Clinical Policy: Pegvisomant (Somavert)

Reference Number: LA.PHAR.389
Effective Date: 03.16.23
Last Review Date: 04.16.24 ~~06.25.23~~ Coding Implications
Line of Business: Medicaid Revision Log

See Important Reminder **at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information**.

****Please note: This is policy for medical benefit****

Description
Pegvisomant (Somavert®) is a growth hormone receptor antagonist.

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Somavert is indicated for the treatment of acromegaly in patients who have had an inadequate response to surgery or radiation therapy, or for whom these therapies are not appropriate. The goal of treatment is to normalize serum insulin-like growth factor-I (IGF-I) levels.

Policy/Criteria
~~-~~ *Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.*

It is the policy of Louisiana Healthcare Connections that Somavert is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Acromegaly (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of acromegaly as evidenced by one of the following (a or b):
   a. Pre-treatment IGF-I level above the upper limit of normal based on age and gender for the reporting laboratory;
   b. Serum growth hormone (GH) level ≥ 1 µg/mL after a 2-hour oral glucose tolerance test;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an endocrinologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Inadequate response to surgical resection or pituitary irradiation (*see Appendix D*), or member is not a candidate for such treatment;
5. Failure of a somatostatin analog* at up to maximally indicated doses, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced (*see Appendix B*);
   **Prior authorization may be required for somatostatin analogs*
6. Dose does not exceed the following:
   a. Loading dose: 40 mg once;
   b. Maintenance dose: 30 mg per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

Formatted: Font: Bold
Formatted: Font: Bold

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2)**:**
1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to LA.PMN.255
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy LA.PMN.53

II. Continued Therapy

A. Acromegaly (must meet all):
1. Currently receiving medication via Louisiana Healthcare Connections benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively therapy (*see Appendix D*);
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 30 mg per day.

Approval duration: 12 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2)**:**
1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to LA.PMN.255
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy LA.PMN.53

III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:

A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off label use policy – LA.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

FDA: Food and Drug Administration
~~GH: Growth Hormone~~
GH: growth hormone
SRL: somatostatin receptor ligand
IGF: insulin-like growth factor

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent ~~for all relevant lines of business~~ and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
octreotide (Sandostatin® [SC, IV],	**Acromegaly** Initial: 50 mcg SC or IV TID	1,500 mcg/day (SC~~/~~, IV)
	Maintenance: 100 to 500 mcg SC or IV TID	40 mg every 4 weeks (IM)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold
Formatted: Font: Bold, Font color: Black
Formatted: Font: Not Bold
Formatted: Font color: Text 1
Formatted: Font: Bold
Formatted: Font: Bold
Formatted: Font: Bold
Formatted: List Paragraph
Formatted: Font color: Auto
Formatted: Indent: First line: 0.25"
Formatted Table
Formatted: Superscript

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
Sandostatin® LAR Depot [IM])	For patients stable on SC formulation: patients can switch to 20 mg IM intragluteally every 4 weeks for 3 months, then adjust dose based on clinical response	
Somatuline® Depot (lanreotide)	**Acromegaly** 90 mg SC once every 4 weeks for 3 months, then adjust dose based on clinical response	120 mg once every 4 weeks
Signifor® LAR (pasireotide)	**Acromegaly** 40 mg to 60 mg IM every 4 weeks	60 mg once every 4 weeks

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name® (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name®) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings
None reported

Appendix D: General Information

- Recommendations from the 13th Acromegaly Consensus Conference (*Guistina 2020*) include:
  - Somatostatin receptor ligands (SRLs) such as octreotide LAR and lanreotide are used as first-line medical therapy due to their favorable risk/benefit profiles.
  - Pegvisomant is generally used as second-line therapy in patients who do not achieve biochemical control with maximal doses of SRL therapy.

- Examples of treatment response to acromegaly therapy (including somatostatin analogs, surgical resection or pituitary irradiation) include improvement from baseline in or normalization of GH and/or age- and sex-adjusted IGF-~~1~~I serum concentrations, or tumor mass control.

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Acromegaly	Loading ~~Dose~~dose: 40 mg SC under healthcare provider supervision Maintenance dose: 10 to 30 mg SC QD	Maintenance: 30 mg/day

VI. Product Availability

Single-use ~~vial~~vials with powder for reconstitution: 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, 25 mg, 30 mg

VII. References

1. Somavert Prescribing Information. New York, NY: Pfizer Pharmacia & Upjohn Co; ~~August 2021~~July 2023. Available at ~~http://labeling.pfizer.com/ShowLabeling.aspx?id=3213.~~: https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2023/021106s074lbl.pdf. Accessed on ~~July 20, 2022~~August 3, 2023.

Formatted Table
Formatted: Font: Bold
Formatted: Font: Bold
Formatted: Body Text
Formatted: Body Text, Indent: Left: 0.5"
Formatted: Font: Bold
Formatted Table
Formatted: Indent: Hanging: 0.31", Keep with next

2. Melmed S, Bronstein MD, Chanson P. A Consensus Statement on acromegaly therapeutic outcomes. Nat Rev Endocrinol. 2018 Sep;14(9):552-561. doi: 10.1038/s41574-018-0058-5. ~~Availble at: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41574-018-0058-5.~~
3. Katznelson L, Laws Jr. ER, Melmed S, et al. Acromegaly: an Endocrine Society clinical practice guideline. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2014;99:3933-3951.
4. Micromedex® Healthcare Series [Internet database]. Greenwood Village, Colo: Thomson Healthcare. Updated periodically. Accessed ~~July 20, 2022.~~August 3, 2023.
5. Fleseriu M, Biller BMK, Freda PU, et al. A Pituitary Society update to acromegaly management guidelines. Pituitary. 2021; 24: 1-13.
6. Guistina A, Barkhoudarian G, Beckers A, et al. Multidisciplinary management of acromegaly: A consensus. Rev Endocr Metab Disord. 2020; 21(4): 667-678.

Coding Implications

Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

HCPCS Codes	Description
J3590, C9399	Unclassified drugs or biologicals

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	LDH Approval Date
Converted corporate to local policy.	02.23	03.16.23
Updated criteria for other diagnoses/indications	06.25.23	10.05.23
Annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated	04.16.24	

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. LHCC makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy,

contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable LHCC administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by LHCC. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. LHCC retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom LHCC has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of LHCC.

This clinical policy is the property of LHCC. Unauthorized copying, use, and distribution of this clinical policy or any information contained herein are strictly prohibited. Providers, members and their representatives are bound to the terms and conditions expressed herein through the terms of their contracts. Where no such contract exists, providers, members and their representatives agree to be bound by such terms and conditions by providing services to members and/or submitting claims for payment for such services.