



PRIOR AUTHORIZATION POLICY

POLICY: Sohonos Prior Authorization Policy

- Sohonos® (palovarotene capsules – Ipsen)

REVIEW DATE: 10/09/2024

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

THE FOLLOWING COVERAGE POLICY APPLIES TO HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS ADMINISTERED BY CIGNA COMPANIES. CERTAIN CIGNA COMPANIES AND/OR LINES OF BUSINESS ONLY PROVIDE UTILIZATION REVIEW SERVICES TO CLIENTS AND DO NOT MAKE COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS. REFERENCES TO STANDARD BENEFIT PLAN LANGUAGE AND COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS DO NOT APPLY TO THOSE CLIENTS. COVERAGE POLICIES ARE INTENDED TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE IN INTERPRETING CERTAIN STANDARD BENEFIT PLANS ADMINISTERED BY CIGNA COMPANIES. PLEASE NOTE, THE TERMS OF A CUSTOMER'S PARTICULAR BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT [GROUP SERVICE AGREEMENT, EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE, CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE, SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION (SPD) OR SIMILAR PLAN DOCUMENT] MAY DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THE STANDARD BENEFIT PLANS UPON WHICH THESE COVERAGE POLICIES ARE BASED. FOR EXAMPLE, A CUSTOMER'S BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT MAY CONTAIN A SPECIFIC EXCLUSION RELATED TO A TOPIC ADDRESSED IN A COVERAGE POLICY. IN THE EVENT OF A CONFLICT, A CUSTOMER'S BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT ALWAYS SUPERSEDES THE INFORMATION IN THE COVERAGE POLICIES. IN THE ABSENCE OF A CONTROLLING FEDERAL OR STATE COVERAGE MANDATE, BENEFITS ARE ULTIMATELY DETERMINED BY THE TERMS OF THE APPLICABLE BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT. COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS IN EACH SPECIFIC INSTANCE REQUIRE CONSIDERATION OF 1) THE TERMS OF THE APPLICABLE BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT IN EFFECT ON THE DATE OF SERVICE; 2) ANY APPLICABLE LAWS/REGULATIONS; 3) ANY RELEVANT COLLATERAL SOURCE MATERIALS INCLUDING COVERAGE POLICIES AND; 4) THE SPECIFIC FACTS OF THE PARTICULAR SITUATION. EACH COVERAGE REQUEST SHOULD BE REVIEWED ON ITS OWN MERITS. MEDICAL DIRECTORS ARE EXPECTED TO EXERCISE CLINICAL JUDGMENT AND HAVE DISCRETION IN MAKING INDIVIDUAL COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS. COVERAGE POLICIES RELATE EXCLUSIVELY TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS. COVERAGE POLICIES ARE NOT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TREATMENT AND SHOULD NEVER BE USED AS TREATMENT GUIDELINES. IN CERTAIN MARKETS, DELEGATED VENDOR GUIDELINES MAY BE USED TO SUPPORT MEDICAL NECESSITY AND OTHER COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS.

CIGNA NATIONAL FORMULARY COVERAGE:

OVERVIEW

Sohonos, a retinoid, is indicated for the reduction in volume of new heterotopic ossification in females ≥ 8 years of age and males ≥ 10 years of age with **fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva**.¹

Disease Overview

Fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva is an ultra-rare, autosomal dominant genetic disorder of connective tissue characterized by progressive heterotopic ossification resulting in disability, immobility, and reduced quality/length of life.² Patients experience episodes of painful inflammatory swelling in soft tissues (flare-ups), some of which will spontaneously resolve, but most will transform soft connective tissues into mature heterotopic bone. Eventually, plates, sheets, and ribbons of heterotopic bone permanently replace muscles and connective tissue, encasing the patient almost like an armor, resulting in progressive and permanent immobility. There are no formal diagnostic criteria for fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva.^{2,3} A clinical diagnosis can be made in patients with great toe malformations, tissue swelling, and heterotopic ossification, but genetic confirmation of an Activin A Type 1 Receptor (ACVR1) gene mutation is needed. All patients with fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva have a mutation in ACVR1, a gene encoding a bone morphogenetic protein type I receptor kinase.^{2,4} Approximately 97% of these patients have the same, heterozygous, single-nucleotide change in the glycine-serine activation domain of the ACVR1 (ACVR1^{R206H}).

Clinical Efficacy

In the pivotal study of Sohonos, patients were required to have fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva as confirmed by a pathogenic variant in ACVR1^{R206H}.^{1,5}

Guidelines

Medical management guidelines from the International Clinical Council on Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (2024) recommend that each patient with the disease should have a primary provider who is able to consult with an fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva expert and help coordinate a local care team.² The diagnosis of fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva is based on clinical findings, but requires genetic confirmation (i.e., ACVR1 gene mutation), which can be detected by DNA sequence analysis.

POLICY STATEMENT

Prior Authorization is recommended for prescription benefit coverage of Sohonos. All approvals are provided for the duration noted below. In the clinical criteria, as appropriate, an asterisk (*) is noted next to the specified gender. In this context, the specified gender is defined as follows: males are defined as individuals with the biological traits of a male, regardless of the individual's gender identity or gender expression; females are defined as individuals with the biological traits of a female, regardless of the individual's gender identity or gender expression. Because of the specialized skills required for evaluation and diagnosis of patients treated with Sohonos as well as the monitoring required for adverse events and long-term efficacy, approval requires Sohonos to be prescribed by or in consultation with a physician who specializes in the condition being treated.

- **Sohonos® (palovarotene capsules (Ipsen))**

is(are) covered as medically necessary when the following criteria is(are) met for FDA-approved indication(s) or other uses with supportive evidence (if applicable):

FDA-Approved Indications

- 1. Fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva.** Approve for 1 year if the patient meets ALL of the following (A, B, C, and D):
 - A)** Patient meets ONE of the following (i or ii):
 - i.** Patient is female* and ≥ 8 years of age; OR
 - ii.** Patient is male* and ≥ 10 years of age; AND
 - B)** Patient has had a genetic test confirming a mutation in Activin A Type 1 Receptor (ACVR1)^{R206H} consistent with a diagnosis of fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva; AND
 - C)** Patient has heterotopic ossification as confirmed by radiologic testing; AND
Note: Examples of radiologic testing are x-ray, computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), or positron emission tomography (PET) scan.
 - D)** The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with an endocrinologist or physician who specializes in bone disease.

CONDITIONS NOT COVERED

- **Sohonos® (palovarotene capsules (Ipsen))**

is(are) considered experimental, investigational, or unproven for ANY other use(s) including the following (this list may not be all inclusive; criteria will be updated as new published data are available):

- 1. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).** Sohonos is not indicated for the management of COPD.¹ Palovarotene was previously studied for the treatment of COPD but was found to be ineffective for this condition.⁷
- 2. Osteochondroma(s).** Sohonos is not indicated for the treatment and/or prevention of osteochondroma.¹ One Phase II study was initiated to evaluate Sohonos for the prevention of disease progression in pediatric patients with multiple osteochondromas.⁶ However, this study was terminated early in order to analyze accumulated data and evaluate the future of Sohonos for this use. Results are not available. More data are needed.

REFERENCES

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HISTORY

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Review Date
New Policy	--	09/13/2023
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	10/09/2024

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