

Clinical Policy: Treprostinil (Orenitram, Remodulin, Tyvaso)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.199

Effective Date: 03.16

Last Review Date: 02.19

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM*, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

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

Description

Treprostinil (Orenitram[®], Remodulin[®], Tyvaso[®]) is a prostacyclin analog.

**For Health Insurance Marketplace (HIM), if request is through the pharmacy benefit, Orenitram CR 5 mg and Tyvaso are non-formulary and cannot be approved using these criteria; refer to the formulary exception policy, HIM.PA.103.*

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Orenitram, Remodulin, and Tyvaso are indicated for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) (World Health Organization [WHO] Group 1) to improve exercise ability. Remodulin is also indicated to reduce the rate of clinical deterioration in patients with PAH requiring transition from Flolan (epoprostenol sodium). The risks and benefits of each drug should be carefully considered prior to transition.

Studies establishing effectiveness included predominately patients with New York Heart Association (NYHA) Functional Class II-IV symptoms and etiologies of idiopathic or heritable PAH, PAH associated with congenital systemic-to-pulmonary shunts, or PAH associated with connective tissue diseases. Nearly all controlled clinical experience with inhaled treprostinil has been on a background of bosentan (an endothelin receptor antagonist) or sildenafil (a phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitor) with study duration of 12 weeks. When used as the sole vasodilator, the effect of Orenitram on exercise is about 10% of the deficit, and the effect, if any, on a background of another vasodilator is probably less than this.

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 Orenitram, Remodulin, and Tyvaso are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of PAH;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a cardiologist or pulmonologist;
3. Failure of a calcium channel blocker (*see Appendix B*), unless member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Inadequate response or contraindication to acute vasodilator testing;

- b. Contraindication or clinically significant adverse effects to calcium channel blockers are experienced;
4. If Tyvaso is requested, dose does not exceed 9 breaths per treatment session (54 mcg of treprostinil) four times daily to be used with the Tyvaso Inhalation System (a second back-up system device is recommended).

Approval duration:

Medicaid – 6 months

HIM – 6 months for Orenitram 0.125 mg, 0.25 mg, 2.5 mg, 1 mg and Remodulin (*refer to HIM.PA.103 for Orenitram 5 mg and Tyvaso*)

Commercial – Length of Benefit

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.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met all initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If Tyvaso is requested and request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 9 breaths per treatment session (54 mcg of treprostinil) four times daily to be used with the Tyvaso Inhalation System (a second back-up system device is recommended).

Approval duration:

Medicaid – 12 months

HIM – 12 months for Orenitram 0.125 mg, 0.25 mg, 2.5 mg, 1 mg and Remodulin (*refer to HIM.PA.103 for Orenitram 5 mg and Tyvaso*)

Commercial – Length of Benefit

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.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PHAR.21 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.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

FC: functional class
 FDA: Food and Drug Administration
 NYHA: New York Heart Association
 PAH: pulmonary arterial hypertension
 PH: pulmonary hypertension
 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 and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
nifedipine (Adalat [®] CC, Afeditab [®] CR, Procardia [®] , Procardia XL [®])	60 mg PO QD; may increase to 120 to 240 mg/day	240 mg/day
diltiazem (Dilacor XR [®] , Dilt-XR [®] , Cardizem [®] CD, Cartia XT [®] , Tiazac [®] , Taztia XT [®] , Cardizem [®] LA, Matzim [®] LA)	720 to 960 mg PO QD	960 mg/day
amlodipine (Norvasc [®])	20 to 30 mg PO QD	30 mg/day

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):
 - Orenitram: Severe hepatic impairment (Child Pugh Class C)
- Boxed warnings(s): none reported

Appendix D: Pulmonary Hypertension: WHO Classification

- Group 1: PAH (pulmonary arterial hypertension)
- Group 2: PH due to left heart disease
- Group 3: PH due to lung disease and/or hypoxemia
- Group 4: CTEPH (chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension)
- Group 5: PH due to unclear multifactorial mechanisms

Appendix E: Pulmonary Hypertension: WHO/NYHA Functional Classes (FC)

Treatment Approach*	FC	Status at Rest	Tolerance of Physical Activity (PA)	PA Limitations	Heart Failure
Monitoring for progression of PH and treatment of co-	I	Comfortable at rest	No limitation	Ordinary PA does not cause undue dyspnea or fatigue, chest pain, or near syncope.	

Treatment Approach*	FC	Status at Rest	Tolerance of Physical Activity (PA)	PA Limitations	Heart Failure
existing conditions					
Advanced treatment of PH with PH-targeted therapy - see Appendix F**	II	Comfortable at rest	Slight limitation	Ordinary PA causes undue dyspnea or fatigue, chest pain, or near syncope.	
	III	Comfortable at rest	Marked limitation	Less than ordinary PA causes undue dyspnea or fatigue, chest pain, or near syncope.	
	IV	Dyspnea or fatigue may be present at rest	Inability to carry out any PA without symptoms	Discomfort is increased by any PA.	Signs of right heart failure

*PH supportive measures may include diuretics, oxygen therapy, anticoagulation, digoxin, exercise, pneumococcal vaccination. **Advanced treatment options also include calcium channel blockers.

Appendix F: Pulmonary Hypertension: Targeted Therapies

Mechanism of Action	Drug Class	Drug Subclass	Drug	Brand/Generic Formulations
Reduction of pulmonary arterial pressure through vasodilation	Prostacyclin* pathway agonist <i>*Member of the prostanoid class of fatty acid derivatives.</i>	Prostacyclin	Epoprostenol	Velettri (IV) Flolan (IV) Flolan generic (IV)
		Synthetic prostacyclin analog	Treprostinil	Orenitram (oral tablet) Remodulin (IV) Tyvaso (inhalation)
			Iloprost	Ventavis (inhalation)
		Non-prostanoid prostacyclin receptor (IP receptor) agonist	Selexipag	Upravi (oral tablet)
	Endothelin receptor antagonist (ETRA)	Selective receptor antagonist	Ambrisentan	Letairis (oral tablet)
		Nonselective dual action receptor antagonist	Bosentan Macitentan	Tracleer (oral tablet) Opsumit (oral tablet)
	Nitric oxide-cyclic guanosine	Phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) inhibitor	Sildenafil	Revatio (IV, oral tablet, oral suspension)

Mechanism of Action	Drug Class	Drug Subclass	Drug	Brand/Generic Formulations
	monophosphate enhancer		Tadalafil	Adcirca (oral tablet)
		Guanylate cyclase stimulant (sGC)	Riociguat	Adempas (oral tablet)

V. Dosage and Administration

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Treprostinil (Orenitram)	0.25 mg PO BID or 0.125 mg PO TID; can be increased every 3-4 days as tolerated	Based on tolerability
Treprostinil (Remodulin)	1.25 ng/kg/min SC or IV; can be increased weekly based on clinical response	Based on weight and tolerability
Treprostinil (Tyvaso)	4 treatment sessions per day with 3 breaths (18 mcg) per treatment session, titrated up to 9 breaths (54 mcg) per treatment session	216 mcg/day

VI. Product Availability

Drug	Availability
Treprostinil (Orenitram)	Extended-release tablets: 0.125 mg, 0.25 mg, 1 mg, 2.5 mg, 5 mg
Treprostinil (Remodulin)	20 mL vials: 20 mg, 50 mg, 100 mg, 200 mg
Treprostinil (Tyvaso)	Solution for inhalation (ampule): 1.74 mg/2.9 mL

VII. References

- Orenitram Prescribing Information. Research Triangle, NC: United Therapeutics Corp.; January 2017. Available at: https://www.orenitram.com/pdf/Orenitram_Full_Prescribing_Information.pdf. Accessed November 9, 2018
- Remodulin Prescribing Information. Research Triangle Park, NC: United Therapeutics Corp.; July 2018. Available at: <https://www.remodulin.com/downloads/remodulin-prescribinginformation.pdf>. Accessed November 9, 2018
- Tyvaso Prescribing Information. Research Triangle Park, NC: United Therapeutics Corp.; October 2017. Available at: <https://www.tyvaso.com>. Accessed November 9, 2018.
- McLaughlin VV, Archer SL, Badesch DB, et al. ACCF/AHA 2009 expert consensus document on pulmonary hypertension: A report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation Task Force on Expert Consensus Documents and the American Heart Association - developed in collaboration with the American College of Chest Physicians, American Thoracic Society, Inc., and the Pulmonary Hypertension Association. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2009; 53(17): 1573-1619.
- Taichman D, Ornelas J, Chung L, et al. CHEST guideline and expert panel report: Pharmacologic therapy for pulmonary arterial hypertension in adults. *Chest.* 2014; 146 (2): 449-475.

6. Abman SH, Hansmann G, Archer SL, et al. Pediatric pulmonary hypertension: Guidelines from the American Heart Association and American Thoracic Society. *Circulation*. 2015 Nov 24; 132(21): 2037-99.
7. Kim NH, Delcroix M, Jenkins DP, et al. Chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2013; 62(25): Suppl D92-99.
8. Galiè N, Humbert M, Vachiary JL, et al. 2015 ESC/ERS Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of Pulmonary Hypertension. *European Heart Journal*.
 Doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehv317.

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
J3285	Injection, treprostinil, 1mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy split from CP.PHAR.33.PAH and converted to new template. Criteria: added specialist requirement; removed echocardiogram as an option for confirming a PH diagnosis; removed hard stop after 3 months of therapy. Appendices removed: 1) examples of calcium channel blocker contraindications; 2) nitrate therapy examples; 3) PAH definition.	02.16	03.16
FC II is added to the prostanoid class of PH drugs. Safety criteria were removed unless they 1) represent contraindications or black box warnings not covered by a REMS program, and 2) provide specific lab/imaging parameters that must be met prior to initiation of therapy. An efficacy statement is added to the continuation criteria. Initial and continuation durations increased to 6 and 12 months respectively. Appendices covering PH group, functional class and therapy reorganized.	02.17	03.17
1Q18 annual review: Policies combined for commercial, HIM and Medicaid; No significant changes from previous corporate approved policy; Medicaid/HIM: removed WHO/NYHA classifications from initial criteria since specialist is involved in care; References reviewed and updated.	11.20.17	02.18
1Q 2019 annual review: disclaimer added that Orenitram 5 mg and Tyvaso are NF for HIM; no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	11.20.18	02.19

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.

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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.

For Health Insurance Marketplace members, when applicable, this policy applies only when the prescribed agent is on your health plan approved formulary. Request for non-formulary drugs must be reviewed using the formulary exception policy.

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