Drug Policy:

Asparlas™ (calaspargase pegol-mknl)

I. PURPOSE

To define and describe the accepted indications for Asparlas (calaspargase pegol-mknl) usage in the treatment of cancer, including FDA approved indications, and off-label indications.

New Century Health (NCH) is responsible for processing all medication requests from network ordering providers. Medications not authorized by NCH may be deemed as not approvable and therefore not reimbursable.

The use of this drug must be supported by one of the following: FDA approved product labeling, CMS-approved compendia, National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN), American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) clinical guidelines, or peer-reviewed literature that meets the requirements of the CMS Medicare Benefit Policy Manual Chapter 15.

II. INDICATIONS FOR USE/INCLUSION CRITERIA

A. PREFERRED MEDICATION GUIDANCE FOR INITIAL REQUEST:

1. When health plan Medicaid coverage provisions—including any applicable PDLs (Preferred Drug Lists)—conflict with the coverage provisions in this drug policy, health plan Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence per the Preferred Drug Guidelines OR

2. When health plan Exchange coverage provisions—including any applicable PDLs (Preferred Drug Lists)—conflict with the coverage provisions in this drug policy, health plan Exchange coverage provisions take precedence per the Preferred Drug Guidelines OR
3. For Health Plans that utilize NCH UM Oncology Clinical Policies as the initial clinical criteria, thePreferred Drug Guidelines shall follow NCH L1 Pathways when applicable, otherwise shall follow NCH drug policies AND
4. Continuation requests of previously approved, non-preferred medication are not subject to this provision AND
5. When available, generic alternatives are preferred over brand-name drugs.

B. Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL)
   1. The member has a diagnosis of ALL AND
   2. NOTE: Per NCH Policy & NCH Pathway, Asparlas (calaspargase pegol-mknl) is preferred over Oncaspar (pegasparagase) for use in ALL as a part of anti-leukemia therapy. Rationale: AALL07P4 clinical trial results demonstrated no substantial difference in event free survival using Asparlas in comparison to patients treated with pegaspargase in the treatment of ALL.¹

III. EXCLUSION CRITERIA
   A. Asparlas (calaspargase pegol-mknl) is being used after disease progression with the same regimen, Oncaspar (pegasparagase) or Erwinaze (Asparaginase Erwinia chrysanthemi).
   B. Dosing exceeds single dose limit of Asparlas (calaspargase pegol-mknl) 2,500 units/m².
   C. Indications not supported by CMS recognized compendia or acceptable peer reviewed literature.

IV. MEDICATION MANAGEMENT
   A. Please refer to the FDA label/package insert for details regarding these topics.

V. APPROVAL AUTHORITY
   A. Review – Utilization Management Department
   B. Final Approval – Utilization Management Committee

VI. ATTACHMENTS
   A. None

VII. REFERENCES