

# Drug Policy:

## Arranon™ (nelarabine)

<b>POLICY NUMBER</b> UM ONC_1359	<b>SUBJECT</b> Arranon™ (nelarabine)		<b>DEPT/PROGRAM</b> UM Dept	<b>PAGE 1 OF 2</b>
<b>DATES COMMITTEE REVIEWED</b> 06/12/19, 12/11/19, 06/10/20, 06/09/21	<b>APPROVAL DATE</b> June 9, 2021	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> June 25, 2021	<b>COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATES</b> 06/12/19, 12/11/19, 06/10/20, 06/09/21	
<b>PRIMARY BUSINESS OWNER: UM</b>		<b>COMMITTEE/BOARD APPROVAL</b> Utilization Management Committee		
<b>URAC STANDARDS</b> HUM 1	<b>NCQA STANDARDS</b> UM 2		<b>ADDITIONAL AREAS OF IMPACT</b>	
<b>CMS REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>STATE/FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS</b>		<b>APPLICABLE LINES OF BUSINESS</b> Commercial, Exchange, Medicaid	

### I. PURPOSE

To define and describe the accepted indications for Arranon (nelarabine) 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 applicable, generic alternatives are preferred over brand-name drugs.

#### **B. T-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (T-ALL)/T-Cell Lymphoblastic Lymphoma (T-LBL)**

1. The member has T-ALL/T-LBL and Arranon (nelarabine) may be used in adult and pediatric members 1 year and older for **ANY** of the following:
  - a. Induction/Consolidation therapy in members who have progressed after therapy with 2 or more regimens.
  - b. Therapy for Relapsed/Refractory disease as a component of a nelarabine containing regimen.

### **III. EXCLUSION CRITERIA**

- A. Arranon (nelarabine) is being used after disease progression while receiving Arranon (nelarabine) or a regimen containing Arranon (nelarabine).
- B. Concurrent use with adenosine deaminase inhibitors, such as pentostatin, is not recommended.
- C. Dosing exceeds single dose limit of Arranon (nelarabine) 1500 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.
- D. 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. Arranon PI prescribing information. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation. East Hanover, New Jersey 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.