BlueCross BlueShield Federal Employee Program

SYNRIBO
(omacetaxine mepesuccinate)

RATIONALE FOR INCLUSION IN PA PROGRAM

Background

Synribo is a protein synthesis inhibitor used in the treatment of adults with chronic or accelerated chronic myelogenous leukemia. Chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) is a myeloproliferative disorder that accounts for 15 - 20% of leukemias in adults. Synribo is a semi-synthetic formulation of the cytotoxic plant alkaloid homoharringtonine, isolated from the evergreen tree *Cephalotaxus harringtonia* (1-2).

Regulatory Status

FDA-approved indication: Synribo for injection is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with chronic or accelerated phase chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) with resistance and/or intolerance to two or more tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKI) (2).

Synribo contains warnings for several serious adverse effects including: (2)

- Myelosuppression: severe and fatal thrombocytopenia, neutropenia and anemia.
- Bleeding: severe thrombocytopenia and increased risk of hemorrhage. Fatal cerebral hemorrhage and severe, non-fatal gastrointestinal hemorrhage.
- Hyperglycemia: glucose intolerance and hyperglycemia including hyperosmolar non-ketotic hyperglycemia.
- Embryo-fetal toxicity: Can cause fetal harm. Advise females of reproductive potential to avoid pregnancy while being treated with Synribo.
- IV administration may be associated with acute cardiac toxicity. Synribo is FDA approved for subcutaneous administration.

The safety and efficacy of Synribo in pediatric patients have not been established (2).

Summary

Synribo is medically necessary for the treatment of adult patients with chronic or accelerated phase chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) with resistance and/or intolerance to two or more tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKI). This indication is based upon response rate. There are no trials verifying an improvement in disease-related symptoms or increased survival with Synribo. Synribo warnings include myelosuppression, bleeding, hyperglycemia, and for female patients, the potential to cause

fetal toxicity. Synribo may be associated with acute cardiac toxicity when administered intravenously. Synribo is FDA-approved for subcutaneous administration (1-2).

Prior approval is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate, and cost-effective use of Synribo (omacetaxine mepesuccinate) while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

References

1. Siegel R, Naishadham D, Jemal A. Cancer statistics, 2012. CA Cancer J Clin 2012; 62:10.
2. Synribo [package insert]. North Wales, PA: Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc; May 2021.
3. NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium® Omacetaxine 2024. National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. Accessed on July 18, 2024.