

Clinical Policy: Inclisiran (Leqvio)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.568

Effective Date: 03.01.22 Last Review Date: 02.24

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

Coding Implications
Revision Log

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

Description

Inclisiran (Leqvio®) is a small interfering ribonucleic acid (siRNA) directed to proprotein convertase subtilisin kexin type 9 (PCSK9) messenger RNA (mRNA).

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Leqvio is indicated as an adjunct to diet and statin therapy for the treatment of adults with primary hyperlipidemia, including heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HeFH), to reduce low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C).

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

I. Initial Approval Criteria

- A. Primary Hyperlipidemia (including HeFH) and Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease (must meet all):
 - 1. Diagnosis of one of the following (a, b, or c):
 - a. **HeFH**, and both of the following (i and ii):
 - i. Baseline LDL-C (prior to any lipid-lowering pharmacologic therapy) was one of the following (1 or 2):
 - 1) If age < 20 years: ≥ 160 mg/dL;
 - 2) If age \geq 20 years: \geq 190 mg/dL;
 - ii. HeFH diagnosis is confirmed by one of the following (1 or 2):
 - 1) World Health Organization (WHO)/Dutch Lipid Network familial hypercholesterolemia diagnostic criteria score of > 8 as determined by requesting provider (*see Appendix D*);
 - 2) Definite diagnosis per Simon Broome criteria (see Appendix D);
 - b. Primary hyperlipidemia that is not HeFH, and both of the following (i and ii):
 - i. Documentation of one of the following (1 or 2):
 - 1) Presence of a genetically mediated form of primary hyperlipidemia as evidenced by confirmatory genetic testing results;
 - 2) A diagnosis of secondary hyperlipidemia has been ruled out with absence of all of the following potential causes of elevated cholesterol (a-f):
 - a) Poor diet:



- b) Hypothyroidism;
- c) Obstructive liver disease;
- d) Renal liver disease;
- e) Nephrosis;
- f) Medications that have had a clinically relevant contributory effect on the current degree of the member's elevated lipid levels including, but not limited to: glucocorticoids, sex hormones, antipsychotics, antiretrovirals, immunosuppressive agents, retinoic acid derivatives;
- ii. Baseline LDL-C (prior to any lipid-lowering pharmacologic therapy) was ≥ 190 mg/dL;
- c. Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) as evidenced by a history of any one of the following conditions (i-vii):
 - i. Acute coronary syndromes;
 - ii. Clinically significant coronary heart disease (CHD) diagnosed by invasive or noninvasive testing (such as coronary angiography, stress test using treadmill, stress echocardiography, or nuclear imaging);
 - iii. Coronary or other arterial revascularization;
 - iv. Myocardial infarction;
 - v. Peripheral arterial disease presumed to be of atherosclerotic origin;
 - vi. Stable or unstable angina;
 - vii. Stroke or transient ischemic attack (TIA);
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a cardiologist, endocrinologist, or lipid specialist;
- 3. Age \geq 18 years;
- 4. Failure of an 8 week trial of a preferred PCSK9 inhibitor, if applicable, at up to maximally indicated doses, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
 - *Prior authorization may be required for PCSK9 inhibitors
- 5. For members on statin therapy, both of the following (a and b):
 - a. Legvio is prescribed in conjunction with a statin at the maximally tolerated dose;
 - b. Member has been adherent for at least the last 4 months to maximally tolerated doses of one of the following statin regimens (i, ii, or iii):
 - i. A high intensity statin (see Appendix E);
 - ii. A moderate intensity statin (*see Appendix E*), and member has one of the following (1 or 2):
 - 1) Intolerance to two high intensity statins;
 - 2) A statin risk factor (see Appendix G);
 - iii. A low intensity statin and member has one of the following (1 or 2):
 - 1) Intolerance to one high and one moderate intensity statins;
 - 2) A statin risk factor (*see Appendix G*) and history of intolerance to <u>two</u> moderate intensity statins;
- 6. For members not on statin therapy, member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Statin therapy is contraindicated per Appendix F;
 - b. For members who are statin intolerant, both of the following (i and ii):
 - i. Member has tried at least <u>two</u> statins, one of which must be hydrophilic (pravastatin, fluvastatin, or rosuvastatin);



- ii. Member meets one of the following (1 or 2):
 - 1) Member has documented statin risk factors (see Appendix G);
 - 2) Member is statin intolerant due to statin-associated muscle symptoms (SAMS) and meets both of the following (a and b):
 - a) Documentation of intolerable SAMS persisting at least two weeks, which disappeared with discontinuing the statin therapy and recurred with a statin re-challenge;
 - b) Documentation of re-challenge with titration from lowest possible dose and/or intermittent dosing frequency (e.g., 1 to 3 times weekly);
- 7. Member has been adherent to ezetimibe therapy used concomitantly with a statin at the maximally tolerated dose for at least the last 4 months, unless contraindicated per Appendix F or member has a history of ezetimibe intolerance (e.g., associated diarrhea or upper respiratory tract infection);
- 8. Documentation of recent (within the last 60 days) LDL-C of one of the following (a or b):
 - a. If member has ASCVD (i or ii):
 - i. $\geq 70 \text{ mg/dL}$;
 - ii. ≥ 55 mg/dL, and member is at very high risk (see *Appendix I*);
 - b. If member has severe primary hyperlipidemia (including HeFH): ≥ 100 mg/dL;
- 9. Treatment plan does not include coadministration with Juxtapid®, Repatha®, or Praluent®;
- 10. Dose does not exceed 284 mg initially and at 3 months, then every 6 months thereafter.

Approval duration:

Medicaid/HIM – 9 months

Commercial – 6 months or to the member's renewal date, whichever is longer

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):

- 1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
 - a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
 - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
- 2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.



II. Continued Therapy

A. Primary Hyperlipidemia (including HeFH) and Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease (must meet all):

- 1. Currently meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
 - b. Member is currently receiving medication and is enrolled in a state and product with continuity of care regulations (refer to state specific addendums for *CC.PHARM.03A* and *CC.PHARM.03B*);
- 2. If statin tolerant, documentation of adherence to a statin at the maximally tolerated dose;
- 3. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by lab results within the last 3 months showing an LDL-C reduction since initiation of Lequio therapy;
- 4. Treatment plan does not include coadministration with Juxtapid, Repatha, or Praluent;
- 5. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 284 mg every 6 months.

Approval duration:

Medicaid/HIM – 12 months

Commercial – 6 months or to the member's renewal date, whichever is longer

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):

- 1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
 - a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business:
 CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
 - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
- 2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 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.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents.



IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key
ASCVD: atherosclerotic cardiovascular
mRNA: messenger RNA

disease

CHD: coronary heart disease

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

FH: familial hypercholesterolemia HeFH: heterozygous familial

hypercholesterolemia LDL-C: low density lipoprotein cholesterol

type 9 RNA: ribonucleic acid

SAMS: statin-associated muscle symptoms

PCSK9: proprotein convertase subtilisin–kexin

siRNA: small interfering RNA TIA: transient ischemic attack WHO: World Health Organization

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	
ezetimibe/simvastatin	10/40 mg PO QD	10 mg-40 mg/day	
(Vytorin [®])		(Use of the 10/80 mg dose	
		is restricted to patients who	
		have been taking	
		simvastatin 80 mg for 12	
		months or more without	
		evidence of muscle toxicity)	
ezetimibe (Zetia®)	10 mg PO QD	10 mg/day	
atorvastatin (Lipitor®)	40 mg PO QD	80 mg/day	
rosuvastatin (Crestor®)	5 - 40 mg PO QD	40 mg/day	
Praluent (alirocumab)	75 mg SC once every 2 weeks or	300 mg/month	
	300 mg SC once every 4 weeks; if		
	response to 75 mg every 2 weeks		
	or 300 mg every 4 weeks is		
	inadequate, dose may be increased		
	to 150 mg once every 2 weeks		
Repatha (evolocumab)	140 mg SC every 2 weeks or 420	420 mg/month	
	mg SC once monthly		

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 None reported

Appendix D: Criteria for Diagnosis of HeFH

• Dutch Lipid Clinic Network criteria for Familial Hypercholesterolemia (FH)



FH Criteria		Member's Score†				
Family History						
First-degree relative with known premature* coronary and vascular disease		Place highest score here				
First-degree relative with known LDL-C level above the 95 th percentile		(0, 1 or 2)				
First-degree relative with tendinous xanthomata and/or arcus cornealis						
Children aged < 18 years with LDL-C level above the 95 th percentile	2					
Clinical History						
Patient with premature* coronary artery disease	2	Place highest				
Patient with premature* cerebral or peripheral vascular disease	1	score here (0, 1 or 2)				
Physical Examination		,				
Tendinous xanthomata	6	Place highest				
Arcus cornealis prior to age 45 years	4	score here (0, 4 or 6)				
Cholesterol Levels - mg/dL (mmol/lit	er)					
LDL-C \geq 330 mg/dL (\geq 8.5)	8	Place highest				
LDL-C 250 – 329 mg/dL (6.5 – 8.4)		score here				
LDL-C 190 – 249 mg/dL (5.0 – 6.4)		(0, 1, 3, 5 or 8)				
LDL-C 155 – 189 mg/dL (4.0 – 4.9)						
DNA Analysis						
Functional mutation in the <i>LDLR</i> , apo B or <i>PCSK9</i> gene		Place score here (0 or 8)				
TOTAL SCORE		Place total score here				

^{*}Premature – men < 55 years or women < 60 years

- Simon Broome Register Group Definition of Definite FH (meets 1 and 2):
 - 1. One of the following (a or b):
 - a. Total cholesterol level above 7.5 mmol/L (290 mg/dL) in adults or a total cholesterol level above 6.7 mmol/L (260 mg/dL) for children under 16
 - b. LDL levels above 4.9 mmol/L (190 mg/dL) in adults (4.0 mmol/l in children) (either pre-treatment or highest on treatment)
 - 2. One of the following (a or b):
 - a. Tendinous xanthomas in patient or relative (parent, child, sibling, grandparent, aunt, uncle)
 - b. DNA-based evidence of an LDL receptor mutation or familial defective apo B-100

[†]Choose the highest score from each of the five categories and then add together for a total score. The five categories are 1) Family History, 2) Clinical History, 3) Physical Examination, 4) Cholesterol Levels, and 5) DNA Analysis.



- High and Moderate Risk of ASCVD:
 - o Patients with high risk of ASCVD include the following:
 - History of clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (as defined in section II)
 - Diabetes with an estimated 10-year ASCVD risk ≥ 7.5% for adults 40-75 years of age
 - Untreated LDL ≥ 190 mg/dL
 - o Patients with moderate risk of ASCVD include the following:
 - Diabetes with an estimated 10-year ASCVD risk < 7.5% for adults 40-75 years of age
 - Estimated 10-year ASCVD risk \geq 5% for adults 40-75 years of age
 - The calculator for the 10-year ASCVD risk estimator can be found here: http://tools.acc.org/ASCVD-Risk-Estimator-Plus/#!/calculate/estimate. Information needed to complete the ASCVD Risk Estimator include: gender, race (white, African American, other), systolic blood pressure, history of diabetes, age, total cholesterol, HDL-cholesterol, treatment for hypertension, smoking history or status, and concurrent statin or aspirin therapy.

Appendix E: High, Moderate, and Low Intensity Daily Statin Therapy for Adults

High Intensity Statin Therapy

Daily dose shown to lower LDL-C, on average, by approximately $\geq 50\%$

- Atorvastatin 40-80 mg
- Rosuvastatin 20-40 mg

Moderate Intensity Statin Therapy

Daily dose shown to lower LDL-C, on average, by approximately 30% to 50%

- Atorvastatin 10-20 mg
- Fluvastatin XL 80 mg
- Fluvastatin 40 mg BID
- Lovastatin 40 mg
- Pitavastatin 1-4 mg
- Pravastatin 40-80 mg
- Rosuvastatin 5-10 mg
- Simvastatin 20-40 mg

Low Intensity Statin Therapy

Daily dose shown to lower LDL-C, on average, by < 30%

- Simvastatin 10 mg
- Pravastatin 10-20 mg
- Lovastatin 20 mg
- Fluvastatin 20-40 mg

Appendix F: Statin and Ezetimibe Contraindications

Statins

- Decompensated liver disease (development of jaundice, ascites, variceal bleeding, encephalopathy)
- Laboratory-confirmed acute liver injury or rhabdomyolysis resulting from statin treatment



Statins

- Pregnancy*, actively trying to become pregnant, or nursing
- Immune-mediated hypersensitivity to the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor drug class (statins) as evidenced by an allergic reaction occurring with at least TWO different statins

Ezetimibe

- Moderate or severe hepatic impairment [Child-Pugh classes B and C]
- Hypersensitivity to ezetimibe (e.g., anaphylaxis, angioedema, rash, urticaria)

*In July 2021, the FDA requested removal of the contraindication against use of statins in pregnant women. Because the benefits of statins may include prevention of serious or potentially fatal events in a small group of very high-risk pregnant patients, contraindicating these drugs in all pregnant women is not appropriate. https://www.fda.gov/safety/medical-product-safety-information/statins-drug-safety-communication-fdarequests-removal-strongest-warning-against-using-cholesterol

Appendix G: Statin Risk Factors

Statin Risk Factors

- Multiple or serious comorbidities, including impaired renal or hepatic function
- Unexplained alanine transaminase (ALT) elevations > 3 times upper limit of normal, or active liver disease
- Concomitant use of drugs adversely affecting statin metabolism
- Age > 75 years, or history of hemorrhagic stroke
- Asian ancestry

Appendix H: General Information

- Patients should remain on concomitant therapy with a statin if tolerated due to the established long term cardiovascular benefits.
- The diagnosis of SAMS is often on the basis of clinical criteria. Typical SAMS include muscle pain and aching (myalgia), cramps, and weakness. Symptoms are usually bilateral and involve large muscle groups, including the thigh, buttock, back, and shoulder girdle musculature. In contrast, cramping is usually unilateral and may involve small muscles of the hands and feet. Symptoms may be more frequent in physically active patients. Symptoms often appear early after starting stain therapy or after an increase in dose and usually resolve or start to dissipate within weeks after cessation of therapy, although it may take several months for symptoms to totally resolve. Persistence of symptoms for more than 2 months after drug cessation should prompt a search for other causes or for underlying muscle disease possibly provoked by statin therapy. The reappearance of symptoms with statin rechallenge and their disappearance with drug cessation offers the best evidence that the symptoms are truly SAMS.
- Pravastatin, fluvastatin, and rosuvastatin are hydrophilic statins which have been reported to confer fewer adverse drug reactions than lipophilic statins.
- In a final evidence report published March 2021, the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER) concluded that while uncertainty remains regarding the magnitude of overall benefit and how inclisiran compares to that of PCSK9 inhibitors, the current evidence offers high certainty of at least a small net health benefit for inclisiran when used for patients who have need of significant reduction in LDL-C despite maximally tolerated oral lipid-lowering therapy (B+).



Appendix I: Criteria for Defining Patients at Very High Risk of Future ASCVD Events^{3, 16} Very high risk is defined as having either a history of multiple major ASCVD events **OR** 1 major ASCVD event and multiple high-risk conditions:

- Major ASCVD events:
 - o Recent acute coronary syndrome (within the past 12 months)
 - History of myocardial infarction (other than recent acute coronary syndrome event listed above)
 - History of ischemic stroke
 - Symptomatic peripheral artery disease (history of claudication with ankle-brachial index < 0.85 or previous revascularization or amputation)
- High-risk conditions:
 - Age \geq 65 years
 - o HeFH
 - History of prior coronary artery bypass surgery or percutaneous coronary intervention outside of the major ASCVD event(s)
 - Diabetes
 - Hypertension
 - Chronic kidney disease (estimated glomerular filtration rate [eGFR] 15-59 mL/min/1.73 m²)
 - Current tobacco smoking
 - o Persistently elevated LDL-C (LDL-C \geq 100 mg/dL [\geq 2.6 mmol/L]) despite maximally tolerated statin therapy and ezetimibe
 - History of congestive heart failure

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose	
Primary	284 mg SC on initially and at 3 months, then	See regimen	
hyperlipidemia	every 6 months thereafter. If a planned dose		
(including HeFH) or	is missed by more than 3 months, restart		
hypercholesterolemia	with a new dosing schedule. Leqvio should		
with ASCVD	be administered by a healthcare professional		

VI. Product Availability

Single-dose prefilled syringe: 284 mg/1.5 mL (189 mg/mL)

VII. References

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- 4. Institute for Clinical and Economic Review. Bempedoic acid and inclisiran for patients with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia and for secondary prevention of ASCVD: Effectiveness and value. Final evidence report published March 2, 2021. Available at: https://icer.org/assessment/high-cholesterol-2021. Accessed October 18, 2022.
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- Clinical Lipidology Resource Center, sponsored by the National Lipid Association and the Journal of Clinical Lipidology. Genetic classification of dyslipidemia. Available at: http://nlaresourcecenter.lipidjournal.com/Content/PDFs/Tables/1.pdf. Accessed October 18, 2022.
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- 13. Zhang H, Plutzky J, Skentzos S, et al. Discontinuation of statins in routine care settings. Ann of Intern Med 2013; 158(7):526-534.
- 14. Backes JM, Ruisinger JF, Gibson CA, et al. Statin-associated muscle symptoms—managing the highly intolerant. J Clin Lipidol. 2017;11:24-33. Available at: https://www.acc.org/latest-in-cardiology/ten-points-to-remember/2017/05/03/10/43/statin-associated-muscle-symptoms. Accessed October 18, 2022.
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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
J1306	Injection, inclisiran, 1 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T
		Approval Date
Policy created	01.06.22	02.22
Added HCPCS code [J1306].	06.30.22	
Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications and continued therapy section.	10.06.22	
1Q 2023 annual review: per 2022 ACC expert consensus decision pathway, lowered minimum LDL requirement to 55 mg/dL for members with ASCVD at very high risk and added corresponding Appendix I; references reviewed and updated.	10.18.22	02.23
Per guidelines: for HeFH, added pathway for baseline LDL of at least 160 mg/dL for age < 20 years.	05.17.23	08.23
RT4: added expanded indication to include patients with primary hyperlipidemia per PI. For Commercial LOB, approval duration revised to "6 months or to the member's renewal date, whichever is longer".	07.20.23	
1Q 2024 annual review: for redirection to a preferred PCSK9 inhibitor added requirement for 8 week trial duration; added the following requirement from initial approval criteria to also require for continuation of therapy "Treatment plan does not include coadministration with Juxtapid, Repatha, or Praluent"; divided criteria with multiple elements into separate bullets for added clarity; Appendix I clarified smoking is specific to tobacco; references reviewed and updated. Reorganized diagnostic criteria in section I.A for improved clarity (no changes to clinical content).	02.09.24	02.24

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.

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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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