

Clinical Policy: Dupilumab (Dupixent)

Reference Number: IL.PHAR.336

Effective Date: 09.15.21 Last Review Date: 1.6.23 Line of Business: Medicaid

Coding Implications
Revision Log

See <u>Important Reminder</u> at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

Dupilumab (Dupixent®) is an interleukin-4 receptor alpha antagonist.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Dupixent is indicated:

- For the treatment of patients aged 6 years and older with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis whose disease is not adequately controlled with topical prescription therapies or when those therapies are not advisable. Dupixent can be used with or without topical corticosteroids
- As an add-on maintenance treatment in patients with moderate-to-severe asthma aged 6 years and older with an eosinophilic phenotype or with oral corticosteroid dependent asthma
- As an add-on maintenance treatment in adult patients with inadequately controlled chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyposis (CRSwNP)

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 Dupixent is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Atopic Dermatitis (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of atopic dermatitis;
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a dermatologist or allergist;
- 3. Age \geq 6 months;
- 4. Failure of one medium to very high potency topical corticosteroid of different molecular identities within the past year and one of the following within the past 2 years (a, b, c, or d), unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced:
 - a. Generic Immunosuppressant (IS) if appropriate;
 - b. Topical calcineurin inhibitors (TCI);
 - c. Phototherapy (PT);
 - d. Phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitor (PDE-4)



- 5. Dupixent is not prescribed concurrently with Cinqair[®], Fasenra[®], Nucala[®], or Xolair[®];
- 6. Dose does not exceed the following:
 - a. Initial (one-time) dose:
 - i. Age ≥ 18 years, weight ≥ 60 kg, or age 6-17 years and weight 15 to < 30 kg: 600 mg;
 - ii. Age 6-17 years and weight 30 to < 60 kg: 400 mg;
 - b. Maintenance dose:
 - i. Age \geq 18 years or weight \geq 60 kg: 300 mg every other week;
 - ii. Age 6-17 years and weight 30 to < 60 kg: 200 mg every other week;
 - iii. Age 6-17 years and weight 15 to < 30 kg: 300 mg every 4

weeks.

Approval duration: 6 months

Approval duration: 6 months

- **B. Asthma** (must meet all):
 - 1. Diagnosis of moderate to severe asthma and one of the following (a, b, or c):
 - a. Meets both of the following i and ii:
 - i. Absolute blood eosinophil count ≥ 150 cells/mcL;
 - ii. Member has experienced 1 exacerbations (ER visit, hospital, office visit, or oral corticosteroid burst);
 - b. Oral Corticosteroid dependent Asthma
 - c. Meets both of the following i and ii:
 - i. Baseline Forced Expiratory Volume (FEV1) that is less than 80% predicted for adult and less than 90% for adolescents;
 - ii. Prior drug therapy of either leukotriene modifier, medium-high or maximum-tolerated ICS plus controller, or maximum-tolerated ICS and LABA combo.
 - 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an allergist, immunologist, or pulmonologist;

Approval duration: 6 months

C. Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyposis (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of CRSwNP
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an allergist, pulmonologist, or otolaryngologist;
- 3. CRSwNP is inadequately controlled by medical therapy with **two** of the following:
 - a. Member has required the use of intranasal corticosteroids for symptom control within the last 1 years;
 - b. Systemic corticosteroid therapy, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
 - c. Nasal nebulized solution of budesonide
 - d. Prior nasal surgery

Approval duration: 6 months

D. Eosinophilic Esophagitis (must meet all):



- 1. Diagnosis of EoE confirmed by ≥ 15 intraepithelial eosinophils per high-power field (eos/hpf) on endoscopic biopsy;
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an allergist, immunologist, or gastroenterologist;
- 3. Age \geq 12 years;
- 4. Weight \geq 40 kg;
- 5. Member does not have hypereosinophilic syndrome or eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis (Churg-Strauss syndrome);
- 6. Failure of the following (a and b), unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced, or both are contraindicated:
 - a. Use of Proton pump inhibitor for 8 weeks (see Appendix B for examples);
 - b. Topical glucocorticocoid (fluticasone using MDI without a spacer or budesonide administered as an oral slurry);
- 7. Dupixent is not prescribed concurrently with Cinqair, Fasenra, Nucala, Tezspire, or Xolair:
- 8. Dose does not exceed 300 mg every week.

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.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. Atopic Dermatitis (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 as evidenced by, including but not limited to, reduction in itching and scratching;

Approval duration:

Medicaid– 12 months

B. Asthma (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 (examples may include but are not limited to: reduction in exacerbations or corticosteroid dose, improvement in forced expiratory volume over one second since baseline, reduction in the use of rescue therapy);

Approval duration:

Medicaid – 12 months

C. Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyposis (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 (examples may include but are not limited to: reduced nasal polyp size, reduced need for systemic corticosteroids, improved sense of smell, improved quality of life);

Approval duration:

Medicaid – 12 months

D. Eosinophilic Esophagitis (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 (examples may include but are not limited to: reduced eos/hpf count, improvement in dysphagia symptoms);
- 3. Dupixent is not prescribed concurrently with Cinqair, Fasenra, Nucala, Tezspire, or Xolair:
- **4.** If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 300 mg every week. **Approval duration: Medicaid 12 months**

E. 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.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.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents.
- **B.** Acute bronchospasm or status asthmaticus.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key
CRSwNP: chronic rhinosinusitis with
nasal polyposis
FDA: Food and Drug Administration

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GINA: Global Initiative for Asthma

LTRA: leukotriene modifier
PDC: proportion of days covered

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.

ICS: inhaled corticosteroid

LABA: long-acting beta₂ agonist



Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/			
		Maximum Dose			
ATOPIC DERMATITIS					
Very High Potency Topical Corti	Very High Potency Topical Corticosteroids				
augmented betamethasone 0.05%	Apply topically to the affected	Varies			
(Diprolene® AF) cream, ointment,	area(s) BID				
gel, lotion					
clobetasol propionate 0.05%					
(Temovate®) cream, ointment,					
gel, solution					
diflorasone diacetate 0.05%					
(Maxiflor®, Psorcon E®) cream,					
ointment					
fluocinonide 0.1% cream					
flurandrenolide 4 mcg/cm ² tape					
halobetasol propionate 0.05%					
(Ultravate®) cream, ointment					
High Potency Topical Corticoster	roids				
amcinonide 0.1% ointment, lotion	Apply topically to the affected are	ea(s) BID			
augmented betamethasone 0.05%	Varies				
(Diprolene® AF) cream, ointment,					
gel, lotion					
betamethasone valerate 0.1%,					
0.12% (Luxiq®) ointment, foam					
clobetasol propionate 0.025%					
(Impoyz®) cream					
diflorasone 0.05% (Florone®,					
Florone E [®] , Maxiflor [®] , Psorcon					
E®) cream					
fluocinonide acetonide 0.05%					
(Lidex [®] , Lidex E [®]) cream,					
ointment, gel, solution					
fluticasone propionate 0.005%					
cream, ointment					
halcinonide 0.1% cream,					
ointment, solution (Halog®)					
halobetasol propionate 0.01%					
lotion (Bryhali®)					
mometasone furoate 0.1%					
ointment					
triamcinolone acetonide 0.5%					
(Aristocort®, Kenalog®) cream,					
ointment					
Medium Potency Topical Corticosteroids					



Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/
		Maximum Dose
clocortolone pivalate 0.1% cream	Apply topically to the affected	Varies
desoximetasone 0.05%, 0.25%	area(s) BID	
(Topicort ®) cream, ointment, gel,		
spray		
fluocinolone acetonide 0.025%		
(Synalar®) cream, ointment		
flurandrenolide 0.05% lotion,		
ointment (Cordran®)		
hydrocortisone valerate 0.2%		
cream		
mometasone 0.1% (Elocon®)		
cream, ointment, lotion		
triamcinolone acetonide 0.025%,		
0.1% (Aristocort®, Kenalog®)		
cream, ointment		
Other Classes of Agents		1
Protopic® (tacrolimus), Elidel®	Children ≥ 2 years and adults:	Varies
(pimecrolimus)	Apply a thin layer topically to	
(1	affected skin BID. Treatment	
	should be discontinued if	
	resolution of disease occurs.	
Eucrisa® (crisaborole)	Apply to the affected areas BID	Varies
cyclosporine	3-6 mg/kg/day PO BID	300 mg/day
azathioprine	1-3 mg/kg/day PO QD	Weight-based
methotrexate	7.5-25 mg/wk PO once weekly	25 mg/week
mycophenolate mofetil	1-1.5 g PO BID	3 g/day
ASTHMA		
ICS (medium – high dose)		
Qvar® (beclomethasone)	> 200 mcg/day	4 actuations BID
(00010111011110	40 mcg, 80 mcg per actuation	
	1-4 actuations BID	
budesonide (Pulmicort®)	> 400 mcg/day	2 actuations BID
(1 022000)	90 mcg, 180 mcg per actuation	
	2-4 actuations BID	
Alvesco® (ciclesonide)	> 160 mcg/day	2 actuations BID
Thiveses (elelesemes)		
	1-2 actuations BID	
Aerospan® (flunisolide)		2 actuations BID
(Hambolide)		
Flovent® (fluticasone propionate)		2 actuations BID
(13313 (13313 proprofitate)	<u> </u>	
	44-250 mcg per actuation	
Alvesco® (ciclesonide) Aerospan® (flunisolide) Flovent® (fluticasone propionate)	> 320 mcg/day 80 mcg per actuation 2-4 actuations BID > 250 mcg/day	



Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/
		Maximum Dose
Arnuity Ellipta® (fluticasone	200 mcg/day	1 actuation QD
furoate)	100 mcg, 200 mcg per actuation	
	1 actuation QD	0:11: DID
Asmanex [®] (mometasone)	>220 mcg/day	2 inhalations BID
	HFA: 100 mcg, 200 mcg per	
	actuation	
	Twisthaler: 110 mcg, 220 mcg	
	per actuation	
LABA	1-2 actuations QD to BID	
	50 mag nan daga	1 inholotion DID
Serevent® (salmeterol)	50 mcg per dose 1 inhalation BID	1 inhalation BID
Combination products (ICS + LA	I.	
	T	A actuations par day
Dulera® (mometasone/	100/5 mcg, 200/5 mcg per actuation	4 actuations per day
formoterol)	2 actuations BID	
Dana Ellinta®	100/25 mcg, 200/25 mcg per	1 actuation QD
Breo Ellipta®	actuation	
(fluticasone/vilanterol)	1 actuation QD	
Advair® (fluticasone/ salmeterol)	Diskus: 100/50 mcg, 250/50	1 actuation BID
Advan (nuticasone/sanneteror)	mcg, 500/50 mcg per actuation	1 actuation bib
	HFA: 45/21 mcg, 115/21 mcg,	
	230/21 mcg per actuation	
	1 actuation BID	
fluticasone/salmeterol (Airduo	55/13 mcg, 113/14 mcg, 232/14	1 actuation BID
RespiClick®)	mcg per actuation	
,	1 actuation BID	
Symbicort® (budesonide/	80 mcg/4.5 mcg, 160 mcg/4.5	2 actuations BID
formoterol)	mcg per actuation	
,	2 actuations BID	
LTRA		
montelukast (Singulair®)	4 to 10 mg PO QD	10 mg per day
zafirlukast (Accolate®)	10 to 20 mg PO BID	40 mg per day
zileuton ER (Zyflo® CR)	1,200 mg PO BID	2,400 mg per day
Zyflo® (zileuton)	600 mg PO QID	2,400 mg per day
Oral corticosteroids		
dexamethasone (Decadron®)	0.75 to 9 mg/day PO in 2 to 4	Varies
,	divided doses	
methylprednisolone (Medrol®)	40 to 80 mg PO in 1 to 2	Varies
	divided doses	
prednisolone (Millipred®,	40 to 80 mg PO in 1 to 2	Varies
Orapred ODT®)	divided doses	



Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose	
prednisone (Deltasone®)	40 to 80 mg PO in 1 to 2 divided doses	Varies	
CRSwNP			
Intranasal corticosteroids			
beclomethasone (Beconase AQ®, Qnasl®)	1-2 sprays IN BID	2 sprays/nostril BID	
budesonide (Rhinocort® Aqua,	128 mcg IN QD or 200 mcg IN	1-2	
Rhinocort®)	BID	inhalations/nostril/	
,		day	
flunisolide	2 sprays IN BID	2 sprays/nostril TID	
fluticasone propionate (Flonase®)	1-2 sprays IN BID	2 sprays/nostril BID	
mometasone (Nasonex®)	2 sprays IN BID	2 sprays/nostril BID	
Omnaris®, Zetonna® (ciclesonide)	Omnaris: 2 sprays IN QD Zetonna: 1 spray IN QD	Omnaris: 2 sprays/ nostril/day Zetonna: 2 sprays/ nostril/day	
triamcinolone (Nasacort®)	2 sprays IN QD	2 sprays/ nostril/day	
Xhance [™] (fluticasone propionate)	1 to 2 sprays (93 mcg/spray) to nostril IN BID	744 mcg/day	
Oral corticosteroids			
dexamethasone (Decadron®)	0.75 to 9 mg/day PO in 2 to 4 divided doses	Varies	
methylprednisolone (Medrol®)	4 to 48 mg PO in 1 to 2 divided doses	Varies	
prednisolone (Millipred®, Orapred ODT®)	5 to 60 mg PO in 1 to 2 divided doses	Varies	
prednisone (Deltasone®)	5 to 60 mg PO in 1 to 2 divided doses	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): known hypersensitivity to Dupixent or any of its excipients
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

Appendix D: General Information

- The Phase III pivotal studies (SOLO 1 and SOLO 2) of Dupixent showed no significant difference in clinical outcomes between dosing of Dupixent every week and every other week for the treatment of atopic dermatitis.
- During clinical trials (LIBERTY ASTHMA QUEST), among patients with a baseline blood eosinophil count of < 150 per cubic millimeter, the exacerbation rate was similar with dupilumab and with placebo: 0.47 (95% CI, 0.36 to 0.62) with lower-dose dupilumab and 0.51 (95% CI, 0.35 to 0.76) with matched placebo, and 0.74 (95% CI,



- 0.58 to 0.95) with higher-dose dupilumab and 0.64 (95% CI, 0.44 to 0.93) with matched placebo.
- The 2019 Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) guidelines for difficult-to-treat and severe asthma recommend Dupixent be considered as adjunct therapy for patients 12 years of age and older with exacerbations or poor symptom control despite taking at least high dose ICS/LABA and who have allergic or eosinophilic biomarkers or need maintenance oral corticosteroids. Per 2020 GINA guidelines, Dupixent may also be considered if the patient is uncontrolled on Step 4 treatment (medium dose ICS/LABA).
- Patients could potentially meet asthma criteria for both Xolair and Dupixent, though there is insufficient data to support the combination use of multiple asthma biologics. The combination has not been studied. Approximately 30% of patients in the Nucala MENSA study also were candidates for therapy with Xolair.
- Lab results for blood eosinophil counts can be converted into cells/mcL using the following unit conversion calculator: https://www.fasenrahcp.com/m/fasenra-eosinophil-calculator.html

V. Dosage and Administration

Dosage and Administration				
Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose		
Moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis	Adults: Initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every other week	See regimen		
	 Adolescents 6-17 years of age: Body weight 15 to < 30 kg: Initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every 4 weeks Body weight 30 kg to < 60 kg: Initial dose of 400 mg SC followed by 200 mg SC every other week 			
	Body weight ≥ 60 kg: Initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every other week			
Moderate-to-severe asthma	Adults and adolescents (12 years and older): Initial dose of 400 mg SC followed by 200 mg SC every other week; or Initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every other week	See regimen		
	For patients requiring concomitant oral corticosteroids or with co-morbid moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis for which Dupixent is indicated, start with an initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every other week			
	Adolescents 6-11 years of age:			



Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
	 Body weight 15 to < 30 kg: Initial dose and subsequent dose of 100 mg SC every other week or 300 mg every four weeks Body weight ≥ 30 kg: Initial dose and subsequent dose of 200 mg SC every other week 	
	For pediatric patients (6 to 11 years old) with asthma and co-morbid moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis, follow the recommended adolescent atopic dermatitis dosing, which includes an initial loading dose	
CRSwNP	300 mg SC every other week	300 mg every other week

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis	 Adults: Initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every other week Adolescents 6-17 years of age: Body weight 15 to < 30 kg: Initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every 4 weeks Body weight 30 kg to < 60 kg: Initial dose of 400 mg SC followed by 200 mg SC every other week Body weight ≥ 60 kg: Initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every other week 	See regimen
Moderate-to-severe asthma	Adults and adolescents (12 years and older): Initial dose of 400 mg SC followed by 200 mg SC every other week; or Initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every other week For patients requiring concomitant oral corticosteroids or with co-morbid moderate-to- severe atopic dermatitis for which Dupixent is indicated, start with an initial dose of 600 mg SC followed by 300 mg SC every other week Adolescents 6-11 years of age: Body weight 15 to < 30 kg: Initial dose and subsequent dose of 100 mg SC every other week or 300 mg every four weeks	See regimen



Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
	• Body weight ≥ 30 kg: Initial dose and subsequent dose of 200 mg SC every other week	
	For pediatric patients (6 to 11 years old) with asthma and co-morbid moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis, follow the recommended adolescent atopic dermatitis dosing, which includes an initial loading dose	
CRSwNP	300 mg SC every other week	300 mg every other week

VI. Product Availability*

- Pre-filled syringes with needle shield for injection: 100 mg/0.67 mL, 200 mg/1.14 mL, 300 mg/2 mL
- Pre-filled pen: 200 mg/1.14 mL, 300 mg/2 mL

*The pre-filled pen is only for use in adults and adolescents aged 12 years and older. In adolescents 12 years of age and older, it is recommended that Dupixent be given by or under the supervision of an adult. Dupixent pre-filled syringe should be given by a caregiver in children 6-11 years of age.

VII. References

- 1. Dupixent Prescribing Information. Tarrytown, NY: Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; June 2022. Available at: www.dupixent.com. Accessed June 23, 2022.
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- 12. Peters AT, Spector S, Hsu J, et al. Diagnosis and management of rhinosinusitis: a practice parameter update. Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol 2014. 113:347-85.
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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.

HCPCS Codes	Description
C9399;	Unclassified drugs or biologicals
J3590	

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval
Nov. policy		Date
New policy	0.45.04	
Policy created, adapted from CP.PHAR.336 Dupilumab	9.15.21	
(Dupixent) for HFS PDL.		
4Q2021: Updated per HFS PDL Criteria: For Chronic	11.11.21	
Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyposis removed immunologist		
and added pulmonologist		
1Q2022 Annual review: expanded age to 6+ years old for asthma	3.18.22	
and added new 100 mg prefilled syringe formulation; added		
"Acute bronchospasm or status asthmaticus" to section III as		
indications for which coverage is not authorized per PI; references		
reviewed and updated.		
Added EoE criteria per HFS PDL	11.13.22	



Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
For AD indication: clarified that topical corticosteroids requirement is for corticosteroids of different molecular identities and expanded examples of medium to very high potency topical corticosteroids in Appendix B; removed low potency topical corticosteroids from Appendix B; references reviewed and updated	1.6.23	Duc

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.

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.

This clinical policy is the property of the Health Plan. Unauthorized copying, use, and distribution of this clinical policy or any information contained herein are strictly prohibited. Providers, members and their representatives are bound to the terms and conditions expressed herein through the terms of their contracts. Where no such contract exists, providers, members and their representatives agree to be bound by such terms and conditions by providing services to members and/or submitting claims for payment for such services.

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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