POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NAME: Idecabtagene Vicleucel (Abecma)	**POLICY ID:** TX.PHAR.94
BUSINESS UNIT: Superior HealthPlan	**FUNCTIONAL AREA:** Pharmacy
EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/18/2021	**PRODUCT(S):** STAR, STAR Kids, STAR Health, STAR Plus, CHIP, CHIP Perinate
REVIEWED/REVISED DATE: 8/10/2022	
REGULATOR MOST RECENT APPROVAL DATE(S): N/A	

POLICY STATEMENT:
It is the policy of Superior HealthPlan to follow state guidance for medical necessity review of idecabtagene vicleucel (Abecma).

PURPOSE:
Consistent with the regulation at 42 CFR Section 438.210 and 42 CFR Section 457.1230(d), services covered under managed care contracts, including clinician-administered drugs, must be furnished in an amount, duration, and scope that is no less than the amount, duration, and scope for the same services specified in the state plan.

While MCOs may place appropriate limits on drugs, MCOs may not use a standard for determining medical necessity that is more restrictive than what is used in the state plan, i.e., developed by the Vendor Drug Program. For example, if a member is denied a clinician administered drug in managed care because of the MCO's prior authorization criteria, but would have received the drug under the criteria specified in the state plan, then the MCO's prior authorization criteria would violate the amount, duration, and scope requirements cited above. HHSC intends to amend the Managed Care Contracts at the next opportunity to include this requirement. This same standard applies to CHIP formulary and CAD coverage.

Refer to the Outpatient Drug Services Handbook of the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedure Manual for more details on the clinical policy and prior authorization requirements.

All determinations will be performed by a Superior HealthPlan medical director. A pharmacy clinician will review the prior authorization request and make a recommendation to the medical director but will not make the ultimate determination on any case.

Additionally, this medication is a precision drug. Centene's Precision Drug Action Committee (PDAC) creates a standardized approach for Centene to manage precision drugs and the associated costs for their administration, prior to members presenting with a request for one of these agents. All precision drug requests or potential requests must be reported to the PDAC for tracking, regardless of whether agents are carved out, passed through, etc. All precision drug medical necessity determinations will be supported by PDAC UM recommendation, utilizing specialist input as directed and allowed by turnaround times.

In addition, the procedure code Q2055 (used for Abecma) will be limited to once per lifetime, by any provider. If the code is updated in the future it will still be limited to once per lifetime.

Certified healthcare facilities must enroll and comply with the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS) requirements for this drug.

SCOPE:
Superior HealthPlan Pharmacy Department, Medical Directors

DEFINITIONS: NRB = non-risk based

POLICY:
It is the policy of Superior HealthPlan to follow state guidance for medical necessity review of idecabtagene vicleucel (Abecma).

Description:
Idecabtagene Vicleucel (Abecma) is an anti-B cell maturation antigen (BCMA) chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell immunotherapy.

FDA Approved Indications:

Abecma is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma after four or more prior lines of therapy, including an immunomodulatory agent, a proteasome inhibitor, and an anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody.

Formulations:
Available as a single-dose unit infusion bag: frozen suspension of genetically modified autologous T-cells labeled for the specific recipient.
- 50 mL infusion bag (NDC: 59572-0515-01)
- 250mL infusion bag (NDC: 59572-0515-02)
- 500mL infusion bag (NDC: 59572-0515-03)

PROCEDURE:
Provider must submit documentation (which may include office chart notes and lab results) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.

I. Initial Approval Criteria:

1. A medical director is required to review and approve or deny all requests. A pharmacist will make a recommendation on the prior authorization but ultimate determination will be made by the medical director only.

2. Medical necessity determinations will be supported by PDAC UM recommendation. The SHP pharmacy clinician will review the UM recommendation with the prior authorization request for clinical appropriateness and make a recommendation to the SHP medical director but will not make the ultimate determination on any case.

3. The member is 18 years or older.

4. The patient must have a histologically confirmed diagnosis relapse or refractory multiple myeloma (diagnosis code: C9000 and C9002)

5. The patient must have received four or more prior lines of the following therapies before treatment with idecabtagene vicleucel:
- An immunomodulatory agent
- A proteasome inhibitor
- An anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody

6. The patient does not have primary central nervous system lymphoma/disease.

7. The patient does not have an active infection or inflammatory disorder.

8. Patient has not received prior CAR-T therapy.

9. If the facility is non-PAR the medical director will redirect to a PAR provider. On a case by case basis, said medical director may make an exception outside of a PAR provider but will require a single case agreement (SCA). Once the case is determined, the pharmacy team via pharmacy management will work with the SCA team to assist on the SCA. This should be the exception and not the rule as a PAR facility/provider is preferable. The pharmacist supporting the medical director will contact pharmacy management to start the SCA process.

Approval duration: Only 1 dose per lifetime will be provided on this drug regardless of Provider.

REFERENCES:
Abecma Prescribing Information. Summit, NJ: Celgene Corporation; March 2021. Available at: https/www.abecma.com

Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual: Outpatient Drug Services Handbook.

ATTACHMENTS: N/A

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES: N/A

REGULATORY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: N/A

REVISION LOG

REVISION TYPE	REVISION SUMMARY	DATE APPROVED & PUBLISHED
Ad Hoc Review	Changed to new P&P template Updated procedure code	8/10/2022

POLICY AND PROCEDURE APPROVAL

The electronic approval retained in RSA Archer, the Company's P&P management software, is considered equivalent to a signature.