

Zolgensma® (onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi) (Intravenous)

Effective Date: 8/14/2019

Review date: 10/17/2019, 10/5/2020, 7/22/2021, 4/7/2022, 2/23/2023, 12/07/2023, 01/04/2024, 03/12/2025

Scope: Medicaid, Commercial, Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP)

I. Length of Authorization

Coverage will be provided for one dose and may not be renewed.

II. Dosing Limits

A. Quantity Limit (max daily dose) [NDC Unit]:

- 1 kit (based on weight chart below)

B. Max Units (per dose and over time) [HCPCS Unit]:

- 1 kit (based on weight chart below)

III. Summary of Evidence

Zolgensma (onasemnogene abeparvovec) is an adeno-associated virus (AAV) vector-based gene therapy indicated for the treatment of pediatric patients less than 2 years of age with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) with bi-allelic mutations in the survival motor neuron 1 (SMN1) gene. Clinical trials, including the START trial, have demonstrated that Zolgensma significantly improves motor function and survival in infants with SMA. Notably, many treated infants achieved motor milestones such as sitting unassisted, standing, and walking, milestones that are typically not achieved in the natural course of the disease without treatment. Zolgensma-treated patients showed a significant reduction in the need for permanent ventilation or tracheostomy and a significant increase in event-free survival compared to untreated infants. Common adverse events include elevated liver enzymes and transient thrombocytopenia.

IV. Initial Approval Criteria ¹⁻⁷

- Submission of medical records related to the medical necessity criteria is **REQUIRED** on all requests for authorizations. Records will be reviewed at the time of submission.

Coverage is provided in the following conditions:

Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) † Φ

- Patient must be less than 2 years of age; **AND**

- Patient has a diagnosis* of 5q spinal muscular atrophy confirmed by either bi-allelic deletion or dysfunctional point mutation of the *SMN1* gene; **AND**
- Patient must have SMA phenotype 1 confirmed by one or more of the following:
 - Patient must have 1-2 copies of the *SMN2* gene; **OR**
 - Patient has 3 copies of the *SMN2* gene in the absence of the c.859G>C single base substitution modification in exon 7; **AND**
- Patient must have a baseline anti-AAV9 antibody titer of $\leq 1:50$ measured by ELISA; **AND**
- Prescriber submits baseline documentation of baseline AST, ALT, total bilirubin, and prothrombin time lab values prior to and subsequent to therapy for at least 3 months; **AND**
- Used concomitantly with systemic corticosteroids (see dosage/administration below); **AND**
- Patient does not have advanced disease (complete limb paralysis, permanent ventilation support, etc.); **AND**
- Patient will not use in combination with other agents for SMA (e.g., nusinersen, risdiplam, etc.). Patient's medical record will be reviewed and any current authorizations for other agents for SMA will be terminated upon Zolgensma approval; **AND**
- Patient must have diagnosis of Type 1 SMA by a board-certified pediatric neurologist; **AND**
- Patient has clinical signs and symptoms from birth and up to 6 months of age, unless the diagnosis is confirmed by genetic testing and/or newborn screening and the patient is asymptomatic from birth and up to 6 months of age; **AND**
- For use in a neonatal patient born prematurely, the full-term gestational age has been reached; **AND**
- Patient must weigh between 2.6 kg and 21.0 kg; **AND**
- Submission of medical records (chart notes, laboratory testing) confirming the patient's most recent **CHOP INTEND** score is greater than or equal to 40; **AND**
- Patient will receive Zolgensma (onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi) intravenously within accordance of the United States Food and Drug Administration approved labeling; **AND**
- Patients have not been treated in the past with Zolgensma (onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi); **AND**
- Authorizations will only be granted if Zolgensma (onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi) is provided at a Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island authorized and approved facility for Zolgensma (onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi) administration; **AND**
- MMP members who have previously received this medication within the past 365 days are not subject to Step Therapy Requirements

*Genetic testing must be obtained from an in-network provider (such as Labcorp or Myriad Genetics).

SMA phenotype 1 (aka Werdnig-Hoffman disease) has a natural history characterized by onset of symptoms (i.e. severe weakness) prior to 6 months of age, inability to sit without support, and an average life span of less than 2 years (in patients without prior therapy to increase SMN protein). Deficiency of SMN protein, due to homozygous deletion/mutation in the *SMN1* gene, results in loss of motor neurons in the spinal cord and brain stem manifesting clinically as atrophy and weakness. Copy number of the *SMN2* gene, which produces approximated 5-10% functional SMN protein, are positively correlated with milder phenotype.

- Approximately 80% of patients with SMA1 have 1 or 2 copies of the *SMN2* gene; approximately 20% have 3 copies (estimated percentages vary)
- The c.859G>C single base substitution modification in exon 7 of the *SMN2* gene is predictive of a milder phenotype

Onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi is a recombinant self-complementary AAV9 containing a transgene encoding the human survival motor neuron (SMN) protein.

† FDA Approved Indication(s); ‡ Compendium Recommended Indication(s); Ⓢ Orphan Drug

V. Renewal Criteria

Coverage cannot be renewed. Approval is for one kit once per lifetime

VI. Dosage/Administration

Indication	Dose
SMA1	<p>For single-dose intravenous infusion only.</p> <p><u>Preparing for Administration:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One day prior to Zolgensma infusion, begin administration of systemic corticosteroids equivalent to oral prednisolone at 1 mg/kg of body weight per day for a total of 30 days <p><u>Zolgensma Infusion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer as a single-dose intravenous infusion through a venous catheter • Administer as a slow infusion over 60 minutes • The recommended dose of Zolgensma is 1.1×10^{14} vector genomes per kilogram (vg/kg) of body weight

- Zolgensma is shipped frozen at ≤ -60 °C. Thaw prior to infusion. Store refrigerated. Must use within 14 days of receipt.
- Zolgensma is an adeno-associated virus vector-based gene therapy. Follow precautions for viral vector shedding for one month after the infusion

VII. Billing Code/Availability Information

HCPCS code:

- J3399 – Injection, onasemnogene abeparvovec-xioi, per treatment, up to 5×10^{15} vector genomes: 1 billable unit = 1 treatment, up to 5×10^{15} vector genomes

NDC:

Zolgensma kit sizes:

Patient Weight (kg)	NDC	Patient Weight (kg)	NDC
2.6 – 3.0	71894-0120-xx	12.1 – 12.5	71894-0139-xx
3.1 – 3.5	71894-0121-xx	12.6 – 13.0	71894-0140-xx
3.6 – 4.0	71894-0122-xx	13.1 – 13.5	71894-0141-xx
4.1 – 4.5	71894-0123-xx	13.6 – 14.0	71894-0142-xx
4.6 – 5.0	71894-0124-xx	14.1 – 14.5	71894-0143-xx
5.1 – 5.5	71894-0125-xx	14.6 – 15.0	71894-0144-xx
5.6 – 6.0	71894-0126-xx	15.1 – 15.5	71894-0145-xx
6.1 – 6.5	71894-0127-xx	15.6 – 16.0	71894-0146-xx
6.6 – 7.0	71894-0128-xx	16.1 – 16.5	71894-0147-xx
7.1 – 7.5	71894-0129-xx	16.6 – 17.0	71894-0148-xx
7.6 – 8.0	71894-0130-xx	17.1 – 17.5	71894-0149-xx
8.1 – 8.5	71894-0131-xx	17.6 – 18.0	71894-0150-xx
8.6 – 9.0	71894-0132-xx	18.1 – 18.5	71894-0151-xx
9.1 – 9.5	71894-0133-xx	18.6 – 19.0	71894-0152-xx
9.6 – 10.0	71894-0134-xx	19.1 – 19.5	71894-0153-xx
10.1 – 10.5	71894-0135-xx	19.6 – 20.0	71894-0154-xx
10.6 – 11.0	71894-0136-xx	20.1 – 20.5	71894-0155-xx
11.1 – 11.5	71894-0137-xx	20.6 – 21.0	71894-0156-xx
11.6 – 12.0	71894-0138-xx		

VIII. References

1. Zolgensma [package insert]. Bannockburn, IL; AveXis, Inc., February 2025. Accessed February 2025.
2. Mendell JR, Al-Zaidy S, Shell R. Single-dose gene-replacement therapy for spinal muscular atrophy. *N Engl J Med*. 2017;377(18):1713-1722. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa1706198.
3. Wang CH, Finkel RS, Bertini ES, et al. Consensus statement for standard of care in spinal muscular atrophy. *J Child Neurol*. 2007 Aug;22(8):1027-49.
4. Prior TW, Finanger E. Spinal muscular atrophy. GeneReviews. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK1352/ (Accessed on June 10, 2019)
5. Dabbous O, Maru B, Jansen JP, et al. Survival, Motor Function, and Motor Milestones: Comparison of AVXS-101 Relative to Nusinersen for the Treatment of Infants with Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type 1. *Adv Ther*. 2019 May;36(5):1164-1176.
6. Al-Zaidy S, Pickard AS, Kotha K, et al. Health outcomes in spinal muscular atrophy type 1 following AVXS-101 gene replacement therapy. *Pediatr Pulmonol*. 2019 Feb;54(2):179-185.

7. Al-Zaidy SA, Kolb SJ, Lowes L, et al. AVXS-101 (Onasemnogene Apeparvovec) for SMA1: Comparative Study with a Prospective Natural History Cohort. J Neuromuscul Dis. 2019;6(3):307-317. doi: 10.3233/JND-190403.

Appendix 1 – Covered Diagnosis Codes

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description
G12.0	Infantile spinal muscular atrophy, type I [Werdnig-Hoffmann]

Appendix 2 – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Medicare coverage for outpatient (Part B) drugs is outlined in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual (Pub. 100-2), Chapter 15, §50 Drugs and Biologicals. In addition, National Coverage Determination (NCD), Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) may exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. They can be found at: <http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search/advanced-search.aspx>. Additional indications may be covered at the discretion of the health plan.

Medicare Part B Covered Diagnosis Codes (applicable to existing NCD/LCA/LCD): N/A

Medicare Part B Administrative Contractor (MAC) Jurisdictions		
Jurisdiction	Applicable State/US Territory	Contractor
E (1)	CA, HI, NV, AS, GU, CNMI	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
F (2 & 3)	AK, WA, OR, ID, ND, SD, MT, WY, UT, AZ	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
5	KS, NE, IA, MO	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
6	MN, WI, IL	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
H (4 & 7)	LA, AR, MS, TX, OK, CO, NM	Novitas Solutions, Inc.
8	MI, IN	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
N (9)	FL, PR, VI	First Coast Service Options, Inc.
J (10)	TN, GA, AL	Palmetto GBA, LLC
M (11)	NC, SC, WV, VA (excluding below)	Palmetto GBA, LLC
L (12)	DE, MD, PA, NJ, DC (includes Arlington & Fairfax counties and the city of Alexandria in VA)	Novitas Solutions, Inc.
K (13 & 14)	NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, ME, NH	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
15	KY, OH	CGS Administrators, LLC

Policy Rationale:

Zolgensma was reviewed by the Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee. Neighborhood adopted the following clinical coverage criteria to ensure that its

members use Zolgensma according to Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved labeling and/or relevant clinical literature. Neighborhood worked with network prescribers and pharmacists to draft these criteria. These criteria will help ensure its members are using this drug for a medically accepted indication, while minimizing the risk for adverse effects and ensuring more cost-effective options are used first, if applicable and appropriate. For INTEGRITY (Medicare-Medicaid Plan) members, these coverage criteria will only apply in the absence of National Coverage Determination (NCD) or Local Coverage Determination (LCD) criteria. Neighborhood will give individual consideration to each request it reviews based on the information submitted by the prescriber and other information available to the plan.