

Drug Policy:

Erwinaze™ (asparaginase Erwinia chrysanthemi)

POLICY NUMBER UM ONC_1361	SUBJECT Erwinaze™ (asparaginase Erwinia chrysanthemi)		DEPT/PROGRAM UM Dept	PAGE 1 OF 3
DATES COMMITTEE REVIEWED 07/10/19, 12/11/19, 06/10/20, 02/10/21	APPROVAL DATE February 10, 2021	EFFECTIVE DATE February 26, 2021	COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATES (latest version listed last) 07/10/19, 12/11/19, 06/10/20, 02/10/21	
PRIMARY BUSINESS OWNER: UM		COMMITTEE/BOARD APPROVAL Utilization Management Committee		
URAC STANDARDS HUM 1	NCQA STANDARDS UM 2		ADDITIONAL AREAS OF IMPACT	
CMS REQUIREMENTS	STATE/FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS		APPLICABLE LINES OF BUSINESS Commercial, Exchange, Medicaid	

I. PURPOSE

To define and describe the accepted indications for Erwinaze (asparaginase Erwinia chrysanthemi) 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, the [Preferred 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. NOTE: Asparlas (calaspargase pegol-mknl) is preferred over Erwinaze (asparaginase Erwinia chrysanthemi) in the treatment of ALL. Please refer to [UM ONC_1352 Asparlas \(calaspargase pegol-mknl\) policy](#).
2. The member has ALL and has demonstrated hypersensitivity to Asparlas (calaspargase pegol-mknl) AND
3. Erwinaze (asparaginase Erwinia chrysanthemi) may be used for the following:
 - a. Philadelphia chromosome-negative ALL/Philadelphia chromosome positive ALL as a part of a multi-agent chemotherapy regimen.

III. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- A. Erwinaze (asparaginase Erwinia chrysanthemi) is being used after disease progression with the same regimen.
- B. Dosing exceeds single dose limit of Erwinaze (asparaginase Erwinia chrysanthemi) 25,000/m² International Units.
- 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

- A. Erwinaze PI prescribing information. Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 2020.
- B. Clinical Pharmacology Elsevier Gold Standard. 2021.
- C. Micromedex® Healthcare Series: Thomson Micromedex, Greenwood Village, Co. 2021.
- D. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Cancer Guidelines and Drugs and Biologics Compendium. 2021.

E. AHFS Drug Information. American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists or Wolters Kluwer Lexi-Drugs. Bethesda, MD. 2021.