

Clinical Policy: Upadacitinib (Rinvoq)

Reference Number: DE.PHAR.443 Effective Date: 01.23 Last Review Date: 01.23 Line of Business: Medicaid

Revision Log

See <u>Important Reminder</u> at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

Upadacitinib (Rinvoq[™]) is a Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitor.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Rinvoq is indicated for treatment of:

- Adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more TNF blockers.
- Adults with active psoriatic arthritis who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more TNF blockers.
- Adults and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older with refractory, moderate to severe atopic dermatitis whose disease is not adequately controlled with other systemic drug products, including biologics, or when use of those therapies are inadvisable.
- Adult patients with moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis who have had an inadequatr response or intolerance to one or more TNF blockers.
- Adults with active ankylosing spondylitis who have had an inadequate response or intoleranace to one or more TNF blockers.

Limitation(s) of use: Use of Rinvoq in combination with other JAK inhibitors, biologic DMARDs, or with potent immunosuppressants such as azathioprine and cyclosporine, is not recommended.

Policy/Criteria

Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation[®] that Rinvoq is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

- A. Rheumatoid Arthritis (must meet all):
 - 1. Diagnosis of RA per American College of Rheumatology (ACR) criteria (*see Appendix E*);
 - 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist;
 - 3. Age \geq 18 years;
 - 4. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Failure of $a \ge 3$ consecutive month trial of methotrexate (MTX) at up to maximally indicated doses;

- b. Member has intolerance or contraindication to MTX (*see Appendix D*), and failure of $a \ge 3$ consecutive month trial of at least ONE conventional DMARD (e.g., sulfasalazine, leflunomide, hydroxychloroquine) at up to maximally indicated doses, unless clinically significant adverse effect are experienced or all are contraindicated;
- 5. Failure of the following used for \geq 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a and b):
 - a. Enbrel[®];
 - Member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers (i.e. Xeljanz[®]) unless member has cardiovascular risk and benefits do not outweigh the risk of treatment;

*Prior authorization may be required for Enbrl and Xeljanz

- 6. Documentation of one of the following baseline assessment scores (a or b):
 - a. Clinical disease activity index (CDAI) score (*see Appendix F*);
 - b. Routine assessment of patient index data 3 (RAPID3) score (see Appendix G);
- 7. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
- 8. Dose does not exceed 15 mg (one tablet) per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Psoriatic Arthritis (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of PsA;
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a dermatologist or rheumatologist;
- 3. Age \geq 18 years;
- Failure of ALL of the following, each used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a and b):
 - a. Enbrel, Otezla[®], and Taltz[®];
 - b. Member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers (i.e. Xeljanz[®]) unless member has cardiovascular risk and benefits do not outweigh the risk of treatment;

*Prior authorization may be required for Enbrel, Otezla, Taltz, and Xeljanz

- 5. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
- 6. Dose does not exceed 15 mg (one tablet) per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

C. Atopic Dermatitis (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of atopic dermatitis affecting one of the following (a or b):
 - a. At least 10% of the member's body surface area (BSA);
- b. Hands, feet, face, neck, scalp, genitals/groin, and/or intertriginous areas;
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a dermatologist or allergist;
- 3. Age \geq 18 years;
- 4. Failure of all of the following (a, b, and c), unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced:

- a. Two formulary medium to very high potency topical corticosteroids, each used for ≥ 2 weeks;
- b. One non-steroidal topical therapy* used for ≥ 4 weeks: topical calcineurin inhibitor (e.g., tacrolimus 0.03% ointment) or Eucrisa[®];
 *These agents may require prior authorization
- c. One systemic agent used for \geq 3 months: azathioprine, methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, or cyclosporine;
- 5. Rivoq is not prescribed concurrently with another biologic medication (e.g., Adbry[®], Dupixent[®]) or a JAK inhibitor (e.g., Olumiant[®], Cibinqo[®], Opzelura[™]);
- 6. Dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):
 - a. 15 mg (one tablet) per day;
 - b. 30 mg (one tablet) per day and medical justification supports inadequate response to 15 mg daily.

Approval duration: 6 months

D. Axial Spondyloarthritis (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of AS;
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist;
- 3. Age \geq 18 years;
- 4. Failure of at least TWO non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) at up to maximally indicated doses, each used for ≥ 4 weeks unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
- For AS, failure of ALL of the following, each used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated:
 a. Enbrel[®], and Taltz[®];
 - Member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers (i.e. Xeljanz[®]) unless member has cardiovascular risk and benefits do not outweigh the risk of treatment;

*Prior authorization may be required for Enbrel, Xeljanz, and Taltz

- 6. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
- 7. Dose does not exceed 15 mg (one tablet) per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

- **E. Ulcerative Colitis** (must meet all):
 - 1. Diagnosis of UC;
 - 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist;
 - 3. Age \geq 18 years;
 - 4. Documentation of a Mayo Score ≥ 6 (*see Appendix H*);
 - 5. Failure of an 8-week trial of systemic corticosteroids, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
 - 6. Failure of the following used for \geq 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a and b):
 - a. Humira[®];
 - b. If member has failed Humira, then failure of Zeposia[®];

*Prior authorization may be required

- 7. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
- 8. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. For induction: 45 mg (one tablet) once daily for 8 weeks;
 - b. For maintenance: 15 mg (one tablet) once daily.

Approval duration: 6 months

F. Other diagnoses/indications

1. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

- A. Rheumatoid Arthritis (must meet all):
 - 1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
 - 2. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by one of the following (a or b):
 - a. A decrease in CDAI (*see Appendix F*) or RAPID3 (*see Appendix G*) score from baseline;
 - b. Medical justification stating inability to conduct CDAI re-assessment, and submission of RAPID3 score associated with disease severity that is similar to initial CDAI assessment or improved;
 - 3. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
 - 4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 15 mg (one tablet) per day. Approval duration: 12 months

Approval duration: 12 months

B. Atopic Dermatitis (must meet all):

- 1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
- 2. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by, including but not limited to, reduction in itching and scratching;
- Rinvoq is not prescribed concurrently with another biologic medication (e.g., Adbry[®], Dupixent[®]) or a JAK inhibitor (e.g., Olumiant[®], Cibinqo[®], Opzelura[™]);
- 4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):
 - a. 15 mg (one tablet) per day;
 - b. 30 mg (one tablet) per day and medical justification supports inadequate response to 15 mg daily.

Approval duration: 12 months

C. All Other Indications (must meet all):

- 1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
- 2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
- 3. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
- 4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed (a or b):
 - a. For PsA, UC, AS: 15 mg (one tablet) per day;
 - b. For UC: 30 mg (one tablet) per day and member has refractory, severe, or extensive disease.

Approval duration: 12 months

- **D.** Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):
 - 1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy.

Approval duration: Duration of request or 6 months (whichever is less); or

2. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:

- A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off label use policy – CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents;
- B. Combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (bDMARDs) or potent immunosuppressants, including but not limited to any tumor necrosis factor (TNF) antagonists [e.g., Cimzia[®], Enbrel[®], Humira[®], Simponi[®], Avsola[™], Inflectra[™], Remicade[®], Renflexis[™]], interleukin agents [e.g., Arcalyst[®] (IL-1 blocker), Ilaris[®] (IL-1 blocker), Kineret[®] (IL-1RA), Actemra[®] (IL-6RA), Kevzara[®] (IL-6RA), Stelara[®] (IL-12/23 inhibitor), Cosentyx[®] (IL-17A inhibitor), Taltz[®] (IL-17A inhibitor), Siliq[™] (IL-17RA), Ilumya[™] (IL-23 inhibitor), Skyrizi[™] (IL-23 inhibitor), Tremfya[®] (IL-23 inhibitor)], Janus kinase inhibitors (JAKi) [e.g., Xeljanz[®]/Xeljanz[®] XR, Cibinqo[™], Olumiant[™], Rinvoq[™]], anti-CD20 monoclonal antibodies [Rituxan[®], Riabni[™], Ruxience[™], Truxima[®], Rituxan Hycela[®]], selective co-stimulation modulators [Orencia[®]], and integrin receptor antagonists [Entyvio[®]] because of the additive immunosuppression, increased risk of neutropenia, as well as increased risk of serious infections.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key CDAI: clinical disease activity index DMARD: disease-modifying antirheumatic drug FDA: Food and Drug Administration JAKi: Janus kinase inhibitors

MTX: methotrexate PsA: psoriatic arthritis RA: rheumatoid arthritis RAPID3: routine assessment of patient index data 3



Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/
		Maximum Dose
azathioprine	RA	3 mg/kg/day
(Azasan [®] , Imuran [®])	1 mg/kg/day PO QD or divided BID	
	AD	
	1-3 mg/kg/day PO QD	
Cuprimine®	RA*	1,500 mg/day
(d-penicillamine)	Initial dose:	
	125 or 250 mg PO QD	
	Maintenance dose:	
	500 – 750 mg/day PO QD	
cyclosporine	RA	RA: 4 mg/kg/day
(Sandimmune [®] , Neoral [®])	2.5 – 4 mg/kg/day PO divided BID	AD: 300 mg/day
,	AD	
	3-6 mg/kg/day PO BID	
hydroxychloroquine	RA*	600 mg/day
(Plaquenil [®])	Initial dose:	<u>-</u> ,,
(400-600 mg/day PO QD	
	Maintenance dose:	
	$\overline{200-400 \text{ mg/day}}$ PO QD	
leflunomide	RA	20 mg/day
(Arava [®])	100 mg PO QD for 3 days, then 20 mg	
、 <i>,</i>	POQD	
methotrexate	RA	RA: 30 mg/week
(Rheumatrex [®])	7.5 mg/week PO, SC, or IM or 2.5 mg	AD: 25 mg/week
	PO Q12 hr for 3 doses/week	
	AD	
	7.5-25 mg/wk PO once weekly	
NSAIDs (e.g.,	AS	Varies
indomethacin,	Varies	
ibuprofen,		
naproxen,		
celecoxib)		
Ridaura [®]	RA	9 mg/day (3 mg TID)
(auranofin)	6 mg PO QD or 3 mg PO BID	
sulfasalazine	RA	3 g/day
(Azulfidine [®])	2 g/day PO in divided doses	

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/
1 1 .		Maximum Dose
mycophenolate		3 g/day
mofetil	1-1.5 g PO BID	W/ 800 m s s s s s 4
Actemra [®]	RA W: 4 mg/kg avery 4 weeks followed by	IV: 800 mg every 4 weeks
(tocilizumab)	IV: 4 mg/kg every 4 weeks followed by an increase to 8 mg/kg every 4 weeks	SC: 162 mg every week
	based on clinical response	SC. 102 mg every week
	based on ennical response	
	SC:	
	Weight < 100 kg: 162 mg SC every other	
	week, followed by an increase to every	
	week based on clinical response	
	Weight \geq 100 kg: 162 mg SC every week	
Enbrel [®]	AS	50 mg/week
(etanercept)	50 mg SC once weekly	0
	RA, PsA	
	25 mg SC twice weekly or 50 mg SC	
	once weekly	
Cimzia [®]	AS	400 mg every 4 weeks
(certolizumab)	Initial dose: 400 mg SC at 0, 2, and 4	
	weeks	
	Maintenance dose: 200 mg SC every	
	other week (or 400 mg SC every 4	
Kevzara [®]	weeks)	200
(sarilumab)	RA 200 mg SC once every two weeks	200 mg/2 weeks
Oluminat [®]	RA	2 mg/day
(baricitinib)	2 mg PO QD	2 mg/day
Taltz [®]	AS	80 mg every 4 weeks
(ixekizumab)	Initial dose: 160 mg (two 80 mg	
	injections) SC at week 0	
	Maintenance dose:	
	80 mg SC every 4 weeks	
	PsA	
	Initial dose: 160 mg (two 80 mg	
	injections) SC at week 0	
	Maintenance dose:	
XZ 1' ®	80 mg SC every 4 weeks	10 /1
Xeljanz [®]	AS, PsA, RA	10 mg/day
(tofacitinib)	5 mg PO BID	11 ma/day
Xeljanz XR [®]	AS, PsA, RA	11 mg/day
(tofacitinib	11 mg PO QD	
extended-release)		

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/
		Maximum Dose
	Topical Corticosteroids	
augmented	AD	Varies
betamethasone	Apply topically to the affected area(s)	
0.05% (Diprolene [®]	BID	
AF) cream,		
ointment, gel, lotion		
clobetasol		
propionate 0.05%		
(Temovate [®])		
cream, ointment,		
gel, solution		
diflorasone		
diacetate 0.05%		
(Maxiflor [®] ,		
Psorcon E [®]) cream,		
ointment		
halobetasol		
propionate 0.05%		
(Ultravate [®]) cream,		
ointment		
High Potency Topic	al Corticosteroids	
augmented	AD	Varies
betamethasone	Apply topically to the affected area(s)	
0.05% (Diprolene [®]	BID	
AF) cream,		
ointment, gel, lotion		
diflorasone 0.05%		
(Florone [®] , Florone		
$E^{\mathbb{R}},$		
Maxiflor [®] ,Psorcon		
$E^{\mathbb{R}}$) cream		
fluocinonide		
acetonide 0.05%		
(Lidex [®] , Lidex E [®])		
cream, ointment,		
gel, solution		
triamcinolone		
acetonide 0.5%		
(Aristocort [®] ,		
(Anstocont [*] , Kenalog [®]) cream,		
ointment		
	nical Carticostaroids	
meutum Fotency 10	pical Corticosteroids	

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/	
		Maximum Dose	
desoximetasone	AD	Varies	
0.05% (Topicort [®])	Apply topically to the affected area(s)		
cream, ointment,	BID		
gel			
fluocinolone			
acetonide 0.025%			
(Synalar [®]) cream,			
ointment			
mometasone 0.1%			
(Elocon [®]) cream,			
ointment, lotion			
triamcinolone			
acetonide 0.025%,			
0.1% (Aristocort [®] ,			
Kenalog [®]) cream,			
ointment			
Low Potency Topica	al Corticosteroids		
alclometasone	AD	Varies	
0.05% (Aclovate [®])	Apply topically to the affected area(s)		
cream, ointment	BID		
desonide 0.05%			
(Desowen [®]) cream,			
ointment, lotion			
fluocinolone			
acetonide 0.01%			
(Synalar [®]) solution			
hydrocortisone			
2.5% (Hytone [®])			
cream, ointment			
Other Classes of Agents			
tacrolimus	AD	Varies	
(Protopic [®]),	Children \geq 2 years and adults: Apply a		
pimecrolimus	thin layer topically to affected skin BID.		
(Elidel [®])	Treatment should be discontinued if		
× ,	resolution of disease occurs.		
Eucrisa®	AD	Varies	
(crisaborole)	Apply to the affected areas BID		

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name[®] (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name[®]) when the drug is available by both brand and generic. *Off-label

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

• Contraindication(s): known hypersensitivity to upadacitinib or any of the excipients in Rinvoq

• Boxed warning(s): serious infections, mortality, malignancy, major adverse cardiovascular events, and thrombosis

Appendix D: General Information

- Definition of MTX or DMARD Failure
 - Child-bearing age is not considered a contraindication for use of MTX. Each drug has risks in pregnancy. An educated patient and family planning would allow use of MTX in patients who have no intention of immediate pregnancy.
 - Social use of alcohol is not considered a contraindication for use of MTX. MTX may
 only be contraindicated if patients choose to drink over 14 units of alcohol per week.
 However, excessive alcohol drinking can lead to worsening of the condition, so
 patients who are serious about clinical response to therapy should refrain from
 excessive alcohol consumption.
- Examples of positive response to therapy may include, but are not limited to:
 - Reduction in joint pain/swelling/tenderness
 - Improvement in ESR/CRP levels
 - Improvements in activities of daily living

Appendix E: The 2010 ACR Classification Criteria for RA

Add score of categories A through D; a score of ≥ 6 out of 10 is needed for classification of a patient as having definite RA.

A	Joint involvement	Score
	1 large joint	0
	2-10 large joints	1
	1-3 small joints (with or without involvement of large joints)	2
	4-10 small joints (with or without involvement of large joints)	3
	> 10 joints (at least one small joint)	5
B	Serology (at least one test result is needed for classification)	
	Negative rheumatoid factor (RF) and negative anti-citrullinated protein	0
	antibody (ACPA)	
	Low positive RF or low positive ACPA	2
	* Low: < 3 x upper limit of normal	
	High positive RF or high positive ACPA	3
	* High: $\geq 3 x$ upper limit of normal	
С	Acute phase reactants (at least one test result is needed for classification)	
	Normal C-reactive protein (CRP) and normal erythrocyte sedimentation rate	0
	(ESR)	
	Abnormal CRP or abnormal ESR	1
D	Duration of symptoms	
	< 6 weeks	0
	≥ 6 weeks	1

Appendix F: Clinical Disease Activity Index (CDAI) Score

The Clinical Disease Activity Index (CDAI) is a composite index for assessing disease activity in RA. CDAI is based on the simple summation of the count of swollen/tender joint

count of 28 joints along with patient and physician global assessment on VAS (0–10 cm) Scale for estimating disease activity. The CDAI score ranges from 0 to 76.

CDAI Score	Disease state interpretation
≤ 2.8	Remission
> 2.8 to ≤ 10	Low disease activity
$> 10 \text{ to} \le 22$	Moderate disease activity
> 22	High disease activity

Appendix G: Routine Assessment of Patient Index Data 3 (RAPID3) Score

The Routine Assessment of Patient Index Data 3 (RAPID3) is a pooled index of the three patient-reported ACR core data set measures: function, pain, and patient global estimate of status. Each of the individual measures is scored 0 - 10, and the maximum achievable score is 30.

RAPID3 Score	Disease state interpretation
≤ 3	Remission
3.1 to 6	Low disease activity
6.1 to 12	Moderate disease activity
> 12	High disease activity

Appendix H: Mayo Score

• Mayo Score: evaluates ulcerative colitis stage, based on four parameters: stool frequency, rectal bleeding, endoscopic evaluation and Physician's global assessment. Each parameter of the score ranges from zero (normal or inactive disease) to 3 (severe activity) with an overall score of 12.

Score	Decoding
0 - 2	Remission
3-5	Mild activity
6-10	Moderate activity
>10	Severe activity

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
AS, RA, PsA	15 mg PO QD	15 mg/day
AD	 <u>Age ≥ 12 years and ≥ 40 kg but < 65 years</u>: 15 mg PO QD; if an adequate response is not achieved, consider increasing the dosage to 30 mg PO QD 	• <u>Age \geq 12 years and</u> \geq 40 kg but < 65 <u>years</u> : 30 mg/day
	• <u>Age \geq 65 years</u> : 15 mg PO QD	• <u>Age \geq 65 years</u> : 15 mg/day
UC	 <u>Induction</u>: 45 mg PO Q for 8 weeks <u>Maintenance</u>: 15 mg PO QD. A dosage of 30 mg PO QD may be considered for patients with refractory, severe, or extensive disease. 	30 mg/day

VI. Product Availability

Tablets, extended-release: 15 mg, 30 mg

VII. References

- 1. Rinvoq Prescribing Information. North Chicago, IL: AbbVie Inc.; April 2022. Available at: <u>https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2022/211675s003lbl.pdf</u>. Accessed May 2, 2022.
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Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy created	01.23	01.23

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. "Health Plan" means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan's affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and

limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

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Note:

For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

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