

## POLICY Document for ZYNYZ (retifanlimab-dlwr)

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: Site of Care

- Policy information specific to site of care (outpatient, hospital outpatient, home infusion)

### Section 2: Clinical Criteria

- Policy information specific to the clinical appropriateness for the medication

### Section 3: Oncology Clinical Policy

- Policy information specific to regimen review per NCCN Guidelines.

## Section 1: Site of Care

# Site of Care Criteria Checkpoint Inhibitors

## 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.

Brand Name	Generic Name	Dosage Form
Bavencio	avelumab	intravenous
Imfinzi	durvalumab	intravenous
Jemperli	dostarlimab-gxly	intravenous
Keytruda	pembrolizumab	intravenous
Libtayo	cemiplimab	intravenous
Loqtorzi	toripalimab-tpzi	intravenous
Opdivo	nivolumab	intravenous
Opdualag	nivolumab and relatlimab-rmbw	intravenous
Tecentriq	atezolizumab	intravenous
	penpulimab-kcqx	intravenous
Tevimbra	tislelizumab	intravenous

Brand Name	Generic Name	Dosage Form
Unloxcyt	cosibelimab-ipdl	intravenous
Yervoy	ipilimumab	intravenous
Zynyz	retifanlimab-dlwr	intravenous

## Criteria For Approval For Administration In Outpatient Hospital Setting

This policy provides coverage for administration of a checkpoint inhibitor in an outpatient hospital setting for the initial 6 months approval and up to 45 days for renewal of therapy.

This policy provides coverage for administration of tocilizumab in an outpatient hospital setting for a longer course of treatment when ANY of the following criteria are met:

- The member has experienced an adverse reaction that did not respond to conventional interventions (eg, acetaminophen, steroids, diphenhydramine, fluids, other pre-medications or slowing of infusion rate) or a severe adverse event (anaphylaxis, anaphylactoid reactions, myocardial infarction, thromboembolism, or seizures) during or immediately after an infusion or has experienced severe toxicity requiring continuous monitoring (e.g. Grade 2-4 bullous dermatitis, transaminitis, pneumonitis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, acute pancreatitis, primary adrenal insufficiency aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, transverse myelitis, myocarditis, pericarditis, arrhythmias, impaired ventricular function, conduction abnormalities).
- The member is medically unstable (eg respiratory, cardiovascular, or renal conditions).
- The member has severe venous access issues that require the use of a special interventions only available in the outpatient hospital setting.
- The member has significant behavioral issues and/or physical or cognitive impairment that would impact the safety of the infusion therapy AND the patient does not have access to a caregiver.
- The member is receiving provider administered combination chemotherapy.
- Alternative infusion sites (pharmacy, physician office, ambulatory care, etc.) are greater than 30 miles from the member's home.
- The member is less than 14 years of age.

For situations where administration of a checkpoint inhibitor does not meet the criteria for outpatient hospital infusion, coverage for a checkpoint inhibitor is provided when administered in alternative sites such as; physician office, home infusion or ambulatory care.

## Required Documentation

The following information is necessary to initiate the site of care prior authorization review (where applicable):

- Medical records supporting the member has experienced an adverse reaction that did not respond to conventional interventions or a severe adverse event during or immediately after an infusion or a severe toxicity requiring continuous monitoring
- Medical records supporting the member is medically unstable
- Medical records supporting the member has severe venous access issues that require specialized interventions only available in the outpatient hospital setting
- Medical records supporting the member has behavioral issues and/or physical or cognitive impairment and no access to a caregiver
- Medical records supporting the member is receiving provider administered combination therapy.
- Records supporting alternative infusion sites are greater than 30 miles from the member's home.
- Medical records supporting the member is new to therapy

## **Section 2: Clinical Criteria**

# Specialty Guideline Management Zynyz

## **Products Referenced by this Document**

<b>Brand Name</b>	<b>Generic Name</b>
Zynyz	retifanlimab-dlwr

## **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 Indication<sup>1</sup>**

#### **Merkel cell carcinoma**

Zynyz is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with metastatic or recurrent locally advanced Merkel cell carcinoma (MCC).

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

## Compendial Uses<sup>2</sup>

Merkel cell carcinoma

Anal carcinoma

## Exclusions

Coverage will not be provided for members who have experienced disease progression while on PD-1 or PD-L1 inhibitor therapy.

## Coverage Criteria

### Merkel Cell Carcinoma (MCC)<sup>1,2</sup>

Authorization of 6 months may be granted as a single agent for treatment of metastatic, primary clinical locally advanced, recurrent locally advanced, or recurrent regional MCC.

### Anal Carcinoma<sup>2</sup>

Authorization of 6 months may be granted as a single agent for subsequent treatment of metastatic anal carcinoma.

## Continuation of Therapy

Authorization of 6 months may be granted (up to 24 months total) for continued treatment in members requesting reauthorization for an indication listed in the coverage criteria section when there is no evidence of unacceptable toxicity or disease progression while on the current regimen.

## Section 3: 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:

Checkpoint Inhibitors\_5374-A\_CVSH\_SOC\_P2025F\_R.docx  
Zynyz SGM 5850-A P2025.docx  
Novologix LLC\_NCCN Oncology Clinical Policy\_9.2024

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- 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**



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2. Bavencio [package insert]. Rockland, MA: EMD Serono, Inc; November 2024.
3. Imfinzi [prescribing information]. Wilmington, DE: AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP; February 2025.
4. Jemperli [prescribing information]. Philadelphia, PA: GlaxoSmithKline LLC; August 2024.
5. Keytruda [prescribing information]. Rahway, NJ: Merck Sharp & Dome LLC; January 2025.
6. Libtayo [prescribing information]. Tarrytown, NY: Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; April 2024.
7. Tecentriq [package insert]. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc.; May 2023.
8. Yervoy [package insert]. Princeton, NJ: Bristol-Myers Squibb Company; January 2025.
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13. Unloxcyt [prescribing information]. Waltham, MA: Checkpoint Therapeutics, Inc; December 2024.

## SECTION 2

1. Zynyz [package insert]. Wilmington, DE: Incyte Corporation; April 2024.
2. The NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium® © 2024 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc.  
<http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed November 12, 2024.

## SECTION 3

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.)