

**Clinical Policy: Pralatrexate (Folotyn)**

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.313

Effective Date: 02.01.17

Last Review Date: 11.19

Line of Business: HIM\*, Medicaid, HIM-Medical Benefit

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

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

**Description**

Pralatrexate injection (Folotyn<sup>®</sup>) is a folate analog metabolic inhibitor.

*\*For Health Insurance Marketplace (HIM), if request is through pharmacy benefit, Folotyn (40 mg/2mL vial) is non-formulary and cannot be approved using these criteria; refer to the formulary exception policy, HIM.PA.103.*

**FDA Approved Indication(s)**

Folotyn is indicated for the treatment of patients with relapsed or refractory peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL).

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

**I. Initial Approval Criteria****A. Peripheral T-Cell Lymphoma (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of PTCL;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
4. Failed prior therapy (*see Appendix B for examples*);  
*\*Prior authorization may be required for prior therapies*
5. Request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - a. Dose does not exceed 30 mg/m<sup>2</sup> once weekly for 6 weeks in 7-week cycles;
  - 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:**

**Medicaid** – 6 months

**HIM** – 6 months for Folotyn 20 mg/1 mL (*refer to HIM.PA.103 for Folotyn 40 mg/2 mL if pharmacy benefit*)

**B. NCCN-Recommended Off-Label Indications (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of one of the following conditions (a or b):
  - a. Primary cutaneous T-cell lymphomas (i or ii):
    - i. Mycosis fungoides or Sézary syndrome;

- ii. Primary cutaneous anaplastic large cell lymphoma (ALCL) with multifocal lesions, or cutaneous ALCL with regional nodes;
    - b. Other T-cell lymphomas (i, ii, or iii):
      - i. Adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma (ATLL) after failure of first-line therapy (*see Appendix B for examples*);
      - ii. Extranodal NK/T-cell lymphoma (NKTL), nasal type following asparaginase-based therapy (*see Appendix B for examples*);
      - iii. Hepatosplenic gamma-delta T-cell lymphoma (HGTL) after failure of prior therapy (*see Appendix B for examples*);
- \*Prior authorization may be required for prior line therapies*
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
  3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
  4. 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:**

**Medicaid** – 6 months

**HIM** – 6 months for Folutyn 20 mg/1 mL (*refer to HIM.PA.103 for Folutyn 40 mg/2 mL if pharmacy benefit*)

**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.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid and HIM-Medical Benefit.

**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 Folutyn 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 30 mg/m<sup>2</sup> once weekly for 6 weeks in 7-week cycles;
  - 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:**

**Medicaid** – 12 months

**HIM** – 12 months for Folutyn 20 mg/1 mL (*refer to HIM.PA.103 for Folutyn 40 mg/2 mL if pharmacy benefit*)

**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 and HIM-Medical Benefit .

### **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 and HIM-Medical Benefit, or evidence of coverage documents.

### **IV. Appendices/General Information**

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

ALCL: anaplastic large cell lymphoma	NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network
ATLL: adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma	NKTL: extranodal NK/T-cell lymphoma
FDA: Food and Drug Administration	PTCL: peripheral T-cell lymphoma
HGTL: hepatosplenic gamma-delta T-cell lymphoma	

#### *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.*

<b>Drug Name</b>	<b>Dosing Regimen</b>	<b>Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose</b>
PTCL - examples of first-line and subsequent therapy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brentuximab vedotin + CHP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, and prednisone)</li> <li>• CHOEP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, etoposide, prednisone)</li> <li>• CHOP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone)</li> <li>• Dose-adjusted EPOCH (etoposide, prednisone, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin)</li> <li>• DHAP (dexamethasone, cisplatin, cytarabine)</li> <li>• ESHAP (etoposide, methylprednisolone, cytarabine, cisplatin)</li> <li>• Belinostat, brentuximab vedotin, romidepsin as single agents</li> </ul>	Varies	Varies

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/Maximum Dose
<b>ATLL - examples of first-line therapy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brentuximab vedotin + CHP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, and prednisone)</li> <li>• CHOEP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, etoposide, prednisone)</li> <li>• CHOP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisone)</li> <li>• Dose-adjusted EPOCH (etoposide, prednisone, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin)</li> <li>• HyperCVAD (cyclophosphamide, vincristine, doxorubicin, dexamethasone) alternating with high-dose methotrexate and cytarabine</li> </ul>	Varies	Varies
<b>NKTL - examples of asparaginase-based therapy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AspaMetDex (pegaspargase, methotrexate, dexamethasone)</li> <li>• Modified-SMILE (steroid, methotrexate, ifosfamide, pegaspargase, etoposide)</li> <li>• P-GEMOX (gemcitabine, pegaspargase, oxaliplatin)</li> </ul>	Varies	Varies
<b>HGTL - examples of first-line therapy (for subsequent therapy examples see PTCL):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICE (ifosfamide, carboplatin, etoposide)</li> <li>• CHOEP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, etoposide, prednisone)</li> <li>• Brentuximab vedotin + CHP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, and prednisone)</li> </ul>	Varies	Varies

*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
PTCL	30 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV once weekly for 6 weeks in 7-week cycles until progressive disease or unacceptable toxicity	30 mg/m <sup>2</sup> once weekly

**VI. Product Availability**

Single-dose vial: 20 mg/1 mL, 40 mg/2 mL

**VII. References**

1. Folutyn Prescribing Information. Westminster, CO: Spectrum Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; November 2016. Available at: [http://www.folutyn.com/HCP/downloads/folutyn-pi\\_Nov2016.pdf](http://www.folutyn.com/HCP/downloads/folutyn-pi_Nov2016.pdf). Accessed July 22, 2019.

2. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at nccn.org. Accessed July 22, 2019.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. T-Cell Lymphomas Version 2.2019. Available at: [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/t-cell.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/t-cell.pdf). Accessed July 22, 2019.
4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Primary Cutaneous Lymphomas Version 2.2019. Available at: [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/primary\\_cutaneous.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/primary_cutaneous.pdf). Accessed July 22, 2019.

### **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.

<b>HCPSC Codes</b>	<b>Description</b>
J9307	Injection, pralatrexate, 1 mg

<b>Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>P&amp;T Approval Date</b>
Policy split from CP.PHAR.182.Excellus Oncology.	01.01.17	02.17
Age and dosing added. Safety information removed. NCCN recommended uses added separately.	09.05.17	11.17
4Q 2018 annual review: no significant changes; added HIM Medical Benefit line of business; summarized NCCN and FDA-approved uses for improved clarity; added specialist involvement in care; added COC; references reviewed and updated.	07.31.18	11.18
4Q 2019 annual review: added Medicaid line of business; added HIM lob for Folutyn 20 mg/mL; FDA/NCCN dosing requirement added; failed prior therapy added for PTCL; off-label uses added with prior therapy (HGTL, NKTL); prior therapy added for ATLL; references reviewed and updated.	08.20.19	11.19

### **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.

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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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