

**Clinical Policy: Tesamorelin (Egrifta SV)**

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.109

Effective Date: 03.01.14

Last Review Date: 08.22

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

**Description**

Tesamorelin (Egrifta SV<sup>™</sup>) is a growth hormone releasing factor analog.

**FDA Approved Indication(s)**

Egrifta SV is indicated for the reduction of excess abdominal fat in human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-infected patients with lipodystrophy.

**Limitation(s) of use:**

- Since the long-term cardiovascular safety and potential long-term cardiovascular benefit of Egrifta SV treatment have not been studied and are not known, careful consideration should be given whether to continue Egrifta SV treatment in patients who do not show a clear efficacy response as judged by the degree of reduction in visceral adipose tissue measured by waist circumference or CT scan.
- Egrifta SV is not indicated for weight loss management (weight neutral effect).
- There are no data to support improved compliance with anti-retroviral therapies in HIV-positive patients taking Egrifta SV.

**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<sup>®</sup> that Egrifta SV is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

**I. Initial Approval Criteria****A. Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection with Lipodystrophy (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of HIV infection with lipodystrophy;
2. Age  $\geq$  18 years or documentation of closed epiphyses;
3. Member meets clinical indicators for abdominal lipodystrophy (a or b):
  - a. If female, waist circumference  $\geq$  88 cm;
  - b. If male, waist circumference  $\geq$  102 cm;
4. Member is currently receiving and adherent to antiretroviral therapy;
5. Dose does not exceed 1.4 mg (1 vial) per day.

**Approval duration:****Medicaid/HIM** – 6 months**Commercial** – 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer

**B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):**

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
  - a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
  - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

**II. Continued Therapy**

**A. Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection with Lipodystrophy (must meet all):**

1. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
  - a. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
  - b. Member is currently receiving medication and is enrolled in a state and product with continuity of care regulations (*refer to state specific addendums for CC.PHARM.03A and CC.PHARM.03B*);
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 1.4 mg (1 vial) per day.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 months

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer

**B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):**

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
  - a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
  - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND

criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and 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 policies – CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents.

### IV. Appendices/General Information

#### *Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

HIV: human immunodeficiency virus

#### *Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives*

Not applicable

#### *Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings*

- Contraindication(s):
  - Disruption of the hypothalamic-pituitary axis due to hypophysectomy, hypopituitarism, pituitary tumor/surgery, head irradiation or head trauma.
  - Active malignancy (either newly diagnosed or recurrent): any preexisting malignancy should be inactive and its treatment complete prior to instituting therapy with Egrifta SV.
  - Pregnancy: During pregnancy, visceral adipose tissue increases due to normal metabolic and hormonal changes. Modifying this physiologic change of pregnancy with Egrifta SV offers no known benefit and could result in fetal harm. If pregnancy occurs, discontinue Egrifta SV therapy.
  - Known hypersensitivity to tesamorelin and/or mannitol.
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

#### *Appendix D: General Information*

- On June 15, 2020, Theratechnologies discontinued Egrifta and permanently replaced it with Egrifta SV, a smaller volume injection able to be stored at room temperature.

### V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
HIV infection with lipodystrophy	1.4 mg (0.35 mL) SC QD  After reconstitution and administration, any unused solution should be thrown away	1.4 mg/day

### VI. Product Availability

Single-use vial with powder for reconstitution: 2 mg

## VII. References

1. Egrifta SV Prescribing Information. Montreal, Quebec, Canada: Theratechnologies Inc.; October 2019. Available at <http://www.egriftasv.com>. Accessed March 29, 2022.
2. Lean ME, Han TS, Morrison CE. Waist circumference as a measure for indicating need for weight management. *BMJ* 1995; 311:158.

## Coding Implications

Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

HCPSC Codes	Description
J3590	Unclassified biologics
J3490	Unclassified drugs

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
3Q 2018 annual review: policies combined for Centene Medicaid, HIM (new) and Commercial lines of business; no significant changes from previously approved corporate policy; Medicaid: removed adherence to current antiretroviral therapy on re-auth; Commercial: age $\geq 18$ or documentation of closed epiphyses added per PI, minimum waist circumference modified from 95/94 cm to 102/88 cm in men/women and requirement for waist-to-hip ratio removed per Lean et al and specialist feedback, pregnancy contraindication added per safety guidance endorsed by Centene Medical Affairs; references reviewed and updated.	05.14.18	08.18
3Q 2019 annual review: no significant changes; removed pregnancy contraindication from criteria as separate edits are in place to address these risks; references reviewed and updated.	04.22.19	08.19
3Q 2020 annual review: no significant changes; replaced old formulation Egrifta with new formulation Egrifta SV; references reviewed and updated.	04.20.20	08.20
3Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; added HCPSC code; references to HIM.PHAR.21 revised to HIM.PA.154; references reviewed and updated.	03.18.21	08.21
3Q 2022 annual review: no significant changes; added quantity restriction (1 vial per day) to dosing requirement; updated HCPSC codes; references reviewed and updated.	03.29.22	08.22
Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications and continued therapy section.	09.30.22	

**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.

This clinical policy is the property of the Health Plan. Unauthorized copying, use, and distribution of this clinical policy or any information contained herein are strictly prohibited. Providers, members and their representatives are bound to the terms and conditions expressed herein through the terms of their contracts. Where no such contract exists, providers, members and their representatives agree to be bound by such terms and conditions by providing services to members and/or submitting claims for payment for such services.

**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.

©2014 Centene Corporation. All rights reserved. All materials are exclusively owned by Centene Corporation and are protected by United States copyright law and international copyright law. No part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, modified, distributed, displayed, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means, or otherwise published without the prior written permission of Centene Corporation. You may not alter or remove any trademark, copyright or other notice contained herein. Centene<sup>®</sup> and Centene Corporation<sup>®</sup> are registered trademarks exclusively owned by Centene Corporation.