

Reference number(s)
1931-A

## SPECIALTY GUIDELINE MANAGEMENT

**NEULASTA (pegfilgrastim)**  
**FULPHILA (pegfilgrastim-jmdb)**  
**FYLNETRA (pegfilgrastim-pbbk)**  
**NYVEPRIA (pegfilgrastim-apgf)**  
**STIMUFEND (pegfilgrastim-fpgk)**  
**UDENYCA (pegfilgrastim-cbqv)**  
**ZIEXTENZO (pegfilgrastim-bmez)**

### POLICY

#### I. INDICATIONS

The indications below including FDA-approved indications and compendial uses are considered a covered benefit provided that all the approval criteria are met and the member has no exclusions to the prescribed therapy.

##### A. FDA-Approved Indication

###### **Neulasta**

1. Patients with Cancer Receiving Myelosuppressive Chemotherapy  
Neulasta is indicated to decrease the incidence of infection, as manifested by febrile neutropenia, in patients with non-myeloid malignancies receiving myelosuppressive anti-cancer drugs associated with a clinically significant incidence of febrile neutropenia.
2. Hematopoietic Subsyndrome of Acute Radiation Syndrome  
Neulasta is indicated to increase survival in patients acutely exposed to myelosuppressive doses of radiation (Hematopoietic Subsyndrome of Acute Radiation Syndrome).

###### **Fulphila**

Patients with Cancer Receiving Myelosuppressive Chemotherapy  
Fulphila is indicated to decrease the incidence of infection, as manifested by febrile neutropenia, in patients with non-myeloid malignancies receiving myelosuppressive anti-cancer drugs associated with a clinically significant incidence of febrile neutropenia

###### **Udenyca**

Patients with Cancer Receiving Myelosuppressive Chemotherapy  
Udenyca is indicated to decrease the incidence of infection, as manifested by febrile neutropenia, in patients with non-myeloid malignancies receiving myelosuppressive anti-cancer drugs associated with a clinically significant incidence of febrile neutropenia.

###### **Ziextenzo**

Patients with Cancer Receiving Myelosuppressive Chemotherapy  
Ziextenzo is indicated to decrease the incidence of infection, as manifested by febrile neutropenia, in patients with non-myeloid malignancies receiving myelosuppressive anti-cancer drugs associated with a clinically significant incidence of febrile neutropenia.

Reference number(s)
1931-A

### **Nyvepria**

Patients with Cancer Receiving Myelosuppressive Chemotherapy

Nyvepria is indicated to decrease the incidence of infection, as manifested by febrile neutropenia, in patients with non-myeloid malignancies receiving myelosuppressive anti-cancer drugs associated with a clinically significant incidence of febrile neutropenia.

### **Fylnetra**

Patients with Cancer Receiving Myelosuppressive Chemotherapy

Fylnetra is indicated to decrease the incidence of infection, as manifested by febrile neutropenia, in patients with non-myeloid malignancies receiving myelosuppressive anti-cancer drugs associated with a clinically significant incidence of febrile neutropenia.

### **Stimufend**

Patients with Cancer Receiving Myelosuppressive Chemotherapy

Stimufend is indicated to decrease the incidence of infection, as manifested by febrile neutropenia, in patients with non-myeloid malignancies receiving myelosuppressive anti-cancer drugs associated with a clinically significant incidence of febrile neutropenia.

#### **B. Compendial Use**

1. Stem cell transplantation-related indications
2. Prophylaxis for chemotherapy-induced febrile neutropenia in patients with solid tumors
3. Hematopoietic Subsyndrome of Acute Radiation Syndrome
4. Hairy cell leukemia, neutropenic fever

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and not medically necessary.

## **II. DOCUMENTATION**

### **Primary Prophylaxis of Febrile Neutropenia**

- A. Documentation must be provided of the member's diagnosis and chemotherapeutic regimen.
- B. If chemotherapeutic regimen has an intermediate risk of febrile neutropenia (10-19% [See Appendix B]), documentation must be provided outlining the patient's risk factors that confirm the member is at high risk for febrile neutropenia.

## **III. CRITERIA FOR INITIAL APPROVAL**

### **A. Prevention of neutropenia in cancer patients receiving myelosuppressive chemotherapy**

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for prevention of febrile neutropenia when all of the following criteria are met (1, 2, 3, and 4):

1. The requested medication will not be used in combination with other colony stimulating factors within any chemotherapy cycle.
2. The member will not be receiving chemotherapy and radiation therapy at the same time.
3. The requested medication will not be administered with weekly chemotherapy regimens.
4. One of the following criteria is met (i or ii):
  - i. The requested medication will be used for primary prophylaxis in members with a solid tumor or non-myeloid malignancies who have received, are currently receiving, or will be receiving myelosuppressive anti-cancer therapy that is expected to result in 20% or higher incidence of

Reference number(s)
1931-A

febrile neutropenia (FN) (See Appendix A) OR 10 – 19% risk of FN (See Appendix B) and who are considered to be at high risk of FN because of bone marrow compromise or co-morbidity, including any of the following (not an all-inclusive list):

- a. Active infections, open wounds, or recent surgery
  - b. Age greater than or equal to 65 years
  - c. Bone marrow involvement by tumor producing cytopenias
  - d. Previous chemotherapy or radiation therapy
  - e. Poor nutritional status
  - f. Poor performance status
  - g. Previous episodes of FN
  - h. Other serious co-morbidities, including renal dysfunction, liver dysfunction, HIV infection, cardiovascular disease
  - i. Persistent neutropenia
- ii. The requested medication will be used for secondary prophylaxis in members with solid tumors or non-myeloid malignancies who experienced a febrile neutropenic complication or a dose-limiting neutropenic event (a nadir or day of treatment count impacting the planned dose of chemotherapy) from a prior cycle of similar chemotherapy, with the same dose and scheduled planned for the current cycle (for which primary prophylaxis was not received).

#### B. Other indications

Authorization of 6 months may be granted for members with any of the following indications:

1. Stem cell transplantation-related indications
2. Hematopoietic Subsyndrome of Acute Radiation Syndrome  
Treatment for radiation-induced myelosuppression following a radiological/nuclear incident
3. Hairy cell leukemia  
Members with hairy cell leukemia with neutropenic fever following chemotherapy

#### IV. CONTINUATION OF THERAPY

All members (including new members) requesting authorization for continuation of therapy must meet all initial authorization criteria.

#### V. APPENDIX

##### A. APPENDIX A: Selected Chemotherapy Regimens with an Incidence of Febrile Neutropenia of 20% or Higher<sup>†</sup>

1. Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia:  
Select ALL regimens as directed by treatment protocol (see NCCN guidelines ALL)
2. Bladder Cancer:
  - i. Dose dense MVAC (methotrexate, vinblastine, doxorubicin, cisplatin)
  - ii. CBDCa/Pac (carboplatin, paclitaxel)
3. Bone Cancer
  - i. VAI (vincristine, doxorubicin or dactinomycin, ifosfamide)
  - ii. VDC-IE (vincristine, doxorubicin or dactinomycin, and cyclophosphamide alternating with ifosfamide and etoposide)
  - iii. Cisplatin/doxorubicin
  - iv. VDC (cyclophosphamide, vincristine, doxorubicin or dactinomycin)
  - v. VIDE (vincristine, ifosfamide, doxorubicin or dactinomycin, etoposide)

Reference number(s)
1931-A

4. Breast Cancer:
  - i. Docetaxel + trastuzumab
  - ii. Dose-dense AC (doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide) + paclitaxel (or dose dense paclitaxel)
  - iii. TAC (docetaxel, doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide)
  - iv. AT (doxorubicin, docetaxel)
  - v. Doc (docetaxel)
  - vi. TC (docetaxel, cyclophosphamide)
  - vii. TCH (docetaxel, carboplatin, trastuzumab)
5. Colorectal Cancer:  
FOLFOXIRI (fluorouracil, leucovorin, oxaliplatin, irinotecan)
6. Esophageal and Gastric Cancers:  
Docetaxel/cisplatin/fluorouracil
7. Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma  
TPF (docetaxel, cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil)
8. Hodgkin Lymphoma:
  - i. Brentuximab vedotin + AVD (doxorubicin, vinblastine, dacarbazine)
  - ii. Escalated BEACOPP (bleomycin, etoposide, doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, procarbazine, prednisone)
9. Kidney Cancer:  
Doxorubicin/gemcitabine
10. Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma:
  - i. CHP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, prednisone) + brentuximab vedotin
  - ii. Dose-adjusted EPOCH (etoposide, prednisone, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin)
  - iii. ICE (ifosfamide, carboplatin, etoposide)
  - iv. Dose-dense CHOP-14 (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone) ± rituximab
  - v. MINE (mesna, ifosfamide, mitoxantrone, etoposide)
  - vi. DHAP (dexamethasone, cisplatin, cytarabine)
  - vii. ESHAP (etoposide, methylprednisolone, cisplatin, cytarabine (Ara-C))
  - viii. HyperCVAD ± rituximab (cyclophosphamide, vincristine, doxorubicin, dexamethasone ± rituximab)
  - ix. VAPEC-B (vincristine, doxorubicin, prednisolone, etoposide, cyclophosphamide, bleomycin)
11. Melanoma:  
Dacarbazine-based combination with IL-2, interferon alpha (dacarbazine, cisplatin, vinblastine, IL-2, interferon alfa)
12. Multiple Myeloma:
  - i. VTD-PACE (dexamethasone/thalidomide/cisplatin/doxorubicin/cyclophosphamide/etoposide + bortezomib)
  - ii. DT-PACE (dexamethasone/thalidomide/cisplatin/doxorubicin/cyclophosphamide/etoposide)
13. Ovarian Cancer:
  - i. Topotecan
  - ii. Docetaxel
14. Pancreatic Cancer:  
FOLFIRINOX (fluorouracil, leucovorin, irinotecan, oxaliplatin)
15. Soft Tissue Sarcoma:
  - i. MAID (mesna, doxorubicin, ifosfamide, dacarbazine)
  - ii. Doxorubicin
  - iii. Ifosfamide/doxorubicin
16. Small Cell Lung Cancer:
  - i. Top (topotecan)
  - ii. CAV (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine)
17. Testicular Cancer:

Reference number(s)
1931-A

- i. VeIP (vinblastine, ifosfamide, cisplatin)
  - ii. VIP (etoposide, ifosfamide, cisplatin)
  - iii. TIP (paclitaxel, ifosfamide, cisplatin)
18. Gestational Trophoblastic Neoplasia:
- i. EMA/EP (etoposide, methotrexate, dactinomycin/etoposide, cisplatin)
  - ii. EP/EMA (etoposide, cisplatin/etoposide, methotrexate, dactinomycin)
  - iii. TP/TE (paclitaxel, cisplatin/paclitaxel, etoposide)
  - iv. BEP (bleomycin, etoposide, cisplatin)
  - v. VIP (etoposide, ifosfamide, cisplatin)
  - vi. ICE (ifosfamide, carboplatin, etoposide)
19. Wilms Tumor:
- i. Regimen M (vincristine, dactinomycin, doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, etoposide)
  - ii. Regimen I (vincristine, doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, etoposide)

\*Applies to chemotherapy regimens with or without monoclonal antibodies (e.g., trastuzumab, rituximab)

† This list is not comprehensive; there are other agents/regimens that have an intermediate/high risk for development of febrile neutropenia.

**B. APPENDIX B: Selected Chemotherapy Regimens with an Incidence of Febrile Neutropenia of 10% to 19%\*†**

1. Occult Primary – Adenocarcinoma:  
Gemcitabine/docetaxel
2. Breast Cancer:
  - i. Docetaxel
  - ii. CMF classic (cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, fluorouracil)
  - iii. CA (doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide) (60 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) (hospitalized)
  - iv. AC (doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide) + sequential docetaxel (taxane portion only)
  - v. AC + sequential docetaxel + trastuzumab
  - vi. A (doxorubicin) (75 mg/m<sup>2</sup>)
  - vii. AC (doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide)
  - viii. CapDoc (capecitabine, docetaxel)
  - ix. Paclitaxel every 21 days
3. Cervical Cancer:
  - i. Irinotecan
  - ii. Cisplatin/topotecan
  - iii. Paclitaxel/cisplatin
  - iv. Topotecan
4. Colorectal Cancer:
  - i. FL (fluorouracil, leucovorin)
  - ii. CPT-11 (irinotecan) (350 mg/m<sup>2</sup> q 3 wk)
  - iii. FOLFOX (fluorouracil, leucovorin, oxaliplatin)
5. Esophageal and Gastric Cancers:
  - i. Irinotecan/cisplatin
  - ii. Epirubicin/cisplatin/5-fluorouracil
  - iii. Epirubicin/cisplatin/capecitabine
6. Non-Hodgkin's Lymphomas:
  - i. EPOCH-IT chemotherapy
  - ii. GDP (gemcitabine, dexamethasone, cisplatin/carboplatin)
  - iii. GDP (gemcitabine, dexamethasone, cisplatin/carboplatin) + rituximab
  - iv. FMR (fludarabine, mitoxantrone, rituximab)

Reference number(s)
1931-A

- v. CHOP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone) including regimens with pegylated liposomal doxorubicin
- vi. CHOP + rituximab (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone, rituximab) including regimens with pegylated liposomal doxorubicin
- vii. Bendamustine
- 7. Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer:
  - i. Cisplatin/paclitaxel
  - ii. Cisplatin/vinorelbine
  - iii. Cisplatin/docetaxel
  - iv. Cisplatin/etoposide
  - v. Carboplatin/paclitaxel
  - vi. Docetaxel
- 8. Ovarian Cancer:  
Carboplatin/docetaxel
- 9. Prostate Cancer:  
Cabazitaxel
- 10. Small Cell Lung Cancer:  
Etoposide/carboplatin
- 11. Testicular Cancer:
  - i. BEP (bleomycin, etoposide, cisplatin)
  - ii. Etoposide/cisplatin
- 12. Uterine Sarcoma:  
Docetaxel

\*Applies to chemotherapy regimens with or without monoclonal antibodies (e.g., trastuzumab, rituximab)

† This list is not comprehensive; there are other agents/regimens that have an intermediate/high risk for development of febrile neutropenia.

## VI. REFERENCES

1. Neulasta [package insert]. Thousand Oaks, CA: Amgen Inc.; February 2021.
2. Fulphila [package insert]. Morgantown, WV: Mylan Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; October 2021.
3. Udenyca [package insert]. Redwood City, CA: Coherus BioSciences, Inc.; June 2021.
4. Ziextenzo [package insert]. Princeton, NJ: Sandoz Inc.; March 2021.
5. Nyvepria [package insert]. Lake Forest, IL: Hospira, Inc.; October 2021.
6. Fylnetra [package insert]. Piscataway, NJ: Kashiv BioSciences, LLC; May 2022.
7. Stimufend [package insert]. Lake Zurich, IL: Fresenius Kabi USA, LLC; September 2022.
8. The NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium® © 2022 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. Available at: <https://www.nccn.org> Accessed May 18, 2022.
9. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Hematopoietic Growth Factors. Version 1.2022. [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/growthfactors.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/growthfactors.pdf) Accessed May 18, 2022.
10. IBM Micromedex® DRUGDEX® (electronic version). IBM Watson Health, Greenwood Village, Colorado, USA. Available at <https://www.micromedexsolutions.com> (Accessed: May 18, 2022).
11. Aapro MS, Bohlius J, Cameron DA, et al. 2010 update of EORTC guidelines for the use of granulocyte-colony stimulating factor to reduce the incidence of chemotherapy-induced febrile neutropenia in adult patients with lymphoproliferative disorders and solid tumors. *Eur J Cancer*. 2011;47(1):8-32.

Reference number(s)
1931-A

12. Smith TJ, Bohlke K, Lyman GH, et al. Recommendations for the use of white blood cell growth factors: American Society of Clinical Oncology Clinical Practice Guideline Update. *J Clin Oncol*. 2015;33(28):3199-3212.
13. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Hairy Cell Leukemia. Version 1.2022.  
[https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/hairy\\_cell.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/hairy_cell.pdf) Accessed May 18, 2022.
14. Smith TJ, Khatcheressian J, Lyman GH, et al. 2006 update of recommendations for the use of white blood cell growth factors: an evidence-based clinical practice guideline. *J Clin Oncol*. 2006;24(19):3187-3205.
15. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Gestational Trophoblastic Neoplasia. Version 1.2022.  
[https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/gtn.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/gtn.pdf) Accessed May 18, 2022.
16. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Wilms Tumor (Nephroblastoma). Version 1.2022.  
[https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/wilms\\_tumor.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/wilms_tumor.pdf) Accessed May 18, 2022.