

**Clinical Policy: Lacosamide (Vimpat)**

Reference Number: CP.PMN.155

Effective Date: 12.01.14

Last Review Date: 08.22

Line of Business: HIM, Medicaid

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

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

**Description**

Lacosamide (Vimpat®) is an anticonvulsant.

**FDA Approved Indication(s)**

Vimpat is indicated:

- For the treatment of partial-onset seizures in patients 1 month of age and older.
- As adjunctive therapy in the treatment of primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures in patients 4 years of age and older.

**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 Vimpat is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

**I. Initial Approval Criteria****A. Partial-Onset Seizures** (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of partial-onset seizures;
2. Age  $\geq$  1 month;
3. Failure of two preferred alternatives (*see Appendix B for examples*) unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
4. Dose does not exceed any of the following (a or b):
  - a. Age  $\geq$  17 years: 400 mg per day;
  - b. Age 1 month to < 17 years (i, ii, iii, or iv):
    - i. Weight  $\geq$  50 kg: 400 mg per day;
    - ii. Weight 30 kg to < 50 kg: 8 mg/kg per day;
    - iii. Weight 6 kg to < 30 kg: 12 mg/kg per day;
    - iv. Weight < 6 kg: 15 mg/kg per day.

**Approval duration: 12 months**

**B. Primary Generalized Tonic-Clonic Seizures** (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures;
2. Age  $\geq$  4 years;
3. Failure of two preferred alternatives (*see Appendix B for examples*) unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
4. Vimpat will be used as adjunctive therapy;

5. Dose does not exceed any of the following (a or b):
  - a. Age  $\geq$  17 years: 400 mg per day;
  - b. Age 4 to < 17 years (i, ii, or iii):
    - i. Weight  $\geq$  50 kg: 400 mg per day;
    - ii. Weight 30 kg to < 50 kg: 8 mg/kg per day;
    - iii. Weight 11 kg to < 30 kg: 12 mg/kg per day.

**Approval duration: 12 months**

**C. 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): HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

**II. Continued Therapy**

**A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all):**

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Vimpat for seizures and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed any of the following (a or b):
  - a. Age  $\geq$  17 years: 400 mg per day;
  - c. Age 1 month to < 17 years (i, ii, iii, or iv):
    - i. Weight  $\geq$  50 kg: 400 mg per day;
    - ii. Weight 30 kg to < 50 kg: 8 mg/kg per day;
    - iii. Weight 6 kg to < 30 kg: 12 mg/kg per day;
    - iv. Weight < 6 kg: 15 mg/kg per day.

**Approval duration: 12 months**

**B. 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 12 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): 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 – 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

##### *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 Class	Examples	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
Anticonvulsants for partial seizures	carbamazepine (Tegretol <sup>®</sup> ), felbamate (Felbatol <sup>®</sup> ), gabapentin (Neurontin <sup>®</sup> ), lamotrigine (Lamictal <sup>®</sup> ), levetiracetam (Keppra <sup>®</sup> ), oxcarbazepine (Trileptal <sup>®</sup> ), phenytoin (Dilantin <sup>®</sup> ), tiagabine (Gabitril <sup>®</sup> ), topiramate (Topamax <sup>®</sup> ), valproic acid (Depakene <sup>®</sup> ), divalproex sodium (Depakote <sup>®</sup> ), zonisamide (Zonegran <sup>®</sup> )	Varies according to the agent used
Anticonvulsants for tonic-clonic seizures	carbamazepine (Tegretol <sup>®</sup> ), lamotrigine (Lamictal <sup>®</sup> ), levetiracetam (Keppra <sup>®</sup> ), phenytoin (Dilantin <sup>®</sup> ), primidone (Mysoline <sup>®</sup> ), topiramate (Topamax <sup>®</sup> ), valproic acid (Depakene <sup>®</sup> ), divalproex sodium (Depakote <sup>®</sup> )	Varies according to the agent used

*Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name<sup>®</sup> (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name<sup>®</sup>) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.*

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

None reported

#### V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Partial-onset seizures, primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures	<p><i>Adults (17 years and older):</i> Initial dosage for monotherapy is 100 mg PO or IV BID; Initial dosage for adjunctive therapy is 50 mg PO or IV BID.</p> <p><i>Pediatric patients 1 month old to &lt; 17 years old:</i> The recommended dosage is based on body weight and is administered PO BID or IV TID.</p>	<p><i>Adults (17 years and older):</i> 400 mg/day</p> <p><i>Pediatric Patients 4 Years to less than 17 years:</i></p> <p>≥ 50 kg: 400 mg/day  30 kg to &lt; 50 kg: 8 mg/kg/day  6 kg to &lt; 30 kg: 12 mg/kg/day  &lt; 6 kg: 15 mg/kg/day</p>

#### VI. Product Availability

- Tablets: 50 mg, 100 mg, 150 mg, 200 mg
- Oral solution: 10 mg/mL
- Single-dose vial for intravenous use: 200 mg/20 mL

## VII. References

1. Vimpat Prescribing Information. Smyrna, GA: UCB, Inc.; November 2021. Available at: <https://www.vimpat.com>. Accessed May 12, 2022.
2. Kanner AM, Ashman E, Gloss D, et al. Practice guideline update summary: Efficacy and tolerability of the new antiepileptic drugs I: Treatment of new-onset epilepsy. Report of the Guideline Development, Dissemination, and Implementation Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology and the American Epilepsy Society. *Neurology*. July 10, 2018; 91(2):74-81.
3. Kanner AM, Ashman E, Gloss D, et al. Practice guideline update summary: Efficacy and tolerability of the new antiepileptic drugs II: Treatment resistant epilepsy. Report of the Guideline Development, Dissemination, and Implementation Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology and the American Epilepsy Society. *Epilepsy Curr*. Jul-Aug 2018;18(4):269-78.

## 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
C9254	Injection, lacosamide, 1 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
3Q 2018 annual review: new policy for Medicaid line of business; modified number of preferred trials from 3 to 2; references reviewed and updated.	04.04.18	08.18
3Q 2019 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	05.05.19	08.19
3Q 2020 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	05.04.20	08.20
3Q 2021 annual review: added criteria for FDA-approved indication for generalized tonic-clonic seizures; added HCPSC code; revised HIM.PHAR.21 to HIM.PA.154; references reviewed and updated.	04.20.21	08.21
RT4: policy updated to reflect newly FDA-approved pediatric age extension down to 1 month of age for partial-onset seizures.	12.09.21	
3Q 2022 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	05.12.22	08.22

## 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.

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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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