

PHARMACY POLICY STATEMENT

Arkansas PASSE

DRUG NAME	Vyvgart (efgartigimod alfa-fcab)
BILLING CODE	J3490/J3590
BENEFIT TYPE	Medical
SITE OF SERVICE ALLOWED	Home/Office/Outpatient
STATUS	Prior Authorization Required

Vyvgart, approved by the FDA in December 2021, is indicated for the treatment of generalized myasthenia gravis (gMG) in adult patients who are anti-acetylcholine receptor (AChR) antibody positive. Vyvgart is a first-in-class IgG1 antibody Fc fragment designed to reduce pathogenic IgG autoantibody levels by inhibiting IgG recycling via the neonatal Fc receptor (FcRn) and increasing IgG degradation. In the phase 3 ADAPT trial, Vyvgart met its primary endpoint, demonstrating clinically meaningful improvements in symptom severity compared with placebo and was generally well-tolerated.

Myasthenia gravis is an autoimmune disorder affecting the neuromuscular junction. It is characterized by muscle weakness and fatigue. The cause is an antibody-mediated immunologic attack directed at proteins in the postsynaptic membrane of the neuromuscular junction, most commonly the acetylcholine receptor (90%). Autoantibodies attack the AChR, blocking or destroying the receptors and damaging the neuromuscular junction, which impairs neuromuscular transmission and prevents muscles from contracting, as acetylcholine is unable to activate its receptor. Because the antibodies are of the IgG1 subtype, complement activation is also involved. Most patients present with ocular (class I) MG and later progress to gMG. Ocular motility, swallowing, speech, mobility, and respiratory function can all be affected.

Pyridostigmine, an acetylcholinesterase inhibitor, is the initial drug of choice prescribed for MG. It eases symptoms by slowing the breakdown of acetylcholine. If control is inadequate, immunosuppressive treatment is added, such as prednisone and/or azathioprine. Other drugs are used in cases of severe or refractory MG or myasthenic crisis, which is an emergency.

Vyvgart (efgartigimod alfa-fcab) will be considered for coverage when the following criteria are met:

Generalized Myasthenia Gravis (gMG)

For **initial** authorization:

1. Member is at least 18 years of age; AND
2. Medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist; AND
3. Member has a documented diagnosis of MGFA class II-IV myasthenia gravis (see appendix); AND
4. Lab result in chart notes shows the member is seropositive for AChR antibodies; AND
5. Member has tried and failed at least 1 conventional therapy for at least 3 months (e.g. pyridostigmine, corticosteroid, azathioprine, mycophenolate mofetil).
6. **Dosage allowed/Quantity limit:** 10 mg/kg IV infusion once weekly for 4 weeks.
 For patients weighing 120 kg or greater, the recommended dose is 1200 mg (3 vials).
 Subsequent treatment cycles may take place no sooner than 50 days (7-8 weeks) from the start of the previous cycle.
 QL: 12 vials per 50 days; (1 vial= 20 mL).

If all the above requirements are met, the medication will be approved for 6 months.

For **reauthorization**:

1. Chart notes must document clinically meaningful improvement in symptom severity and daily functioning compared to pre-treatment baseline.

If all the above requirements are met, the medication will be approved for an additional 12 months.

CareSource considers Vyvgart (efgartigimod alfa-fcab) not medically necessary for the treatment of conditions that are not listed in this document. For any other indication, please refer to the Off-Label policy.

DATE	ACTION/DESCRIPTION
01/19/2022	New policy for Vyvgart created.

Appendix:

MG Foundation of America (MGFA) Clinical Classification	
Class I	any ocular weakness; all other muscle strength is normal
Class II	mild weakness affecting other than ocular muscles; may also have ocular weakness at any level
Class III	moderate weakness affecting other than ocular muscles; may also have ocular weakness at any level
Class IV	severe weakness affecting other than ocular muscles; may also have ocular weakness at any level
Class V	defined by intubation, with or without mechanical ventilation

References:

1. Vyvgart [prescribing information]. argenx US, Inc.; 2021.
2. Howard JF Jr, Bril V, Vu T, et al. Safety, efficacy, and tolerability of efgartigimod in patients with generalised myasthenia gravis (ADAPT): a multicentre, randomised, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial [published correction appears in Lancet Neurol. 2021 Aug;20(8):e5]. *Lancet Neurol.* 2021;20(7):526-536. doi:10.1016/S1474-4422(21)00159-9
3. Narayanaswami P, Sanders DB, Wolfe G, et al. International Consensus Guidance for Management of Myasthenia Gravis: 2020 Update. *Neurology.* 2021;96(3):114-122. doi:10.1212/WNL.00000000000011124
4. Sanders DB, Wolfe GI, Benatar M, et al. International consensus guidance for management of myasthenia gravis: Executive summary. *Neurology.* 2016;87(4):419-425. doi:10.1212/WNL.0000000000002790
5. IPD Analytics. Accessed 01/20/2022.

Effective date: 07/01/2022

Revised date: 01/19/2022