
 SS: Sezary syndrome

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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 |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Examples of first-line therapy for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma | | |
| RCHOP (Rituxan® [rituximab], cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone) | Varies | Varies |
| EPOCH (etoposide, prednisone, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin) + Rituxan® (rituximab) | Varies | Varies |
| RCEPP (Rituxan® [rituximab], cyclophosphamide, etoposide, prednisone, procarbazine) | Varies | Varies |
| RCDOP (Rituxan® [rituximab], cyclophosphamide, liposomal doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone) | Varies | Varies |
| RGCVP (Rituxan® [rituximab], gemcitabine, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, prednisolone) | Varies | Varies |
| Examples of first-line therapy for AIDS-related B-cell lymphomas | | |
| EPOCH (etoposide, prednisone, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin) + Rituxan® (rituximab) | Varies | Varies |
| CHOP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone) + Rituxan® (rituximab) | Varies | Varies |
| Examples of first-line therapy for PTCL | | |
| CHOP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone) | Varies | Varies |
| CHOEP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, etoposide, prednisone) | Varies | Varies |
| EPOCH (etoposide, prednisone, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin) | Varies | Varies |
| Examples of first-line therapy for adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma | | |
| CHOP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone) | Varies | Varies |
| CHOEP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, etoposide, prednisone) | Varies | Varies |
| EPOCH (etoposide, prednisone, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin) | Varies | Varies |

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| Drug Name | Dosing Regimen | Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose |
|--|----------------|--------------------------|
| HyperCVAD (cyclophosphamide, vincristine, doxorubicin, dexamethasone) alternating with high-dose methotrexate and cytarabine | Varies | Varies |
| Examples of primary therapy for MM | | |
| Bortezomib/lenalidomide/dexamethasone | Varies | Varies |
| Bortezomib/cyclophosphamide/dexamethasone | Varies | Varies |
| Examples of chemoimmunotherapy for monomorphic PTLD (B-cell type) | | |
| RCHOP (Rituxan [®] [rituximab], cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone) | Varies | Varies |
| RCEPP (Rituxan [®] [rituximab], cyclophosphamide, etoposide, prednisone, procarbazine) | Varies | Varies |
| RCVP (Rituxan [®] [rituximab], cyclophosphamide, vincristine, prednisone) | Varies | Varies |
| RCEOP (Rituxan [®] [rituximab], cyclophosphamide, etoposide, vincristine, prednisone) | Varies | Varies |

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

- Contraindication(s):
 - Bendeka: patients with a history of a hypersensitivity reaction to bendamustine, polyethylene glycol 400, propylene glycol, or monothioglycerol
 - Treanda: patients with a history of a hypersensitivity reaction to bendamustine
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

V. Dosage and Administration

| Indication | Dosing Regimen | Maximum Dose |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| CLL/SLL* | Bendeka: 100 mg/m ² IV over 10 minutes on Days 1 and 2 of a 28-day cycle, up to 6 cycles Treanda: 100 mg/m ² IV over 30 minutes on days 1 and 2 of a 28-day cycle, up to 6 cycles | See regimen |
| Indolent B-cell lymphoma* | Bendeka: 120 mg/m ² IV over 10 minutes on Days 1 and 2 of a 21-day cycle, up to 8 cycles Treanda: 120 mg/m ² IV over 60 minutes on days 1 and 2 of a 21-day cycle, up to 8 cycles | See regimen |

*Non-Hodgkin lymphomas

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VI. Product Availability

| Drug Name | Availability |
|------------------------|--|
| Bendamustine (Bendeka) | Solution (multiple-dose vial): 100 mg/4 mL |
| Bendamustine (Treanda) | Solution (single-dose vial): 45 mg/0.5 mL; 180 mg/2 mL Lyophilized powder (single-dose vial): 25 mg in a 20 mL vial; 100 mg in a 20 mL vial |

VII. References

1. Bendeka Prescribing Information. North Wales, PA: Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.; April 2018. Available at: <http://www.bendeka.com/>. Accessed July 17, 2018.
2. Treanda Prescribing Information. North Wales, PA: Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.; December 2017. Available at: <http://treandahcp.com/>. Accessed July 17, 2018.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at: http://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug_compendium. Accessed July 11, 2018.
4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma Version 5.2018. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/cll.pdf. Accessed July 11, 2018.
5. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. B-cell lymphomas Version 4.2018. Available at [nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org). Accessed July 17, 2018.
6. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. T-cell lymphomas Version 4.2018. Available at [nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org). Accessed July 17, 2018.
7. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Hodgkin lymphoma Version 3.2018. Available at [nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org). Accessed July 18, 2018.
8. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Multiple myeloma Version 4.2018. Available at [nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org). Accessed July 17, 2018.
9. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Waldenstrom’s macroglobulinemia/lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma Version 1.2018. Available at [nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org). Accessed July 17, 2018.

Coding Implications

Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

| HCPCS Codes | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| J9033 | Injection, bendamustine HCl (Treanda), 1 mg |
| J9034 | Injection, bendamustine HCl (Bendeka), 1 mg |

| Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals | Date | P&T Approval Date |
|--|-------------|------------------------------|
| Policy split from CP.PHAR.182 Excellus Oncology. | 01.01.17 | 02.17 |
| Age and dosing added | 09.05.17 | 11.17 |

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| Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals | Date | P&T Approval Date |
|---|----------|-------------------|
| Safety information removed. NCCN recommended uses added separately. Removed HCPCS code for bevacizumab. Removed ICD-10-CM codes. | | |
| 4Q 2018 annual review: HIM-Medical Benefit added; summarized NCCN and FDA-approved uses for improved clarity; added age requirement and specialist involvement in care; added PTLD (category 2A recommendation) as a covered indication per NCCN compendium; updated continued therapy section to include language for continuity of care; references reviewed and updated. | 07.17.18 | 11.18 |
| Added Commercial line of business to policy. | 10.08.19 | |

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.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

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This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

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Note: For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

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