Clinical Policy: Istradefylline (Nourianz)

Reference Number: IL.PMN.217
Effective Date: 1.1.20
Last Review Date: 6.14.22
Line of Business: Medicaid

Revision Log

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

Description

Istradefylline (Nourianz™) is an adenosine A_{2A} receptor antagonist.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Nourianz is indicated as adjunctive treatment to levodopa/carbidopa in adult patients with Parkinson's disease (PD) experiencing "off" episodes.

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

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Parkinson's Disease (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of PD;
2. Age ≥ 18 years;
3. Member is experiencing "off" time (*see Appendix C*) on levodopa/carbidopa therapy;
4. Failure of two of the following adjunct drugs prescribed in combination with levodopa/carbidopa, each from different classes, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced:*
   a. MAO-B inhibitor: selegiline;
   b. COMT inhibitor: entacapone;
   c. Dopamine agonist: ropinirole, pramipexole;

   **Prior authorization may be required for the above agents*
5. Prescribed in combination with levodopa/carbidopa;
6. Dose does not exceed 40 mg (1 tablet) 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.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. Parkinson's Disease (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 40 mg (1 tablet) per day.

Approval duration:
Medicaid – 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 12 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.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

COMT: catechol-O-methyl transferase
FDA: Food and Drug Administration
MAO-B: monoamine oxidase type B
PD: Parkinson's disease

Appendix B: Contraindication/Boxed Warnings

None reported

Appendix C: General Information

- Off time/episodes represent a return of PD symptoms (bradykinesia, rest tremor or rigidity) when the L-dopa treatment effect wears off after each dosing interval.
- PD symptoms, resulting from too little levodopa (L-dopa), are in contrast with dyskinesia which typically results from too much L-dopa. The alterations between "on" time (the time when PD symptoms are successfully suppressed by L-dopa) and "off" time is known as "motor fluctuations".
- The addition of carbidopa to L-dopa prevents conversion of L-dopa to dopamine in the systemic circulation and liver.

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Adjunctive treatment to levodopa/carbidopa in adult patients with PD experiencing "off" episodes	20 mg PO QD	40 mg/day

VI. Product Availability

Tablets: 20 mg, 40 mg

VII. References

1. Nourianz Prescribing Information. Bedminster, NJ: Kyowa Kirin, Inc.; May 2020. Available at: https://www.nourianzhcp.com/. Accessed June 14, 2022.
2. Pahwa MD, Factor SA, Lyons KE, et al. Practice Parameter: Treatment of Parkinson disease with motor fluctuations and dyskinesia (an evidence-based review): [RETIRED] Report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2006 Apr;66:983-995.
3. Fox SH, Katzenschlager R, Lim SY, et al. International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society evidence-based medicine review: Update on treatments for the motor symptoms of Parkinson's disease. *Mov Disord*. 2018 Aug;33(8):1248-1266.
4. Micromedex® Healthcare Series [Internet database]. Greenwood Village, Colo: Thomson Healthcare. Updated periodically. Accessed June 21, 2021.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy created, adapted from CP.PMN.217 Istradefylline (Nourianz) for migration to HFS PDL.	12.30.19	1.7.20
Q2 2021 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated	4.2.2021	
2Q2022 Annual Review: Removed failure of Comtan®/Stalevo®; References reviewed and updated.	6.14.2022	

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.