

Drug Policy:

Cosela™ (trilaciclib)

POLICY NUMBER UM ONC_1424	SUBJECT Cosela™ (trilaciclib)		DEPT/PROGRAM UM Dept	PAGE 1 OF 3
DATES COMMITTEE REVIEWED 04/14/21, 11/15/21, 04/13/22	APPROVAL DATE April 13, 2022	EFFECTIVE DATE April 29, 2022	COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATES 04/14/21, 11/15/21, 04/13/22	
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 Cosela (trilaciclib) 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. Extensive Stage Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC)

1. Cosela (trilaciclib) is not recommended for use to prevent chemotherapy induced myelosuppression in extensive stage SCLC per NCH Policy.

Rationale: Based on a review of the 3 studies conducted on this drug, we noted that:

- a. The incidence of febrile neutropenia was not used as an efficacy endpoint in any of the trials.
- b. G-CSF use was allowed starting cycle 2 for all 3 trials. A significant proportion of patients received G-CSF in both the placebo and Cosela groups. The use of IV antibiotics was 22% in the Cosela group vs 28% in the placebo group-a non-significant difference in the trial using Cosela with topotecan.
- c. There is no Level 1 evidence (randomized trial and/or meta-analysis) to support that Cosela + G-CSF therapy significantly decreases the risk of febrile neutropenia compared to G-CSF therapy alone.
- d. With regards to anemia prevention, the rate of ESA use for anemia of chemotherapy was 3% in the Cosela group vs 5% in the placebo group-a non-significant difference-in the trial using a 3-drug regimen.
- e. With regards to platelet transfusions: 8 patients received platelet transfusions in the Cosela group compared to 9 patients in the placebo group-a non-significant difference-in the trial using topotecan.
- f. Based on our review, the use of Cosela does not offer significant clinical benefits in terms of decreasing myelosuppression, over and above the use of G-CSF, and other supportive care (ESAs, platelet transfusions etc.).
- g. None of these studies showed an improvement in Progression-Free Survival (PFS) or Overall Survival (OS).

III. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- A. COSELA IS NOT RECOMMENDED PER POLICY.
- B. Investigational use of Cosela (trilaciclib) with an off-label indication that is not sufficient in evidence or is not generally accepted by the medical community. Sufficient evidence that is not supported by CMS recognized compendia or acceptable peer reviewed literature is defined as any of the following:
 1. Whether the clinical characteristics of the patient and the cancer are adequately represented in the published evidence.
 2. Whether the administered chemotherapy/biologic therapy/immune therapy/targeted therapy/other oncologic therapy regimen is adequately represented in the published evidence.
 3. Whether the reported study outcomes represent clinically meaningful outcomes experienced by patients. Generally, the definition of Clinically Meaningful outcomes are those recommended by ASCO, e.g., Hazard Ratio of < 0.80 and the recommended survival benefit for OS and PFS should be at least 3 months.

4. Whether the experimental design, in light of the drugs and conditions under investigation, is appropriate to address the investigative question. (For example, in some clinical studies, it may be unnecessary or not feasible to use randomization, double blind trials, placebos, or crossover).
5. That non-randomized clinical trials with a significant number of subjects may be a basis for supportive clinical evidence for determining accepted uses of drugs.
6. That case reports are generally considered uncontrolled and anecdotal information and do not provide adequate supportive clinical evidence for determining accepted uses of drugs.
7. That abstracts (including meeting abstracts) without the full article from the approved peer-reviewed journals lack supporting clinical evidence for determining accepted uses of drugs.

IV. APPROVAL AUTHORITY

- A. Review – Utilization Management Department
- B. Final Approval – Utilization Management Committee

V. ATTACHMENTS

- A. None

VI. REFERENCES

- A. Hart LL, et al. Myelopreservation with Trilaciclib in Patients Receiving Topotecan for Small Cell Lung Cancer: Results from a Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Phase II Study. *Adv Ther.* 2021 Jan;38(1):350-365.
- B. Cosela (trilaciclib) PI prescribing information. G1 Therapeutics, Inc. Durham, NC 2021.
- C. Clinical Pharmacology Elsevier Gold Standard 2022.
- D. Micromedex® Healthcare Series: Thomson Micromedex, Greenwood Village, CO 2022.
- E. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Cancer Guidelines and Drugs and Biologics Compendium 2022.
- F. AHFS Drug Information. American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists or Wolters Kluwer Lexi-Drugs. Bethesda, MD 2022.
- G. Ellis LM, et al. American Society of Clinical Oncology perspective: Raising the bar for clinical trials by defining clinically meaningful outcomes. *J Clin Oncol.* 2014 Apr 20;32(12):1277-80.
- H. Medicare Benefit Policy Manual Chapter 15 Covered Medical and Other Health Services: <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/bp102c15.pdf>.