

Clinical Policy: Ofatumumab (Arzerra)

Reference Number: LA.PHAR.306

Effective Date:

Last Review Date: 05.09.23

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

Ofatumumab (Arzerra®) is a CD20-directed cytolytic monoclonal antibody.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Arzerra is indicated:

- In combination with chlorambucil, for the treatment of previously untreated patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) for whom fludarabine-based therapy is considered inappropriate
- In combination with fludarabine and cyclophosphamide for the treatment of patients with relapsed CLL
- For extended treatment of patients who are in complete or partial response after at least two lines of therapy for recurrent or progressive CLL
- For the treatment of patients with CLL refractory to fludarabine and alemtuzumab

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

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia/Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of CLL or small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL);
2. Request is for Arzerra;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
4. Age \geq 18 years;
5. If request is for use as first line therapy, one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Prescribed in combination with bendamustine, and there is no del(17)/TP53 mutation;
 - b. Prescribed in combination with chlorambucil, and fludarabine-based therapy is considered inappropriate;
6. Request meets one of the following (a or b):*
 - a. Dose does not exceed the maximum indicated in section V;

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- b. 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. Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia/Lymphoplasmacytic Lymphoma (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia/lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma (WM/LPL);
2. Request is for Arzerra;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
4. Age ≥ 18 years;
5. Member is rituximab-intolerant;
6. Request is for second-line or subsequent therapy (*see Appendix B for examples of prior therapy*);
7. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA-approved indication or 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

C. B-Cell Lymphomas (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of one of the following B-cell lymphoma subtypes (a-j):
 - a. Follicular lymphoma;
 - b. Marginal zone lymphoma (i, ii, iii, or iv):
 - i. Splenic marginal zone lymphoma;
 - ii. Gastric MALT lymphoma;
 - iii. Nongastric MALT lymphoma;
 - iv. Nodal marginal zone lymphoma;
 - c. Histologic transformation of nodal marginal zone lymphoma to diffuse large B-cell lymphoma;
 - d. Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma;
 - e. High-grade B-cell lymphoma;
 - f. Mantle cell lymphoma;
 - g. Castleman disease;
 - h. Post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder;
 - i. AIDS-related B-cell lymphoma;
 - j. Burkitt lymphoma;
2. Request is for Arzerra;
3. Used as a substitute* for rituximab or Gazyva® (obinutuzumab) in members with intolerance or experiencing rare complications such as mucocutaneous reactions including paraneoplastic pemphigus, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, lichenoid dermatitis, vesiculobullous dermatitis, and toxic epidermal necrolysis;

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**Caution per NCCN Compendium, re-challenge with the same anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody is not recommended and it is unclear if the use of an alternative anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody poses the same risk of recurrence.*

4. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
5. Age \geq 18 years;
6. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA-approved indication or 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

D. 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 for the relevant line of business: LA.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. All Indications in Section I Other Than Multiple Sclerosis (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving Arzerra via Louisiana Healthcare Connections benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Arzerra for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for a dose increase, request meets one of the following (a or b):*
 - a. New dose does not exceed the maximum indicated in section V;
 - b. New 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 for the relevant line of business: LA.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:

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- 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 for Medicaid, or evidence of coverage documents;
- B. Primary progressive MS.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

CLL: chronic lymphocytic leukemia

EDSS: Expanded Disability Status Scale

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

MS: multiple sclerosis

NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network

SLL: small lymphocytic lymphoma

WM/LPL: Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia /lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma

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
<u><i>WM/LPL primary therapy examples:</i></u>	Varies	Varies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bendamustine/rituximab • bortezomib (Velcade®)/dexamethasone/rituximab • Imbruvica® (ibrutinib) ± rituximab • rituximab/cyclophosphamide/dexamethasone 		
<u><i>MS therapies</i></u>		
Aubagio (teriflunomide)	7 mg or 14 mg PO QD	14 mg/day
Avonex, Rebif (interferon beta-1a)	<i>Avonex:</i> 30 mcg IM Q week <i>Rebif:</i> 22 mcg or 44 mcg SC TIW	<i>Avonex:</i> 30 mcg/week <i>Rebif:</i> 44 mcg TIW
Plegridy (peginterferon beta-1a)	125 mcg SC Q2 weeks	125 mcg/2 weeks
Betaseron, Extavia (interferon beta-1b)	250 mcg SC QOD	250 mg QOD
glatiramer acetate (Copaxone, Glatopa)	20 mg SC QD or 40 mg SC TIW	20 mg/day or 40 mg TIW
Gilenya (fingolimod)	0.5 mg PO QD	0.5 mg/day
dimethyl fumarate (Tecfidera)	120 mg PO BID for 7 days, followed by 240 mg PO BID	480 mg/day

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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):
 - Arzerra: none reported
- Boxed warning(s):
 - Arzerra: hepatitis B virus reactivation, progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy

Appendix D: General Information

- Disease-modifying therapies for MS are: glatiramer acetate (Copaxone®, Glatopa®), interferon beta-1a (Avonex®, Rebif®), interferon beta-1b (Betaseron®, Extavia®), peginterferon beta-1a (Plegridy®), dimethyl fumarate (Tecfidera®), diroximel fumarate (Vumerity®), monomethyl fumarate (Bafiertam™), fingolimod (Gilenya®, Tascenso ODT™), teriflunomide (Aubagio®), alemtuzumab (Lemtrada®), mitoxantrone (Novantrone®), natalizumab (Tysabri®), ocrelizumab (Ocrevus®), cladribine (Mavenclad®), siponimod (Mayzent®), ozanimod (Zeposia®), ponesimod (Ponvory™), and ofatumumab (Kesimpta®).
- Of the disease-modifying therapies for MS that are FDA-labeled for clinically isolated syndrome, only the interferon products, glatiramer, and Aubagio have demonstrated any efficacy in decreasing the risk of conversion to MS compared to placebo. This is supported by the American Academy of Neurology 2018 MS guidelines.

V. Dosage and Administration

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Ofatumumab (Arzerra)	Previously untreated CLL	In combination with chlorambucil: 300 mg IV on Day 1 followed by 1,000 mg IV on Day 8 (Cycle 1). Then 1,000 mg IV on Day 1 of subsequent 28-day cycles for a minimum of 3 cycles until best response or a maximum of 12 cycles	12 cycles
	Relapsed CLL	In combination with fludarabine and cyclophosphamide: 300 mg IV on Day 1 followed by 1,000 mg IV on Day 8 (Cycle 1). Then 1,000 mg IV on Day 1 of subsequent 28-day cycles for a maximum of 6 cycles	6 cycles
	Extended treatment in CLL	300 mg on Day 1 followed by 1,000 mg 1 week later on Day 8, followed by 1,000 mg 7 weeks later and every 8	2 years

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Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
		weeks thereafter for up to a maximum of 2 years	
	Refractory CLL	300 mg initial dose, followed 1 week later by 2,000 mg weekly for 7 doses, followed 4 weeks later by 2,000 mg every 4 weeks for 4 doses	12 doses

VI. Product Availability

Drug Name	Availability
Ofatumumab (Arzerra)	Single-use vials: 100 mg/5 mL, 1,000 mg/50 mL

VII. References

1. Arzerra Prescribing Information. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; August 2016. Available at <https://www.us.arzerra.com>. Accessed February 7, 2022.
2. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at: http://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug_compendium. Accessed February 7, 2022.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia/Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma Version 2.2022. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/cll.pdf. Accessed February 7, 2022.
4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia/Lymphoplasmacytic Lymphoma Version 2.2022. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/waldenstroms.pdf. Accessed February 7, 2022.
5. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. B-Cell Lymphomas Version 5.2021. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/b-cell.pdf. Accessed February 7, 2022.
6. Rae-Grant A, Day GS, Marrie RA, et al. Practice guideline: disease-modifying therapies for adults with multiple sclerosis – report of the Guideline Development, Dissemination, and Implementation Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2018;90(17):777-88.

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
J9302	Injection, ofatumumab, 10 mg (Arzerra)

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Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	LDH Approval Date
Policy created	05.09.23	

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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