



DRUG QUANTITY MANAGEMENT POLICY – PER RX

POLICY: Oncology – Lapatinib Drug Quantity Management Policy – Per Rx

- Tykerb® (lapatinib tablets – Novartis, generic)

REVIEW DATE: 05/29/2024

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

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CIGNA NATIONAL FORMULARY COVERAGE:

OVERVIEW

Lapatinib, a tyrosine kinase inhibitor, is indicated for the following uses:¹

- **Breast cancer**, in combination with capecitabine tablets for the treatment of patients with **advanced or metastatic disease** whose tumors overexpress human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2) and have received prior therapy including an anthracycline, a taxane, and trastuzumab.
Limitation of Use: Patients should have disease progression on trastuzumab prior to initiation of treatment with lapatinib in combination with capecitabine tablets.
- **Breast cancer**, in combination with letrozole tablets for the treatment of postmenopausal women with **hormone receptor-positive metastatic disease** that overexpresses HER2 for whom hormonal therapy is indicated. Lapatinib in combination with an aromatase inhibitor has not been compared to a trastuzumab-containing chemotherapy regimen for the treatment of metastatic breast cancer.

Lapatinib is discussed in guidelines from National Comprehensive Cancer Network for breast cancer (including breast cancer with CNS metastases), bone cancer, and colon or rectal cancer.²⁻⁷

Dosing

HER2-Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer

The recommended dose is 1,250 mg (5 x 250 mg tablets) given orally once daily (QD) on Days 1 to 21 continuously (105 tablets/21 days) in combination with capecitabine 2,000 mg/m²/day on Days 1 to 14 in a repeating 21 day cycle.¹

Hormone Receptor-Positive, HER2-Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer

The recommended dose is 1,500 mg (6 x 250 mg tablets) given orally QD continuously in combination with letrozole.¹

Off-Label Dosing

Lapatinib has also be used for epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR)-positive recurrent chordoma (bone cancer) at a dose of 1,500 QD.^{2,3,8} Lapatinib has been used in colon and rectal cancers at a dose of 1,000 mg QD in combination with trastuzumab.^{5,7}

Dose Modifications

Dose modifications for lapatinib are provided for breast cancer dosing.¹ The dose of lapatinib may need to be increased if a patient must take a strong cytochrome P450(CYP)3A4 inducer (e.g., dexamethasone, phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampin, rifabutin, rifapentine, phenobarbital, St. John's wort). The dose of lapatinib should be titrated gradually from 1,250 mg/day up to 4,500 mg/day (HER2-positive metastatic breast cancer indication) or from 1,500 mg/day up to 5,500 mg/day (hormone receptor-positive, HER2-positive breast cancer indication) based on tolerability. If the strong inducer is discontinued, the lapatinib dose should be reduced to the indicated dose. The dose may require reduction for cardiac and other toxicities, severe hepatic impairment, diarrhea, and concomitant use with CYP3A4 inhibitors.¹

Availability

Lapatinib is available as 250 mg tablets in bottles of 150 tablets.¹

POLICY STATEMENT

This Drug Quantity Management program has been developed manage potential dose escalation and to provide a sufficient quantity of lapatinib. If the Drug Quantity Management rule is not met for the requested medication at the point of service, coverage will be determined by the Criteria below. All approvals are provided for 1 year in duration.

Drug Quantity Limits

Product	Strength and Form	Retail Maximum Quantity per Rx	Home Delivery Maximum Quantity per Rx
Tykerb® (lapatinib tablets, generic)	250 mg tablets	180 tablets	540 tablets

Oncology – Lapatinib Drug Quantity Management Policy – Per Rx product(s) is(are) covered as medically necessary when the following criteria is(are) met. Any other exception is considered not medically necessary.

CRITERIA

1. If the patient is taking a strong cytochrome P450 (CYP)3A4 inducer, approve 660 tablets per dispensing at retail or 1,980 tablets per dispensing at home delivery.

Note: Examples of strong CYP3A4 inducers are dexamethasone, phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampin, rifabutin, rifapentine, phenobarbital, St. John’s wort; this is not an all-inclusive list.

REFERENCES

1. Tykerb® tablets [prescribing information]. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis; March 2022.
2. The NCCN Bone Cancer Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (Version 2.2024 – March 12, 2024). © 2024 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed on May 1, 2024.
3. The NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium. © 2024 National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed on May 1, 2024. Search terms: lapatinib.
4. The NCCN Central Nervous System Cancers Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (version 1.2023 – March 24, 2023). © 2023 National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed on May 1, 2024.
5. The NCCN Colon Cancer Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (version 2.2024 – April 30, 2024). © 2024 National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed on May 1, 2024.
6. The NCCN Breast Cancer Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (version 2.2024 – March 11, 2024). © 2024 National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed on May 1, 2024.
7. The NCCN Rectal Cancer Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (version 2.2024 – April 30, 2024). © 2024 National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed on May 1, 2024.
8. Stacchiotti S, Tamborini E, Lo Vullo S, et al. Phase II study on lapatinib in advanced EGFR-positive chordoma. *Ann Oncol*. 2013;24:1931-1936.

HISTORY

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Review Date
Annual Revision	Approval duration changed from 3 years to 1 year. Policy was updated to reflect the existing quantity limits when a product is obtained via home delivery.	05/24/2023
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	05/29/2024

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