

**Clinical Policy: Toripalimab-tpzi (Loqtorzi)**

Reference Number: LA.PHAR.668

Effective Date: 08.29.24

Last Review Date: 04.28.25

Line of Business: Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)  
[Revision Log](#)

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

**\*\*Please note: This policy is for medical benefit\*\***

**Description**

Toripalimab-tpzi (Loqtorzi®) is a programmed death receptor-1 (PD-1)-blocking antibody.

**FDA Approved Indication(s)**

Loqtorzi is indicated for the treatment of:

- In combination with cisplatin and gemcitabine, for first-line treatment of adults with metastatic or with recurrent locally advanced nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC)
- As a single agent for the treatment of adults with recurrent unresectable or metastatic NPC with disease progression on or after a platinum-containing chemotherapy

**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 Louisiana Healthcare Connections that Loqtorzi is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

**I. Initial Approval Criteria****A. Advanced Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma** (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of NPC;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age  $\geq 18$  years;
4. Disease is unresectable, recurrent, or metastatic;
5. Loqtorzi is prescribed in one of the following ways (a or b):
  - a. In combination with cisplatin and gemcitabine;
  - b. As a single agent for disease that has progressed on or after platinum-containing chemotherapy;
6. Member has not received prior treatment with an anti-PD-(L)1 antibody;
7. Request meets one of the following (a, b or c):\*
  - a. In combination with cisplatin and gemcitabine: 240 mg every three weeks;
  - b. As a single agent for disease that has progressed on or after platinum-containing chemotherapy: 3 mg/kg intravenously every two weeks;
  - c. Dose 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. 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 LA.PMN.255
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 LA.PMN.53

**II. Continued Therapy**

**A. Advanced Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma (must meet all):**

1. Member is currently receiving medication via Louisiana Healthcare Connections benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Loqtorzi for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. Request meets one of the following (a, b or c):\*
  - a. In combination with cisplatin and gemcitabine: 240 mg every three weeks for up to total maximum of 24 months;
  - b. As a single agent: 3 mg/kg every two weeks;
  - c. Dose 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. 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 LA.PMN.255
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 LA.PMN.53

**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 – LA.PMN.53

**IV. Appendices/General Information**

*Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network

NPC: Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma

*Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives*  
Not applicable

*Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings*  
None reported

## V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
First-line treatment for NPC	<u>In combination with cisplatin and gemcitabine:</u> 240 mg IV every three weeks up to 24 months	240 mg/3 weeks
Previously treated, unresectable or metastatic NPC	<u>As a single agent:</u> 3 mg/kg IV every two weeks	3 mg/kg every two weeks

## VI. Product Availability

Solution, single-dose vial: 240mg/6mL

## VII. References

1. Loqtorzi Prescribing Information. Redwood City, CA: Coherus BioSciences, Inc; April 2024. Available at: [www.loqtorzi.com](http://www.loqtorzi.com). Accessed October 22, 2024.
2. Toripalimab In: National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug\\_compendium/content/](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug_compendium/content/). Accessed November 17, 2024.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Head and Neck Cancers Version 5.2024. Available at: [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/head-and-neck.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/head-and-neck.pdf). Accessed November 7, 2024.
4. Rui-hua Xu, Hai-Qiang Mai, JUPITER-02: Randomized, double-blind, phase III study of toripalimab or placebo plus gemcitabine and cisplatin as first-line treatment for recurrent or metastatic nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC). Journal of Clinical Oncology 2021. 39:18\_suppl, LBA2.
5. Wang FH, Wei XL, Efficacy, Safety, and Correlative Biomarkers of Toripalimab in Previously Treated Recurrent or Metastatic Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma: A Phase II Clinical Trial. Journal of Clinical Oncology 2021. 39(7):704-712.

## 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.

HCP Codes	Description
J3263	Injection, toripalimab-tpzi, 1 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	LDH Approval Date
Converted to Local Policy	05.24.24	07.29.24
Added HCPCS code [J3263] and removed HCPCS codes [J3590, C9399].	09.13.24	01.02.25
Annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated	04.28.25	

### **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. LHCC 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.

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 LHCC administrative policies and procedures.

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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.

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