

Clinical Policy: Capecitabine (Xeloda)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.60

Effective Date: 05.01.11

Last Review Date: 05.18

Line of Business: HIM, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

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

Description

Capecitabine (Xeloda[®]) is nucleoside metabolic inhibitor with antineoplastic activity.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Xeloda is indicated for the treatment of:

- Adjuvant Colon Cancer
 - Patients with Dukes' C colon cancer
- Metastatic Colorectal Cancer
 - First-line as monotherapy when treatment with fluoropyrimidine therapy alone is preferred
- Metastatic Breast Cancer
 - In combination with docetaxel after failure of prior anthracycline containing therapy
 - As monotherapy in patients resistant to both paclitaxel and an anthracycline-containing regimen

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

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Colorectal Cancer and Breast Cancer (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of one of the following:
 - a. Colorectal cancer (including colon or rectal cancer);
 - b. Recurrent or metastatic breast cancer;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. At the time of request, member does not have severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance $<$ 30 ml/min);
5. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Dose does not exceed 1250 mg/m² twice a day on days 1 to 14, every 21 days;
 - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Anal Carcinoma (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of anal squamous cell carcinoma;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Xeloda will be used concurrently with chemoradiation in combination with mitomycin;
4. 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*).

Approval duration: 6 months

C. Neuroendocrine Tumors of the Pancreas (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of neuroendocrine tumors of the pancreas;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Xeloda will be used in combination with temozolomide;
4. At the time of request, member does not have severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 ml/min);
5. 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*).

Approval duration: 6 months

D. Additional NCCN Category 2A Indications (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Prescribed for one of the following diagnosis:
 - a. Esophageal and esophagogastric junction cancers (squamous cell carcinoma; adenocarcinoma);
 - b. Gastric cancer (adenocarcinoma);
 - c. Very advanced and recurrent/persistent head and neck cancer (squamous cell carcinoma with mixed subtypes);
 - d. Hepatobiliary cancers:
 - i. Extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma (adenocarcinoma);
 - ii. Gallbladder cancer (adenocarcinoma);
 - iii. Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma (adenocarcinoma);
 - e. Occult primary (adenocarcinoma or carcinoma not otherwise specified) as a component of CapeOx regimen;
 - f. Ovarian cancer/fallopian tube cancer/primary peritoneal cancer (serous; endometrioid; carcinosarcoma; clear cell; mucinous);
 - g. Pancreatic cancer (adenocarcinoma);
 - h. Penile cancer;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. At the time of request, member does not have severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 ml/min);
4. 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*).

Approval duration: 6 months

E. 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): HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Xeloda 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 2,500 mg/m² total daily dose on days 1 to 14, every 21 days;
 - b. New dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 12 months

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 6 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): 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 – 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

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

Not applicable

V. Dosage and Administration

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Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Metastatic colorectal cancer	1,250 mg/m ² twice daily orally for 2 weeks followed by a one week rest period in 3-week cycles; for adjuvant treatment of Dukes' C colon cancer, total treatment should be 24 weeks (8 cycles)	2,500 mg/m ² total daily dose on days 1 to 14, every 21 days
Adjuvant colorectal cancer		
Metastatic breast cancer		

VI. Product Availability

Tablets: 150 mg and 500 mg

VII. References

1. Xeloda Prescribing Information. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc.; December 2016. Available at <https://www.gene.com/patients/medicines/xeloda>. Accessed January 3, 2018.
2. Capecitabine. In: National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at www.NCCN.org. Accessed January 3, 2018.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Colon cancer Version 2.2017. Available at www.NCCN.org. Accessed January 3, 2018.
4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Rectal cancer Version 3.2017. Available at www.NCCN.org. Accessed January 3, 2018.

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
J8520	Capecitabine, oral, 150 mg
J8521	Capecitabine, oral, 500 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Updated references	06.14	06.14
Updated language in Dosing & Administration, Safety, Contraindications, and use in specific populations Added coumadin related question in Figure 1	04.15	06.15
Policy converted to new template. Removed question about monitoring PT/INR. FDA indications retained per PI; all NCCN compendium uses added if not already in the policy. Colorectal cancer - Dukes' C is analogous to stage III per NCCN colon and rectal cancer guidelines.	06.16	06.16
For colorectal cancer, added "when treatment with fluoropyrimidine therapy alone is preferred" to section 2.a. (FDA approved use).	05.17	06.17

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Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Removed as contraindications: dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase deficiency and hypersensitivity to capecitabine; modified approval duration from 3 to 6 months; re-auth: removed reasons to discontinue; modified approval duration from 6 to 12 months; updated additional NCCN uses and removed lung endocrine tumors (NCCN category 3).		
2Q 2018 annual review: added HIM line of business; summarized NCCN and FDA approved uses for improved clarity; added specialist involvement in care; removed central nervous cancers-brain metastases from off-label because it is addressed by the primary tumor (breast cancer criteria); removed mucinous carcinoma of the ovary as it is covered in ovarian cancer criteria; added continuity of care statement; references reviewed and updated.	02.13.18	05.18

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.

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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.

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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