

# Ocaliva® (obeticholic acid) Prior BlueCross BlueShield Authorization with Quantity Limit **Program Summary**

This program applies to Commercial, GenPlus, Blue Partner, NetResults A series, SourceRx and Health Insurance Marketplace formularies.

### **OBJECTIVE**

The intent of the Ocaliva Prior Authorization (PA) program is to ensure that patients prescribed therapy meet the selection requirements defined in product labeling and/or clinical guidelines and/or clinical studies. The PA defines appropriate use as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) labeled indication or as supported by guidelines and/or clinical evidence.

# **TARGET AGENT** Ocaliva® (obeticholic acid)

**OUANTITY LIMIT TARGET AGENT- RECOMMENDED LIMIT** 

Brand (generic)	GPI	Multisource Code	Quantity per Day Limit
Ocaliva (obeticholic acid)			
5 mg tablet	52750060000320	M, N, O, Y	1 tablet
10 mg tablet	52750060000330	M, N, O, Y	1 tablet

## PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL

# **Initial Evaluation**

Ocaliva (obeticholic acid) will be approved when following are met:

- 1. The patient has the diagnosis of Primary Biliary Cholangitis (PBC) confirmed by TWO of the following:
  - a. There is biochemical evidence of cholestasis with an alkaline phosphatase elevation of at least 1.5 times the upper limit of normal
  - b. Presence of antimitochondrial antibody (AMA): a titer of 1:40 or higher OR a level that is above the testing laboratory's upper limit of normal range
  - c. Histologic evidence of nonsuppurative destruction cholangitis and destruction of interlobular bile ducts

# AND

2. The prescriber has documented the patient's baseline alkaline phosphatase (ALP) level and total bilirubin level

#### AND

- 3. ONE of the following:
  - a. BOTH of the following:
    - i. The patient has tried and had an inadequate response to ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) for at least 1 year

ii. The patient will continue treatment with ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) with the requested agent

# OR

b. The patient has a documented intolerance, FDA labeled contraindication, or hypersensitivity to ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA)

# **AND**

- 4. The patient does NOT have any FDA labeled contraindications to the requested agent AND
- a. The requested quantity (dose) is NOT greater than the program quantity limit ALBP\_PS\_Ocaliva\_PAQL\_ProgSum\_AR0918 Page 1 of 4

#### OR

- b. ALL of the following
  - i. The requested quantity (dose) is greater than the program quantity limit

# **AND**

ii. The requested quantity (dose) is less than or equal to the FDA labeled dose

# **AND**

iii. The requested quantity (dose) cannot be achieved with a lower quantity of a higher strength that does not exceed the limit

# Length of Approval: 12 months

# **Renewal Evaluation**

**Ocaliva (obeticholic acid)** will be approved when the following are met:

- 1. The patient has been previously approved for the requested agent through Prime Therapeutics Prior Authorization Review process
- **AND**2. ONE of the following:
  - a. The patient is currently on AND will continue treatment with ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) with the requested agent
    - К .....
  - b. The patient has a documented intolerance, FDA labeled contraindication, or hypersensitivity to ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA)

# **AND**

- 3. The patient has had an alkaline phosphatase (ALP) decrease of at least 15% from baseline AND ALP is less than 1.67-times the upper limit of normal (ULN)

  AND
- 4. The patient's the total bilirubin is less than or equal to the upper limit of normal (ULN)
- 5. The patient does NOT have any FDA labeled contraindications to the requested agent **AND**
- 6. ONE of the following:
  - a. The requested quantity (dose) is NOT greater than the program quantity limit **OR**
  - b. ALL of the following:
    - i. The requested quantity (dose) is greater than the program quantity limit

# **AND**

ii. The requested quantity (dose) is less than or equal to the FDA labeled dose

# AND

iii. The requested quantity (dose) cannot be achieved with a lower quantity of a higher strength that does not exceed the limit

# Length of Approval: 12 months

This pharmacy policy is not an authorization, certification, explanation of benefits or a contract. Eligibility and benefits are determined on a case-by-case basis according to the terms of the member's plan in effect as of the date services are rendered. All pharmacy policies are based on (i) information in FDA approved package inserts (and black box warning, alerts, or other information disseminated by the FDA as applicable); (ii) research of current medical and pharmacy literature; and/or (iii) review of common medical practices in the treatment and diagnosis of disease as of the date hereof. Physicians and other providers are solely responsible for all aspects of medical care and treatment, including the type, quality, and levels of care and treatment.

The purpose of pharmacy policies are to provide a guide to coverage. Pharmacy policies are not intended to dictate to physicians how to practice medicine. Physicians should exercise their medical judgment in providing the care they feel is most appropriate for their patients.

Neither this policy, nor the successful adjudication of a pharmacy claim, is guarantee of payment.

#### FDA APPROVED INDICATIONS AND DOSAGE<sup>1</sup>

Agent	Indication	Dosing
Ocaliva <sup>®</sup>	Treatment of Primary Biliary	Initial dose: 5 mg once daily
(obeticholic acid)	Cholangitis (PBC) in combination with	for first 3 months
tablets	ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) in adults with an inadequate response to UDCA or as monotherapy in adults unable to tolerate UDCA	Maintenance dose: 10 mg once daily, for patients who have not achieved an adequate reduction in ALP and/or total bilirubin and who are tolerating Ocaliva
		Maximum dose: 10 mg once daily

# **CLINICAL RATIONALE**

Primary biliary cholangitis (PBC), also formerly known as primary biliary cirrhosis, involves an immunologic attack on the intrahepatic bile ducts ultimately leading to cirrhosis and liver failure.<sup>2,3</sup> Patients with CBC may be asymptomatic, or they may present with symptoms such as fatigue, pruritic, jaundice, cholestatic liver enzymes, antimitochondrial antibodies, and signs and symptoms of cirrhosis. Common laboratory test abnormalities in patients with PBC include elevated alkaline phosphatase, antimitochondrial antibodies (AMA), antinuclear antibodies (ANA), and hyperlipidemia.<sup>3</sup>

A diagnosis of PBC is established if there are no extrahepatic biliary obstruction, no comorbidity affecting the liver, and at least two of the following are present:

- 1. There is biochemical evidence of cholestasis based on mainly an alkaline phosphatase elevation (at least 1.5 times the upper limit of normal)
- 2. Presence of AMA (with a titer of 1:40 or higher)
- 3. Histologic evidence of PBC (nonsuppurative destruction cholangitis and destruction of interlobular bile ducts) <sup>2,3</sup>

Management of PBC includes treatment of symptoms and complications that result from chronic cholestasis and suppression of the underlying pathogenic process (destruction of small intralobular hepatic bile ducts). Ursodeoxycholic acid (ursodiol, UDCA) is first-line therapy for PTC.<sup>2,4</sup> UDCA delays the progression to end-stage liver disease, enhance survival, and its good tolerability by patients.<sup>2</sup> An inadequate response to UDCA is defined as alkaline phosphatase levels > 1.67 times the upper limit of normal after one year of UDCA. In patients with an inadequate response to UDCA, obeticholic acid can be used in combination with UDCA or it can be used as monotherapy in patients who are unable to tolerate UDCA. Patients taking UDCA or obeticholic acid are monitored with liver biochemical tests. Improvement (assessed on liver biochemical tests) on UDCA typically occurs by 6-9 months with 20% of patients achieving normalization of liver biochemical tests by year 2. A liver biopsy is typically done when there is a suboptimal response to assess disease activity (defined as transaminase persistently above 5 times the upper limit of normal after at least 6 months of UDCA plus obeticholic acid). Beyond cirrhosis and liver failure, there are many other complications of PBC that need treatment. Complications include: pruritus, metabolic bone disease, hypercholesterolemia, xanthomas, malabsorption, vitamin deficiencies, hypothyroidism, and anemia.<sup>2,4</sup>

Obeticholic acid was approved based on randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled, 12-month trial in patients with PBC who were taking UDCA for at least 12 months, or who were unable to tolerate UDCA and did not receive UDCA for at least 3 months. Patient inclusion was ALP 1.67 times upper limit of normal (ULN) or greater and/or if total bilirubin was greater than 1 times ULN but less than 2 times ULN. Patients were excluded from the trial if they had other liver disease, presence of clinically significant hepatic decompensation events

(i.e., portal hypertension and its complications, cirrhosis with complications or hepato-renal syndrome), severe pruritic, or Model for End Stage Liver Disease (MELD) score of 15 or greater. Prime end points for responders were defined as 3 criteria: ALP less than 1.67 times the ULN, total bilirubin less than or equal to ULN, and an ALP decrease of at least 15%.<sup>1</sup>

### **REFERENCES**

- 1. Ocaliva prescribing information. Intercept Pharmaceuticals, Inc. March 2018.
- 2. Lindor, Keith D., et al. Primary Biliary Cirrhosis. American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) Practice Guidelines. *Hepatology* 2009; 50 (1): 291-307..
- 3. Poupon, Raoul, MD., et al. Clinical Manifestations, Diagnosis, and Prognosis of Primary Biliary Cholangitis (primary biliary cirrhosis). UpToDate. Last updated January 2017. Literature current through April 2018.
- 4. UpToDate. Overview of the treatment of primary biliary cholangitis (primary biliary cirrhosis).

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