

Clinical Policy: Trastuzumab/Biosimilars, Trastuzumab-Hyaluronidase

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.228

Effective Date: 06.01.16

Last Review Date: 05.20

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

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

Description

- Trastuzumab (Herceptin®) is a human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)/neu receptor antagonist.
- Trastuzumab-dkst (Ogivri™), trastuzumab-pkrb (Herzuma®), trastuzumab-dttb (Ontruzant®), trastuzumab-qyyp (Trazimera™), and trastuzumab-anns (Kanjinti™) are Herceptin biosimilars.
- Trastuzumab-hyaluronidase-oysk (Herceptin Hylecta™) is a combination of trastuzumab and hyaluronidase, an endoglycosidase.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Indications*	Description	Herceptin, Ogivri, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti	Herzuma	Herceptin Hylecta
Adjuvant breast cancer	For adjuvant treatment of HER2-overexpressing node positive or node negative (ER/PR negative or with one high risk feature) breast cancer:	As part of a treatment regimen consisting of doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, and either paclitaxel or docetaxel	X	X
		As part of a treatment regimen with docetaxel and carboplatin	X	X
		As a single agent following multi-modality anthracycline based therapy	X	X
Metastatic breast cancer	In combination with paclitaxel for first-line treatment of HER2-overexpressing metastatic breast cancer	X	X	X
	As a single agent for treatment of HER2-overexpressing breast cancer in patients who have received one or more	X	X	X

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Indications*	Description	Herceptin, Ogivri, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti	Herzuma	Herceptin Hylecta
	chemotherapy regimens for metastatic disease			
Gastric cancer	In combination with cisplatin and capecitabine or 5-fluorouracil for the treatment of patients with HER2-overexpressing metastatic gastric or gastroesophageal junction (esophagogastric junction; EGJ) adenocarcinoma who have not received prior treatment for metastatic disease	X	X	—

*Select patients for therapy based on an FDA-approved companion diagnostic for trastuzumab.

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 Herceptin/biosimilars and Herceptin Hylecta are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria**A. Breast Cancer** (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of HER2-positive breast cancer or leptomeningeal metastases from HER2-positive breast cancer;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. For requests other than Ogivri or Trazimera, member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Medical justification supports inability to use Ogivri or Trazimera (e.g., contraindications to excipients);
**Prior authorization may be required for Ogivri and Trazimera*
 - b. Request is for Stage IV or metastatic cancer for a State with regulations against step therapy in advanced oncology settings (*see Appendix E*);
5. Request meets one of the following (a, b, c, or d):*
 - a. Herceptin, Ogivri, Herzuma, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti: Dose does not exceed 8 mg/kg IV for adjuvant therapy or 4 mg/kg IV for treatment of metastatic disease (*see Appendix D for dose rounding guidelines*);
 - b. Herceptin, Ogivri, Herzuma, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti: Intrathecal administration for leptomeningeal metastasis;
 - c. Herceptin Hylecta: Dose does not exceed 600 mg/10,000 units SC every 3 weeks (*see Appendix D for dose rounding guidelines*);

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- d. Dose/product is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

**Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Gastric, Esophageal and Esophagogastric Junction Cancer (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of HER2-positive metastatic gastric, esophageal, or EGJ adenocarcinoma;
 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
 3. Age ≥ 18 years;
 4. Prescribed in combination with cisplatin and either capecitabine or 5-fluorouracil;*
- *Prior authorization may be required.*
5. For requests other than Ogivri or Trazimera, member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Medical justification supports inability to use Ogivri or Trazimera (e.g., contraindications to excipients);
**Prior authorization may be required for Ogivri and Trazimera*
 - b. Request is for Stage IV or metastatic cancer for a State with regulations against step therapy in advanced oncology settings (*see Appendix E*);
 6. Request meets one of the following (a or b):*
 - a. Herceptin, Herzuma, Ogivri, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti: Dose does not exceed 8 mg/kg IV (*see Appendix D for dose rounding guidelines*);
 - b. Dose/product is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).
- *Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

Approval duration: 6 months

C. Endometrial Carcinoma (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of HER2-positive endometrial carcinoma with serous histology;
 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
 3. Age ≥ 18 years;
 4. Disease is advanced (i.e., stage III/IV) or recurrent;
 5. Prescribed in combination with carboplatin and paclitaxel;*
- *Prior authorization may be required.*
6. For requests other than Ogivri or Trazimera, member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Medical justification supports inability to use Ogivri or Trazimera (e.g., contraindications to excipients);
**Prior authorization may be required for Ogivri and Trazimera*
 - b. Request is for Stage IV or metastatic cancer for a State with regulations against step therapy in advanced oncology settings (*see Appendix E*);
 7. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA-approved indication or is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).*
- *Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

Approval duration: 6 months

D. Colorectal Cancer (off-label) (must meet all):

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1. Diagnosis of advanced or metastatic colorectal cancer and both of the following (a and b):
 - a. Disease is HER2 positive;
 - b. Disease is wild-type *RAS* (defined as wild-type in both KRAS and NRAS as determined by an FDA-approved test for this use);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. For requests other than Ogivri or Trazimera, member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Medical justification supports inability to use Ogivri or Trazimera (e.g., contraindications to excipients);
**Prior authorization may be required for Ogivri and Trazimera*
 - b. Request is for Stage IV or metastatic cancer for a State with regulations against step therapy in advanced oncology settings (*see Appendix E*);
5. No previous use of a HER2 inhibitor therapy (e.g., trastuzumab, Kadcylla[®], Tykerb[®], Perjeta[®]);
6. Prescribed in combination with Perjeta (pertuzumab) or Tykerb (lapatinib);*
**Prior authorization may be required.*
7. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA-approved indication or is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).*
**Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

Approval duration: 6 months

E. 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 Approval

A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving the requested agent for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. For requests other than Ogivri or Trazimera, member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Medical justification supports inability to use Ogivri or Trazimera (e.g., contraindications to excipients);
**Prior authorization may be required for Ogivri and Trazimera*
 - b. Request is for Stage IV or metastatic cancer for a State with regulations against step therapy in advanced oncology settings (*see Appendix E*);
4. If request is for a dose increase, request meets one of the following (a, b, or c):*
 - a. Breast cancer (i, ii, or iii):

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- i. Herceptin, Ogivri, Herzuma, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti: New dose does not exceed 8 mg/kg IV for adjuvant therapy or 4 mg/kg IV for treatment of metastatic disease (*see Appendix D for dose rounding guidelines*);
- ii. Herceptin, Ogivri, Herzuma, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti: Intrathecal administration for leptomeningeal metastases;
- iii. Herceptin Hylecta: New dose does not exceed 600 mg/10,000 units SC every 3 weeks (*see Appendix D for dose rounding guidelines*);
- b. Gastric, esophageal, EGJ cancer: Herceptin, Herzuma, Ogivri, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti: New dose does not exceed 8 mg/kg IV (*see Appendix D for dose rounding guidelines*);
- c. New dose/product is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

**Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

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

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

EGJ: esophagogastric junction

HER2: human epidermal growth factor receptor 2

KRAS: Kirsten rat sarcoma 2 viral oncogene homologue

NRAS: neuroblastoma RAS viral oncogene homologue

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

Not applicable

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

- Contraindication(s): none reported
- Boxed warning(s):
 - Herceptin, Ogivri, Herzuma, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti: cardiomyopathy, infusion reactions, embryo-fetal toxicity, pulmonary toxicity
 - Herceptin Hylecta: cardiomyopathy, embryo-fetal toxicity, pulmonary toxicity

Appendix D: Dose Rounding Guidelines

Weight-based Dose Range	Vial Quantity Recommendation
≤ 157.49 mg	1 vial of 150 mg
157.5 mg to 314.99 mg	2 vials of 150 mg
315 mg to 440.99 mg	1 vial of 420 mg
441 mg to 598.49 mg	1 vial of 150 mg and 1 vial 420 mg
598.5 mg to 881.99 mg	2 vials of 420 mg
882 mg to 1,039.49 mg	1 vial of 150 mg and 2 vials of 420 mg
1,039.5 mg to 1,322.99 mg	3 vials of 420 mg

Appendix E: States with Regulations against Redirections in Stage IV or Metastatic Cancer

State	Step Therapy Prohibited?	Notes
AR	Yes	For metastatic cancer, unless the preferred drug is consistent with “best practices” (1) used for treatment under (A) FDA-approved indication, or (B) National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs & Biologics Compendium; or (2) using evidence-based, peer-reviewed, recognized medical literature. Note – may not require step therapy a second time for same Rx drug.
FL	Yes	For stage 4 metastatic cancer and associated conditions.
GA	Yes	For stage 4 metastatic cancer
IA	Yes	For standard of care stage 4 cancer drug use, supported by peer-reviewed, evidence-based literature, and approved by FDA.
LA	Yes	For stage 4 advanced, metastatic cancer or associated conditions. Exception if “clinically equivalent therapy, contains identical active ingredient(s), and proven to have same efficacy.
PA	Yes	For stage 4 advanced, metastatic cancer
TN	Yes	For advanced metastatic cancer and associated conditions
TX	Yes	For stage 4 advanced, metastatic cancer and associated conditions

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V. Dosage and Administration

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Trastuzumab (Herceptin), Trastuzumab-dkst (Ogivri), Trastuzumab-dttb (Ontruzant), Trastuzumab-pkrb (Herzuma), Trastuzumab-qyyp (Trazimera), Trastuzumab-hyaluronidase -oysk (Herceptin Hylecta), Trastuzumab-anns (Kanjinti)	Adjuvant treatment, breast cancer	Administer according to one of the following doses and schedules for a total of 52 weeks: <u>Herceptin, Ogivri, Herzuma, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti:</u> During and following paclitaxel, docetaxel, or docetaxel/carboplatin: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial dose of 4 mg/kg as an IV infusion over 90 minutes then at 2 mg/kg as an IV infusion over 30 minutes weekly during chemotherapy for the first 12 weeks (paclitaxel or docetaxel) or 18 weeks (docetaxel/carboplatin). One week following the last weekly dose of the trastuzumab product, administer trastuzumab product at 6 mg/kg as an IV infusion over 30 to 90 minutes every 3 weeks. <u>Herceptin, Ogivri, Herzuma, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti:</u> As a single agent within 3 weeks following completion of multi-modality, anthracycline based chemotherapy regimens: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial dose: 8 mg/kg as an IV infusion over 90 minutes. Subsequent doses: 6 mg/kg as an IV infusion over 30 to 90 minutes every 3 weeks 	8 mg/kg
		<u>Herceptin Hylecta (subcutaneous product):</u> As part of a treatment regimen consisting of doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, and either paclitaxel or docetaxel; as part of a treatment regimen with docetaxel and carboplatin; as a single agent following multi-modality anthracycline based therapy: 600 mg trastuzumab and 10,000 units hyaluronidase administered subcutaneously over approximately 2-5 minutes once every 3 weeks	600 mg/10,000 units every 3 weeks

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Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Trastuzumab (Herceptin), Trastuzumab-dkst (Ogivri), Trastuzumab-dttb (Ontruzant), Trastuzumab-pkrb (Herzuma), Trastuzumab-qyyp (Trazimera), Trastuzumab-hyaluronidase-oysk (Herceptin Hylecta), Trastuzumab-anns (Kanjinti)	Metastatic treatment, breast cancer	<u>Herceptin, Ogivri, Herzuma, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti:</u> As a single agent, or in combination with paclitaxel, at an initial dose of 4 mg/kg as a 90-minute intravenous infusion followed by subsequent once weekly doses of 2 mg/kg as 30-minute intravenous infusions until disease progression.	4 mg/kg
		<u>Herceptin Hylecta (subcutaneous product):</u> As a single agent or in combination with paclitaxel: 600 mg trastuzumab and 10,000 units hyaluronidase administered subcutaneously over approximately 2-5 minutes once every 3 weeks.	600 mg/10,000 units every 3 weeks
Trastuzumab (Herceptin), Trastuzumab-dkst (Ogivri), Trastuzumab-dttb (Ontruzant), Trastuzumab-qyyp (Trazimera), Trastuzumab-anns (Kanjinti)	Metastatic gastric cancer	<u>Herceptin, Herzuma, Ogivri, Ontruzant, Trazimera, Kanjinti:</u> Administer at an initial dose of 8 mg/kg as a 90 minute intravenous infusion followed by subsequent doses of 6 mg/kg as an intravenous infusion over 30 to 90 minutes every three weeks until disease progression.	8 mg/kg

VI. Product Availability

Drug Name	Availability*
Trastuzumab (Herceptin)	Multi-dose vial: 440 mg Single-dose vial: 150 mg
Trastuzumab-dkst (Ogivri)	Multi-dose vial: 420 mg Single-dose vial: 150 mg
Trastuzumab-pkrb (Herzuma)	Multi-dose vial: 420 mg Single-dose vial: 150 mg

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Drug Name	Availability*
Trastuzumab-dttb (Ontruzant)	Single-dose vial: 150 mg Multi-dose vial: 420 mg
Trastuzumab-qyyp (Trazimera)	Multi-dose vial: 420 mg
Trastuzumab-hyaluronidase-oysk (Herceptin Hylecta)	Single-dose vial: 600 mg (trastuzumab)/10,000 units (hyaluronidase)/5 mL
Trastuzumab-anns (Kanjinti)	Multi-dose vial: 420 mg

*All products are supplied as a powder for reconstitution with the exception of Herceptin Hylecta which is supplied as a solution.

VII. References

1. Herceptin Prescribing Information. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc.; November 2018. Available at https://www.gene.com/download/pdf/herceptin_prescribing.pdf. Accessed February 17, 2020.
2. Ogivri Prescribing Information. Morgantown, WV: Mylan GmbH.; April 2019. Available at https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2019/761074s004lbl.pdf. Accessed February 17, 2020.
3. Herzuma Prescribing Information. North Wales, PA: Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.; May 2019. <https://www.herzuma.com/globalassets/herzuma/herzuma-pi.pdf>. Accessed February 17, 2020.
4. Ontruzant Prescribing Information. Whitehouse Station, NJ: Merck & Co., Inc.; March 2020. https://www.merck.com/product/usa/pi_circulars/o/ontruzant/ontruzant_pi.pdf. Accessed April 13, 2020.
5. Trazimera Prescribing Information. New York, NY: Pfizer Labs; March 2019. Available at https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2019/761081s000lbl.pdf. Accessed February 16, 2020.
6. Herceptin Hylecta Prescribing Information. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc.; February 2019. Available at https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2019/761106s000lbl.pdf. Accessed February 17, 2020.
7. Kanjinti Prescribing Information. Thousand Oaks, CA: Amgen, Inc.; June 2019. Available at https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2019/761073Orig1s000lbl.pdf. Accessed February 17, 2020.
8. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at: http://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug_compendium. Accessed February 18, 2020.
9. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Breast Cancer Version 2.2020. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed February 17, 2020.
10. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Gastric Cancer Version 4.2019. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed February 17, 2020.
11. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Uterine Neoplasms Version 5.2019. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed February 17, 2020.
12. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Central Nervous System Cancers Version 3.2019. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed February 17, 2020.
13. Fahrenbruch R, Kintzel P, Bott AM., et al. Dose rounding of biologic and cytotoxic anticancer agents: a position statement of the hematology/oncology pharmacy association. *Journal of Oncology Practice*. 2018;14(3)e130-e136.

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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.

HCPSC Codes	Description
J9355	Injection, trastuzumab, 10 mg
J9356	Injection, trastuzumab, 10 mg and hyaluronidase-oysk
Q5112	Injection, trastuzumab-dttb, biosimilar, (Ontruzant), 10 mg
Q5113	Injection, trastuzumab-pkrb, biosimilar, (Herzuma), 10 mg
Q5114	Injection, trastuzumab-dkst, biosimilar, (Ogivri), 10 mg
Q5116	Injection, trastuzumab-qyyp, biosimilar, (Trazimera), 10 mg
Q5117	Injection, trastuzumab-anns, biosimilar, (Kanjinti), 10 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy split from CP.PHAR.67.HER2 BrCa Tx and converted to new template. Requests for documentation removed. Reasons for discontinuation limited to absolute requirements per the PI. Definition of adjuvant therapy added to the criteria per NCI definition. NCCN compendial recommended uses added.	05.16	06.16
Initial: Updated off-label NCCN uses for non-metastatic breast cancer (specified disease stages) and metastatic gastric/esophageal adenocarcinomas (added performance score requirement). Re-auth: Removed reasons to discontinue. Added requirement for documentation of positive response to therapy. Increased approval durations from 3 & 6 months to 6 & 12 months. Added Appendix B with definition of performance scores.	04.17	06.17
Policy converted to new template. Ogivri added. Age, specialist and dosing added. Breast cancer criteria sets combined; criteria limited to a diagnosis of HER2+ breast cancer. CNS breast cancer metastatic disease off-label criteria limited to diagnosis. Off-label uses removed from gastric cancer criteria - FDA indications cover through NCCN category 2A. HER2-positive lung cancer removed as an off-label indication per NCCN. Removed Appendix B. References reviewed and updated.	01.16.18	02.18

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Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
2Q 2018 annual review: no significant changes; HIM line of business added; references reviewed and updated.	02.13.18	05.18
2Q 2019 annual review: Herceptin biosimilars and Herceptin combination product added (biosimilars - Herzuma, Ontruzant, Trazimera; combination product - Herceptin Hylecta); intrathecal treatment for breast cancer related CNS metastasis is moved to the breast cancer criteria set; NCCN recommended use for endometrial carcinoma are added; references reviewed and updated.	03.19.19	05.19
RT4: added new Ogivri formulation: 150 mg single-dose vial; added Herceptin biosimilar, Kanjinti, added; newly FDA-approved indication for gastric cancer and new 150 mg vial formulation for Herzuma added; references updated.	06.18.19	
Herceptin product availability for multi-dose vial corrected from 420 mg to 440 mg; references updated.	08.12.19	
Added Commercial line of business to policy.	10.08.19	
Add the following for all indications per March SDC and prior clinical guidance: ‘For requests other than Ogivri or Trazimera, medical justification supports inability to use Ogivri or Trazimera (e.g., contraindications to excipients)’	03.03.20	
2Q 2020 annual review: added NCCN compendium-supported indications of colon and rectal cancer; incorporated NCCN compendium-supported indication of leptomeningeal metastases from HER2-positive breast cancer into breast cancer criteria; revised HIM-Medical Benefit line of business and applied HIM line of business to all agents in this policy; added new Ontruzant formulation of 420 mg multidose vial; added appendix D: dose rounding guidelines; added reference to appendix D within criteria; added requirement for medical justification that supports inability to use Ogivri or Trazimera to Section II for continued therapy requests; allowed by-passing of redirection if state regulations do not allow step therapy in Stage IV or metastatic cancer settings; references reviewed and updated.	04.20.20	05.20

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

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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.

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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