Clinical Policy: Capecitabine (Xeloda)  
Reference Number: CP.PHAR.60  
Effective Date: 05.01.11  
Last Review Date: 05.20  
Line of Business: HIM, Medicaid

See Important Reminder at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description  
Capecitabine (Xeloda®) is nucleoside metabolic inhibitor with antineoplastic activity.

FDA Approved Indication(s)  
Xeloda is indicated for the treatment of:  
- Adjuvant colon cancer  
  o Patients with Dukes’ C colon cancer  
- Metastatic colorectal cancer  
  o First-line as monotherapy when treatment with fluoropyrimidine therapy alone is preferred  
- Metastatic breast cancer  
  o In combination with docetaxel after failure of prior anthracycline-containing therapy  
  o As monotherapy in patients resistant to both paclitaxel and an anthracycline-containing regimen

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 Xeloda is medically necessary when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria  
A. Colorectal Cancer and Breast Cancer (must meet all):  
  1. Diagnosis of one of the following (a or b):  
     a. Colorectal cancer;  
     b. Breast cancer and meets one of the following (i or ii):  
        i. Disease is recurrent or metastatic;  
        ii. Xeloda is prescribed as adjuvant therapy;  
  2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;  
  3. Age ≥ 18 years;  
  4. At the time of request, member does not have severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min);  
  5. If brand Xeloda is requested, medical justification supports inability to use generic capecitabine (e.g., contraindication to excipients in capecitabine);  
  6. Request meets one of the following (a or b):*  
     a. Dose does not exceed 1,250 mg/m² twice a day on Days 1 to 14, every 21 days;
b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

Approval duration: 6 months

**B. Anal Carcinoma (off-label) (must meet all):**
1. Diagnosis of anal squamous cell carcinoma;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Xeloda is prescribed concurrently with chemoradiation in combination with mitomycin;
5. At the time of request, member does not have severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min);
6. If brand Xeloda is requested, medical justification supports inability to use generic capecitabine (e.g., contraindication to excipients in capecitabine);
7. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA approved indication or is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).*

*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

Approval duration: 6 months

**C. Neuroendocrine Tumor of the Pancreas (off-label) (must meet all):**
1. Diagnosis of neuroendocrine tumor of the pancreas;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Xeloda is prescribed as a single agent or in combination with temozolomide;
5. At the time of request, member does not have severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min);
6. If brand Xeloda is requested, medical justification supports inability to use generic capecitabine (e.g., contraindication to excipients in capecitabine);
7. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA approved indication or is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).*

*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

Approval duration: 6 months

**D. Additional NCCN Recommended Uses (off-label) (must meet all):**
1. Prescribed for one of the following diagnoses:
   a. Gastric, esophageal or esophagogastric junction cancer;
   b. Gestational trophoblastic neoplasia;
   c. Advanced head and neck cancer;
   d. Hepatobiliary cancer (i, ii, or iii):
      i. Extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma;
      ii. Gallbladder cancer;
      iii. Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma;
e. Neuroendocrine tumor (i or ii):
   i. Neuroendocrine tumor in the gastrointestinal tract with poorly controlled carcinoid syndrome;
   ii. Extrapulmonary neuroendocrine tumor (a or b):
      a) Disease is poorly differentiated (i.e., high grade) neuroendocrine carcinoma;
      b) Disease is large or small cell carcinoma;
   f. Occult primary cancer (cancer of unknown origin);
   g. Ovarian or fallopian tube or primary peritoneal cancer;
   h. Pancreatic cancer;
   i. Penile cancer;
   j. Small bowel adenocarcinoma;
   k. Thymomas and thymic carcinomas;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. At the time of request, member does not have severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 30 mL/min);
5. If brand Xeloda is requested, medical justification supports inability to use generic capecitabine (e.g., contraindication to excipients in capecitabine);
6. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA approved indication or is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence).*

*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

Approval duration: 6 months

E. 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.PHAR.21 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 Xeloda for a covered indication 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, request meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. New dose does not exceed 2,500 mg/m² total daily dose on days 1 to 14, every 21 days;
   b. New dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence).*

*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

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 6 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.PHAR.21 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.PHAR.21 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
   NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network

   Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives
   Not applicable

   Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings
   • Contraindication(s): severe renal impairment; hypersensitivity
   • Boxed warning(s): Xeloda-warfarin interaction

V. Dosage and Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indication</th>
<th>Dosing Regimen</th>
<th>Maximum Dose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metastatic colorectal cancer</td>
<td>1,250 mg/m² PO BID for 2 weeks followed by a one week rest period in 3-week cycles.</td>
<td>2,500 mg/m² total daily dose</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adjuvant colon cancer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Metastatic breast cancer</td>
<td>For adjuvant treatment of Dukes’ C colon cancer, total treatment should be 24 weeks (8 cycles)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VI. Product Availability
   Tablets: 150 mg, 500 mg

VII. References

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCPCS Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J8520</td>
<td>Capecitabine, oral, 150 mg</td>
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<tr>
<td>J8521</td>
<td>Capecitabine, oral, 500 mg</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>P&amp;T Approval Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy converted to new template. Removed question about monitoring PT/INR. FDA indications retained per PI; all NCCN compendium uses added if not already in the policy. Colorectal cancer - Dukes’ C is analogous to stage III per NCCN colon and rectal cancer guidelines.</td>
<td>06.16</td>
<td>06.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For colorectal cancer, added “when treatment with fluoropyrimidine therapy alone is preferred” to section 2.a. (FDA approved use). Removed as contraindications: dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase deficiency and hypersensitivity to capecitabine; modified approval duration from 3 to 6 months; re-auth: removed reasons to discontinue; modified approval duration from 6 to 12 months; updated additional NCCN uses and removed lung endocrine tumors (NCCN category 3).</td>
<td>05.17</td>
<td>06.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2Q 2018 annual review: added HIM line of business; summarized NCCN and FDA approved uses for improved clarity; added specialist involvement in care; removed central nervous cancers-brain metastases from off-label because it is addressed by the primary tumor (breast cancer criteria); removed mucinous carcinoma of the ovary as it is covered in ovarian cancer criteria; added continuity of care statement; references reviewed and updated.</td>
<td>02.13.18</td>
<td>05.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2Q 2019 annual review: the following NCCN recommended uses are added: adjuvant breast cancer, gestational trophoblastic neoplasia, poorly controlled carcinoid syndrome, poorly differentiated or large/small cell neuroendocrine tumor; histologies removed from off-label uses; age added to all criteria sets if not previously listed; references reviewed and updated.</td>
<td>12.19.19</td>
<td>05.19</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Clinical Policy
Capecitabine

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2Q 2020</td>
<td>02.16.20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2Q 2020 annual review: NCCN compendium-supported changes to occult primary and neuroendocrine tumors of the pancreas indications as capecitabine use as a single agent is supported for both of these indications; added NCCN compendium-supported uses of small bowel adenocarcinomas and thymomas and thymic carcinomas; added requirement for medical justification if brand Xeloda requested as generic available; references reviewed and updated.

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.

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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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