

SPECIALTY GUIDELINE MANAGEMENT

REBLOZYL (luspatercept-aamt)

POLICY

I. INDICATIONS

The indications below including FDA-approved indications and compendial uses are considered a covered benefit provided that all the approval criteria are met and the member has no exclusions to the prescribed therapy.

FDA-Approved Indication

1. Treatment of anemia in adult patients with beta thalassemia who require regular red blood cell (RBC) transfusions
2. Treatment of anemia failing an erythropoiesis stimulating agent and requiring 2 or more red blood cell units over 8 weeks in adult patients with very low- to intermediate- risk myelodysplastic syndromes with ring sideroblasts (MDS-RS) or with myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative neoplasm with ring sideroblasts and thrombocytosis (MDS/MPN-RS-T)

Limitations of Use: Reblozyl is not indicated for use as a substitute for red blood cell (RBC) transfusions in patients who require immediate correction of anemia.

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and not medically necessary.

II. DOCUMENTATION

A. Anemia with Beta Thalassemia

Submission of the following information is necessary to initiate the prior authorization review:

1. Initial therapy requests
 - a. Pretreatment or pretransfusion hemoglobin (Hgb) level
 - b. Hemoglobin electrophoresis or high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) results
2. Continuation of therapy requests: Current or current pretransfusion Hgb level

B. Anemia of Myelodysplastic Syndrome or Myelodysplastic/Myeloproliferative Neoplasm

Submission of the following information is necessary to initiate the prior authorization review:

1. Initial therapy requests
 - a. Pretreatment or pretransfusion hemoglobin (Hgb) level
 - b. Pretreatment ring sideroblasts level
 - c. *SF3B1* mutation status (if pretreatment ring sideroblasts are greater than or equal to 5% and less than 15%)
 - d. Pretreatment serum erythropoietin levels
2. Continuation of therapy requests: Current or current pretransfusion Hgb level

III. EXCLUSIONS

Anemia with Beta Thalassemia

Coverage will not be provided for members with any of the following exclusions:

- A. Members with hemoglobin S/ β -thalassemia or alpha-thalassemia
- B. Members with recent (defined as less than or equal to 24 weeks prior to initiation of Reblozyl therapy) deep vein thrombosis or stroke
- C. Members with platelet count greater than 1000×10^9 per liter

IV. CRITERIA FOR INITIAL APPROVAL

A. Anemia with Beta Thalassemia

Authorization of 16 weeks may be granted for treatment of anemia with beta thalassemia when all of the following criteria are met:

- 1. The member has symptomatic anemia evidenced by a pretreatment or pretransfusion Hgb level less than or equal to 11 grams per deciliter
- 2. The member has a diagnosis of beta thalassemia (β -thalassemia) or hemoglobin E/ β -thalassemia (β -thalassemia with mutation and/or multiplication of alpha globin is allowed) confirmed by hemoglobin electrophoresis or high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)
- 3. The member required at least 6 red blood cell (RBC) units to be transfused in the previous 24 weeks

Note: If a red blood cell (RBC) transfusion occurred prior to dosing, the pretransfusion hemoglobin (Hgb) level must be considered for dosing purposes.

B. Anemia of Myelodysplastic Syndrome or Myelodysplastic/Myeloproliferative Neoplasm

Authorization of 24 weeks may be granted for the treatment of very low- to intermediate-risk myelodysplastic syndrome or myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative neoplasm when all of the following criteria are met:

- 1. The member has symptomatic anemia evidenced by a pretreatment or pretransfusion Hgb level less than or equal to 11 grams per deciliter
- 2. The member has been receiving regular red blood cell (RBC) transfusions
- 3. The member meets either of the following:
 - a. Ring sideroblasts are greater than or equal to 15%
 - b. Ring sideroblasts are greater than or equal to 5% and less than 15% and the patient has an *SF3B1* mutation
- 4. The member meets either of the following:
 - a. Pretreatment serum erythropoietin levels greater than 500 mU/mL
 - b. Pretreatment serum erythropoietin levels less than or equal to 500mU/mL following no response to the combination of an erythropoiesis-stimulating agent (ESA) and granulocyte-colony stimulating factor (G-CSF)

V. CONTINUATION OF THERAPY

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for continued treatment in members requesting authorization for an indication listed in section IV when all of the following criteria are met:

- A. The member must achieve or maintain red blood cell transfusion burden reduction
- B. The member must not experience an unacceptable toxicity from Reblozyl
- C. The member must have a pre-dose Hgb level less than or equal to 11 grams per deciliter. If the Hgb level is greater than 11 grams per deciliter, the prescriber agrees to hold the dose until the level falls to 11 grams per deciliter

VI. REFERENCES

Reference number(s)
3407-A

1. Reblozyl [package insert]. Summit, NJ: Celgene Corporation; April 2020.
2. Capellini MD, Viprakasit V, Taher AT, et al. A Phase 3 Trial of Luspatercept in Patients with Transfusion-Dependent β -Thalassemia. *N Engl J Med* 2020;382:1219-31.
3. U.S. National Library of Medicine. ClinicalTrials.gov. An Efficacy and Safety Study of Luspatercept (ACE-536) Versus Placebo in Adults Who Require Regular Red Blood Cell Transfusions Due to Beta (β) Thalassemia (BELIEVE). <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02604433>. Accessed 11/14/2019.
4. Benz EJ. Clinical manifestations and diagnosis of the thalassemias. UpToDate [online serial]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; reviewed June 2020.
5. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. The NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium. <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed July 15, 2021.
6. Fenaux P., Platzbecker U, Mufti GJ, et.al. Luspatercept in Patients with Lower-Risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes. *N Engl J Med* 2020;382:140-51.