

MEDICAL POLICY STATEMENT GEORGIA MEDICAID

Policy Name Policy Name		Policy Number	Date Effective	
CAR-T medications – Kymriah (tisagenlecleucel)		MM-1120	09/01/2021-07/31/2022	
Policy Type Policy Type				
MEDICAL	Administrative	Pharmacy	Reimbursement	

Medical Policy Statement prepared by CareSource and its affiliates are derived from literature based on and supported by clinical guidelines, nationally recognized utilization and technology assessment guidelines, other medical management industry standards, and published MCO clinical policy guidelines. Medically necessary services include, but are not limited to, those health care services or supplies that are proper and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of disease, illness, or injury and without which the patient can be expected to suffer prolonged, increased or new morbidity, impairment of function, dysfunction of a body organ or part, or significant pain and discomfort. These services meet the standards of good medical practice in the local area, are the lowest cost alternative, and are not provided mainly for the convenience of the member or provider. Medically necessary services also include those services defined in any Evidence of Coverage documents, Medical Policy Statements, Provider Manuals, Member Handbooks, and/or other policies and procedures.

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According to the rules of Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of a behavioral health disorder will not be subject to any limitations that are less favorable than the limitations that apply to medical conditions as covered under this policy.

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B. Background

Chimeric antigen receptor T cell therapy (CAR-T) is an autologous T-cell immunotherapy. The member's own T lymphocytes are genetically modified with a gene that encodes a CAR-T to the T cells which can then target the lymphoma cells. Once the member's T cells are modifier, the T cells are infused back into the member.

CAR-T is associated with severe complications and may be life-threatening. These complications include cytokine release syndrome and neurological toxicities. Therefore, CAR-T therapy administration should be based on clinical benefits, potential long-term disease control, and toxicity.

This policy is to define medically necessary criteria for Kymriah.

C. Definitions

 Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) - A drug safety program that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) can require for certain medications with serious safety concerns to help ensure the benefits of the medication outweigh its risks. REMS are designed to reinforce medication use behaviors and actions that support the safe use of that medication.

D. Policy

- I. Kymriah
 - A. Kymriah may be approved for 3 months.
 - B. Kymriah will not be reauthorized for continued therapy.
 - C. Kymriah is limited to one infusion per lifetime.
- II. Kymriah is a non-preferred product and will only be considered for coverage under the medical benefit when the following medically necessary criteria are met:
 - A. Diagnosis of Acute lymphoblastic Leukemia and all of the following criteria:
 - 1. Member is 1 to 25 years of age;
 - 2. Member has a diagnosis of relapsed or refractory B-cell ALL defined by one of the following:
 - **a.** Second or greater relapse:
 - **b.** Relapse after allogeneic stem cell transplantation (SCT);
 - c. Primary refractory as defined by not achieving a complete remission (CR) after 2 cycles of a standard chemotherapy regimen or chemorefractory as defined by not achieving a CR after 1 cycle of standard chemotherapy for relapsed leukemia;
 - **d.** Philadelphia chromosome positive (Ph+) all and intolerant to or have failed 2 lines of tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) therapy [e.g. imatinib mesylate (Gleevec), dasatinib (Sprycel)]; or
 - e. Ineligible for allogeneic SCT;



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- 3. Documentation of CD19 tumor expression;
- 4. Bone marrow with ≥ 5% lymphoblasts by morphologic assessment;
- 5. Member has been pre-screened for hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prior to collection of cells (negative results must be submitted);
- 6. Healthcare facility/provider has enrolled in the Kymriah REMS program; and
- 7. Member does not have any of the following:
 - a. Prior gene or CAR-T cell therapy; or
 - b. Life expectancy less than 12 weeks.

OR

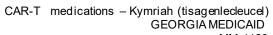
- B. Diagnosis of Large B-cell lymphoma and all of the following criteria:
 - 1. Member is 18 years of age or older;
 - 2. Member has a diagnosis of relapsed or refractory large B-cell lymphoma including one of the following:
 - a. Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) not otherwise specified;
 - b. High grade B-celllymphoma; or
 - c. DLBCL arising from follicular lymphoma;
 - 3. Member has received 2 or more lines of chemotherapy, including rituximab and anthracycline, and relapsed following autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) or is not eligible for HSCT;
 - 4. Member does not have any of the following:
 - a. Active central nervous systemmalignancy involvement;
 - b. Prior allogenic HSCT;
 - c. Prior CAR-T therapy (e.g., Yescarta); or
 - d. Life expectancy less than 12 weeks;
 - **5.** Member has been pre-screened for hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prior to collection of cells (negative results must be submitted); and
 - **6.** Healthcare facility/provider has enrolled in the Kymriah REMS program.
- III. CareSource considers Kymriah not medically necessary for the treatment of disease states not in this document.
- E. Conditions of Coverage

NA

F. Related Policies/Rules

Pharmacy Policy Statement – CAR-T medications CAR-T medications – Yescarta CAR-T medications – Tecartus Pharmacy Policy Statement – Kymriah (tisagenlecleucel)





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G. Review/Revision History

	DATE	ACTION	
Date Issued	04/14/2021		
Date Revised			
Date Effective	09/01/2021		
Date Archived	07/31/2022	This Policy is no longer active and has been archived. Please note that there could be other Policies that may have some of the same rules incorporated and CareSource reserves the right of follow CMS/State/NCCI guidelines without a formal documented Policy.	

H. References

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The Medical Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the Medical Policy Statement Policy and is approved.

Independent medical review – 08/2020

GA-MED-P-573350

