

## POLICY Document for ZOLADEX (goserelin acetate)

The overall objective of this policy is to support the appropriate and cost-effective use of the medication, specific to use of preferred medication options, and overall, clinically appropriate use. This document provides specific information to both sections of the overall policy.

### Section 1: Clinical Criteria

- Policy information specific to the clinical appropriateness for the medication

### Section 2: Oncology Clinical Policy

- Policy information specific to regimen review per NCCN Guidelines.

### Section 1: Clinical Criteria

# Specialty Guideline Management Zoladex

## Products Referenced by this Document

Drugs that are listed in the following table include both brand and generic and all dosage forms and strengths unless otherwise stated. Over-the-counter (OTC) products are not included unless otherwise stated.

Brand Name	Generic Name
Zoladex	goserelin acetate

## 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.

### FDA-Approved Indications<sup>1,2</sup>

#### Prostate Cancer

- For use in combination with flutamide for the management of locally confined stage T2b-T4 (Stage B2-C) carcinoma of the prostate. Treatment with Zoladex and flutamide should start 8 weeks prior to initiating radiation therapy and continue during radiation therapy.
- In the palliative treatment of advanced carcinoma of the prostate.

## Endometriosis

For the management of endometriosis, including pain relief and reduction of endometriotic lesions for the duration of therapy. Experience with Zoladex for the management of endometriosis has been limited to women 18 years of age and older treated for 6 months. (Zoladex 3.6 mg strength only)

## Endometrial Thinning

For use as an endometrial-thinning agent prior to endometrial ablation for dysfunctional uterine bleeding. (Zoladex 3.6 mg strength only)

## Advanced Breast Cancer

For use in the palliative treatment of advanced breast cancer in pre-and perimenopausal women (Zoladex 3.6 mg strength only)

## Compendial Uses

- Breast cancer<sup>3,8</sup>
- Prostate cancer<sup>3</sup>
- Ovarian cancer<sup>3</sup>
- Gender dysphoria (also known as transgender and gender diverse [TGD] persons)<sup>4-7</sup>
- Preservation of ovarian function<sup>4,9-12</sup>
- Prevention of recurrent menstrual related attacks in acute porphyria<sup>13,14</sup>
- Treatment of chronic anovulatory uterine bleeding with severe anemia<sup>4</sup>

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

## Exclusions

Coverage will not be provided for members with any of the following exclusions: Use of the 10.8 mg strength for diagnoses other than prostate cancer, breast cancer, and gender dysphoria.

## Documentation

Submission of the following information is necessary to initiate the prior authorization review: Hormone receptor status testing results (where applicable).

## Prescriber Specialties<sup>13,14,16</sup>

### Gender Dysphoria

The medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with a provider specialized in the care of transgender youth (e.g., pediatric endocrinologist, family or internal medicine physician, obstetrician-gynecologist) that has collaborated care with a mental health provider for members less than 18 years of age.

## Prevention of Recurrent Menstrual Related Attacks in Acute Porphyrria

The medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with a provider experienced in the management of porphyrias.

### Coverage Criteria

#### Breast Cancer<sup>1,3,8</sup>

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of hormone receptor-positive breast cancer.

#### Prostate Cancer<sup>1-3</sup>

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for treatment of prostate cancer.

#### Epithelial Ovarian, Fallopian Tube, Primary Peritoneal Cancer or Malignant Sex Cord-Stromal Tumor<sup>3</sup>

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for treatment of persistent or recurrent epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube, primary peritoneal cancer or malignant sex cord-stromal tumor when used as a single agent.

#### Endometriosis<sup>1</sup>

Authorization of a total of 6 months may be granted to members for treatment of endometriosis.

#### Endometrial-Thinning Agent<sup>1,4</sup>

Authorization of 2 doses may be granted for endometrial thinning prior to endometrial ablation or resection for dysfunctional uterine bleeding.

Authorization of a total of 6 months may be granted for treatment of chronic anovulatory uterine bleeding with severe anemia.

#### Gender Dysphoria<sup>4-7</sup>

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for pubertal hormonal suppression in an adolescent member when all of the following criteria are met:

- The member has a diagnosis of gender dysphoria.
- The member is able to make an informed decision to engage in treatment.
- The member has reached Tanner stage 2 of puberty or greater.
- The member's comorbid conditions are reasonably controlled.
- The member has been educated on any contraindications and side effects to therapy.
- The member has been informed of fertility preservation options.

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for gender transition when all of the following criteria are met:

- The member has a diagnosis of gender dysphoria.

- The member is able to make an informed decision to engage in treatment.
- The member will receive the requested medication concomitantly with gender-affirming hormones.
- The member's comorbid conditions are reasonably controlled.
- The member has been educated on any contraindications and side effects to therapy.
- The member has been informed of fertility preservation options.

## Preservation of Ovarian Function<sup>4,9-12</sup>

Authorization of 3 months may be granted for preservation of ovarian function when the member is premenopausal and undergoing chemotherapy.

## Prevention of Recurrent Menstrual Related Attacks in Acute Porphyria<sup>13,14</sup>

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for prevention of recurrent menstrual related attacks in members with acute porphyria.

# Continuation of Therapy

## Breast Cancer and Ovarian Cancer<sup>1,3,8</sup>

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for continued treatment in members requesting reauthorization who are experiencing clinical benefit to therapy and who have not experienced an unacceptable toxicity.

## Prostate Cancer<sup>1-3</sup>

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for continued treatment in members requesting reauthorization who are experiencing clinical benefit to therapy (e.g., serum testosterone less than 50 ng/dL) and who have not experienced an unacceptable toxicity.

## Gender Dysphoria<sup>15</sup>

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for continued treatment for pubertal hormonal suppression in adolescent members requesting reauthorization when all of the following criteria are met:

- The member has a diagnosis of gender dysphoria.
- The member is able to make an informed decision to engage in treatment.
- The member has previously reached Tanner stage 2 of puberty or greater.
- The member's comorbid conditions are reasonably controlled.
- The member has been educated on any contraindications and side effects to therapy.
- Before the start of therapy, the member has been informed of fertility preservation options.

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for continued treatment for gender transition in members requesting reauthorization when all of the following criteria are met:

- The member has a diagnosis of gender dysphoria.



- The member is able to make an informed decision to engage in treatment.
- The member will receive the requested medication concomitantly with gender-affirming hormones.
- The member's comorbid conditions are reasonably controlled.
- The member has been educated on any contraindications and side effects to therapy.
- Before the start of therapy, the member has been informed of fertility preservation options.

## All other indications

All members (including new members) requesting authorization for continuation of therapy must meet all requirements in the coverage criteria section.

## Other

Per state regulatory guidelines around gender dysphoria, age restrictions may apply.

## **Section 2: Oncology Clinical Policy**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to define the Novologix NCCN® Regimen Prior Authorization Program.

### **SCOPE**

This policy applies to clients who have implemented the Novologix NCCN® Program as a part of their medical and/or pharmacy prior authorization solution.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The National Comprehensive Care Network® (NCCN®) is an alliance of leading cancer centers devoted to patient care, research and education dedicated to improving the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of cancer care so patients can live better lives.<sup>1</sup> It is comprised of oncology experts who convene regularly to establish the best treatments for patients. NCCN develops various resources for use by stakeholders in the health care delivery system. These resources include, but are not limited to, the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®), the NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium (NCCN Compendium®) and the NCCN Chemotherapy Order Templates (NCCN Templates®).

NCCN Templates® are based on NCCN Guidelines® and NCCN Compendium®. The NCCN Compendium lists the appropriate drugs and biologics as treatment options for specific cancers using U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved disease indications and specific NCCN panel recommendations. Each recommendation is supported by a level of evidence category.

## **NCCN Categories of Evidence and Consensus<sup>2</sup>**

- Category 1: Based upon high-level evidence, there is uniform NCCN consensus that the intervention is appropriate.
- Category 2A: Based upon lower-level evidence, there is uniform NCCN consensus that the intervention is appropriate.
- Category 2B: Based upon lower-level evidence, there is NCCN consensus that the intervention is appropriate.
- Category 3: Based upon any level of evidence, there is major NCCN disagreement that the intervention is appropriate.

## **POLICY**

### **Policy for Regimen Prior Authorization**

A regimen prior authorization allows submission of a single prior authorization request for all oncology drugs or biologics within an NCCN template that require prior authorization.

## **PROCEDURE**

This policy provides coverage of a regimen review when all of the following criteria are met:

1. Regimen prior authorization reviews, based on NCCN templates, are initiated through the provider portal.
  - If the prior authorization request is submitted via phone or fax, each drug or biologic will need to be submitted and reviewed as a separate prior authorization request for review with drug-specific criteria.
2. The prior authorization review is requested for an oncology drug or biologic.
3. The member is eligible for regimen review.
4. The indication is for a cancer that is eligible for regimen review. Currently, the cancer types in scope for regimen review include the following:
  - o Ampullary Adenocarcinoma
  - o Anal Carcinoma
  - o B-Cell Lymphomas
  - o Basal Cell Skin Cancer
  - o Biliary Tract Cancers
  - o Bone Cancer
  - o Breast Cancer
  - o Bladder Cancer
  - o Central Nervous System Cancers
  - o Cervical Cancer
  - o Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia/Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma
  - o Chronic Myeloid leukemia
  - o Colon Cancer
  - o Dermatofibrosarcoma Protuberans
  - o Esophageal Cancer
  - o Gastric Cancer

- o Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors
- o Gestational Trophoblastic Neoplasms
- o Hairy Cell Leukemia
- o Head and Neck Cancers
- o Histiocytic Neoplasms
- o Hodgkin Lymphoma
- o Hepatocellular Carcinoma
- o Kaposi Sarcoma
- o Kidney Cancer
- o Melanoma: Cutaneous
- o Melanoma: Uveal
- o Merkel Cell Carcinoma
- o Mesothelioma: Peritoneal
- o Mesothelioma: Pleural
- o Multiple Myeloma
- o Myelodysplastic Syndromes
- o Myeloid/Lymphoid Neoplasms with Eosinophilia and Tyrosine Kinase Gene Fusions
- o Myeloproliferative Neoplasms
- o Neuroendocrine and Adrenal Tumors
- o Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer
- o Occult Primary
- o Ovarian Cancer
- o Pancreatic Cancer
- o Penile Cancer
- o Primary Cutaneous Lymphomas
- o Prostate Cancer
- o Rectal Cancer
- o Small Bowel Adenocarcinoma
- o Small Cell Lung Cancer
- o Soft Tissue Sarcoma
- o Squamous Cell Skin Cancer
- o Systemic Mastocytosis
- o Systemic Light Chain Amyloidosis
- o T-Cell Lymphomas
- o Testicular Cancer
- o Thymomas and Thymic Carcinomas
- o Thyroid Carcinoma
- o Uterine Neoplasms
- o Vaginal Cancer
- o Vulvar Cancer
- o Waldenström Macroglobulinemia / Lymphoplasmacytic Lymphoma
- o Wilms Tumor (Nephroblastoma)

In addition, the following criteria must be met for approval:

1. The requested regimen for the drug(s) or biologic(s) and indication is consistent with an NCCN



recommendation with a level of evidence category of 1 or 2A.

2. The NCCN template must be accepted by the provider without modification.

Further review may be indicated when the above criteria are not met.

Authorizations may be granted for 12 months or as medically required, based on the member's condition and provider's assessment.

### **Supportive Care: Myeloid Growth Factor Therapy**

Granulocyte colony stimulating factors are recommended for primary prophylaxis based on the febrile neutropenia risk of the chemotherapy regimen. Febrile neutropenia risk levels vary by NCCN Chemotherapy Order template and are listed at the top of the template. Regimens associated with a high or intermediate risk of febrile neutropenia may include a granulocyte colony stimulating factor as part of the prior authorization.

### **Continuation of Therapy**

To submit a request for continuation of therapy, a new regimen prior authorization review must be requested. Upon template selection, the template must be modified to include the appropriate therapies being used for maintenance treatment. The regimen request will be submitted for further review.

### **Dosage and Administration**

Approvals may be subject to dosing limits in accordance with FDA-approved labeling, accepted compendia, and evidence-based practice guidelines.

## **REFERENCES:**

### **SECTION 1**

1. Zoladex 3.6 mg [package insert]. Deerfield, IL: TerSera Therapeutics LLC; March 2023.
2. Zoladex 10.8 mg [package insert]. Deerfield, IL: TerSera Therapeutics LLC; December 2020.
3. The NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium® © 2024 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed November 9, 2024.
4. DRUGDEX® System (electronic version). Truven Health Analytics, Ann Arbor, MI. Available at <http://www.micromedexsolutions.com>. Accessed February 6, 2024.
5. Hembree WC, Cohen-Kettenis PT, Gooren L, et al. Endocrine treatment of gender-dysphoric/gender-incongruent persons: an Endocrine Society clinical practice guideline. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*. 2017;102(11):3869–3903.
6. Gender Identity Research and Education Society. Guidance for GPs and other clinicians on the treatment of gender variant people. UK Department of Health. Published March 10, 2008.
7. Coleman E, Radix AE, Brown GR, et al. Standards of care for the health of transgender and gender diverse people, version 8. 2022;23(Suppl 1):S1-S259. doi: 10.1080/26895269.2022.2100644.
8. Noguchi S, Kim HJ, Jesena A, et al. Phase 3, open-label, randomized study comparing 3-monthly with monthly goserelin in pre-menopausal women with estrogen receptor-positive advanced breast cancer. *Breast Cancer (Tokyo, Japan)*. 2016;23(5):771-779. doi:10.1007/s12282-015-0637-4.
9. Moore HCF, Unger JM, Phillips K-A, et al. Goserelin for ovarian protection during breast-cancer adjuvant chemotherapy. *N Engl J Med*. 2015;372:923-32. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa1413204.



10. Clowse MEB, Behera MA, Anders CK, et al. Ovarian preservation by GnRH agonists during chemotherapy: a meta-analysis. *J Womens Health (Larchmt)*. 2009;18(3): 311–319. doi:10.1089/jwh.2008.0857.
11. Oktay K, Harvey BE, et al: Fertility Preservation in Patients With Cancer: ASCO Clinical Practice Guideline Update. *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 36:1994–2003, 2018.
12. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Breast Cancer. Version 1.2024. [https://www.nccg.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/breast.pdf](https://www.nccg.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/breast.pdf). Accessed February 6, 2024.
13. Stein P, Badminton M, Barth J, et al. British and Irish Porphyria Network. Best practice guidelines on clinical management of acute attacks of porphyria and their complications. *Ann Clin Biochem*. 2013 ;50(Pt 3):217–23.
14. Innala E, Bäckström T, Bixo M, et al. Evaluation of gonadotrophin-releasing hormone agonist treatment for prevention of menstrual-related attacks in acute porphyria. *Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand* 2010;89:95–100.
15. Mahfouda S, Moore JK, Siafarikas A, et al. Puberty suppression in transgender children and adolescents. *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol*. 2017;5:816–26.
16. Health Care for Transgender and Gender Diverse Individuals. ©2021 The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Available at: <https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committee-opinion/articles/2021/03/health-care-for-transgender-and-gender-diverse-individuals>.

## SECTION 2

1. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. About NCCN website. <https://www.nccn.org/home/about>, accessed September 9, 2024.
2. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Categories of Evidence and Consensus website, <https://www.nccn.org/guidelines/guidelines-process/development-and-update-of-guidelines>, accessed September 9, 2024.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Guidelines website. [https://www.nccn.org/guidelines/category\\_1](https://www.nccn.org/guidelines/category_1), accessed September 9, 2024. (Note: An account may be required.)
4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Drugs and Biologics Compendium website <https://www.nccn.org/compendia-templates/compendia/drugs-and-biologics-compendia>, accessed September 9, 2024. (Note: A subscription may be required.)
5. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Chemotherapy Order Templates (NCCN Templates) website. <https://www.nccn.org/compendia-templates/nccn-templates-main/browse-by-cancer-type>, accessed September 9, 2024. (Note: A subscription may be required.)