

MEDICATION COVERAGE POLICY

PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

POLICY:	Pulmonary Hypertension	P&T DATE:	5/14/2019
CLASS:	Respiratory Disorders	REVIEW HISTORY:	5/18, 12/16, 11/15, 5/13
LOB:	MCL	(month/year)	

This policy has been developed through review of medical literature, consideration of medical necessity, generally accepted medical practice standards, and approved by the HPSJ Pharmacy and Therapeutic Advisory Committee.

OVERVIEW

Table 1: Formulary Pulmonary Hypertension Agents (Current as of 3/2019)

Therapeutic Class	Drug	Available Strengths	Formulary Limits	Avg Cost/Rx*	Notes/Restriction Language
Calcium Channel Blockers (CCB)	Dihydropyridine:				
	Amlodipine (Norvasc) Dose range for PAH: 20 - 30 mg qd	Tablets:			
		2.5 mg	PA, QL	\$0.54	Restricted to 1 tablet per day. Submit PA for larger quantities For PAH Group I patients, PA is required to dose at 20 to 30 mg per day.
		5 mg		\$0.58	
		10 mg		\$0.98	
	Nifedipine (Adalat CC, Afeditab CR, Nifediac CC, Nifedical XL, Procardia XL) Dose range for PAH: 180 - 240 mg qd	IR Capsules:			
		10 mg	--	\$40.08	--
		20 mg	--	\$124.14	--
		24 Hour ER Tablets:			
		30 mg	--	\$11.99	--
		60 mg	--	\$22.56	--
		90 mg	--	\$33.02	--
		XL Tablets:			
		30 mg	--	--	--
		60 mg	--	--	--
	Non-Dihydropyridine:				
	Diltiazem (Cardizem, Cardizem CD, Cardizem LA, Cartia XT, Dilacor XR, Dilt-XR, Martizem LA, Tiazac XC) Dose range for PAH: 720 - 960 mg qd	CD Capsules:			
		120 mg	--	--	--
		180 mg	--	--	--
		240 mg	--	--	--
300mg		--	--	--	
360 mg		NF	--	--	
XR capsules:					
120 mg		--	\$13.41	--	
180 mg		--	\$18.17	--	
240 mg		--	\$24.30	--	

		12 Hour ER Capsules:			
		60 mg	NF	\$87.70	--
		90 mg	NF	\$74.40	--
		120 mg	NF	\$145.60	--
		24 Hour ER Capsules:			
		120 mg	--	\$12.86	--
		180 mg	--	\$16.51	--
		240 mg	--	\$16.73	--
		300 mg	--	\$22.48	--
		360 mg	NF	\$126.28	--
		420 mg	--	\$38.32	--
		IR Tablets:			
		30mg	--	\$8.07	--
		60 mg	--	\$12.68	--
		90 mg	--	\$15.98	--
		120 mg	--	\$16.94	--
		ER Tablets:			
		180 mg	--	\$61.29	--
		240 mg	--	\$70.80	--
		360 mg	--	\$100.82	--
		Cardizem LA Tablets:			
		120 mg	--	\$116.89	--
		Cartia XT Capsules:			
		120 mg	NF	\$13.09	--
		180 mg	NF	\$14.37	--
		240 mg	NF	\$14.01	--
		300 mg	NF	\$23.12	--
		Taztia XT Capsules:			
		120 mg	NF	\$15.08	--
		180 mg	NF	\$15.67	--
		240 mg	NF	\$19.52	--
		360 mg	NF	--	--
		Matzim LA Tablets:			
		180 mg	NF	\$61.35	--
		240 mg	NF	\$70.79	--
Phosphodiesterase-5 Inhibitors (PDE-5i)	Sildenafil (Revatio) Dose range for PAH: 720 – 960 mg qd	20 mg	PA, ST	\$60.33	WHO FC II-IV with: (-) vasoreactivity test OR

					(+) vasoreactivity test and dose optimized CCB for 3 months	
	Tadalafil (Adcirca)	ADCIRCA 20 mg	NF	\$3,510.01	--	
		5 MG	NF	\$242.92		
		20 MG		\$3,189.28	WHO FC II-IV with: (-) vasoreactivity test dose optimized CCB for 3 months who have tried and failed, or intolerant to, dose optimized therapy with Sildenafil for 3 months. OR (+) vasoreactivity test and dose optimized CCB for 3 months who have tried and failed, or intolerant to, dose optimized therapy with Sildenafil for 3 months.	
Endothelin Receptor Antagonists (ERA)	Bosentan (Tracleer)	62.5 mg	PA, ST	--	WHO FC II-IV with: Inadequate response or contraindication to either Ambrisentan or Macitentan	
		125 mg		\$11,026.25		
	Ambrisentan (Letairis)	5 mg		\$9,366.77	WHO FC II-IV with: [1] Inadequate response to dose optimized PDE-5i for 3 months for (-) vasoreactive patients OR [2] Inadequate response to dose optimized combination therapy of CCB and PDE5i for 3 months for (+) vasoreactive patients OR [3] Contraindications to PDE5i	
		10 mg		\$9,385.30		
Macitentan (Opsumit)	10 mg	\$9,210.31				
Prostanoids	Epoprostenol (Flolan, Veletri)	VELETRI IV Solution:				
		0.5mg	PA, ST	--	[1] WHO FC IV OR [2] Inadequate response to dose optimized PDE-5i and ERA for 3 months for (-) vasoreactive patients OR [3] Inadequate response to dose optimized CCB plus PDE-5i AND ERA for 3 months for (+) vasoreactivity test OR [4] Patients with clinical evidence of Right Ventricle (RV) failure or moderate to rapid rate of progression of symptoms/disease	
	1.5mg	\$2,017.35				
	Iloprost Tromethamine (Ventavis)	Ventavis Inhalation Solution:				
		10 mcg/mL	PA, ST	--		
	20 mcg/mL	--				
	Treprostinil	Remodulin (IV or SQ):				
		1 mg/mL	PA, ST	--		
		2.5 mg/mL		--		
		5 mg/mL		\$15,279.84		
		10 mg/mL		\$30,451.71		
	Orenitram ER tablets:					
	0.125mg	NF	\$275.31			
	0.25 mg		\$1,020.92			
	1 mg		\$4,252.48			

		2.5mg		\$7,670.78	
		5 mg		\$23,935.19	
		Tyvaso Inhalation:			
		Starter Kit (includes nebulizer).	PA, ST	--	[1] WHO FC III AND one of the following: [2] Inadequate response to dose optimized PDE-5i and ERA for 3 months for (-) vasoreactive patients OR [3] Inadequate response to dose optimized CCB plus PDE-5i AND ERA for 3 months for (+) vasoreactive patients OR [4] Contraindication to PDE-5i, Riociguat and ERA
		Refill Kit		\$16,033.48	
Soluble Guanyl Cyclase (sGC) Stimulants	Riociguat (Adempas)	0.5 mg	PA, ST	\$10,420.50	[1] WHO Group IV (Chronic Thromboembolic Pulmonary Hypertension- CTPH): after surgical treatment or inoperable or recurrent disease OR [2] WHO Group I PAH FC II to III: as a sequential add on to Bosentan*** with treatment failure to Sildenafil or contraindication to Sildenafil
		1 mg		--	
		1.5 mg		--	
		2 mg		--	
		2.5 mg		--	
IP Receptor Agonists	Selexipag Oral Tablets (Uptravi)	200 mcg	PA, ST	\$15,021.31	[1] WHO FC III to IV AND one of the following: [2] Inadequate response to dose optimized PDE-5i and ERA for 3 months for (-) vasoreactive patients OR [3] Inadequate response to dose optimized CCB plus PDE-5i AND ERA for 3 months for (+) vasoreactivity test OR [4] Contraindication to PDE-5i, Riociguat and ERA
		400 mcg			
		600 mcg			
		800 mcg		\$13,323.45	
		1,000 mcg			
		1,200 mcg			
		1,400 mcg			
		1,600 mcg		\$17,638.39	
		200 mg Therapy Pack		\$24,872.40	
		800 mg Therapy Pack			

⊕ EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL/EXCEPTION CONSIDERATION

Below are the coverage criteria and required information for each agent. These coverage criteria have been reviewed approved by the HPSJ Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Advisory Committee. For conditions not covered under this Coverage Policy, HPSJ will make the determination based on Medical Necessity as described in HPSJ Medical Review Guidelines (UM06).

- Basic Criteria:** [1] Prescribed by a Cardiologist, Pulmonologist, or Critical care
[2] Diagnosis of Pulmonary Artery Hypertension, WHO GROUP I
[3] WHO Functional Class (WHO FC) II-IV
[4] Right Heart Catheterization with Vasoreactivity test

Calcium Channel Blocker: Amlodipine, Nifedipine, Diltiazem
Nifedipine, Amlodipine, Diltiazem

- Coverage Criteria:** None
- Limits:** Current limit for Amlodipine is 1 tablet per day. Amlodipine dose of 20 mg to 30 mg per day for IPAH requires PA
- Required Information for Approval:** N/A
- Non-Formulary:** Diltiazem CD 24 hour capsules, Diltiazem ER 24 hour capsules

Phosphodiesterase-5 Inhibitors (PDE-5i): Sildenafil, Tadalafil

Sildenafil (Revatio)

- Coverage Criteria:** Reserved for patients with IPAH WHO FC II-IV with: (-) vasoreactivity test **OR** (+) vasoreactivity test and dose optimized CCB for 3 months
- Limits:** None
- Required Information for Approval:** Basic criteria as listed above plus all of the following: clinical documentation of inadequate response to dose optimized CCB for 3 months evidenced by worsening of symptoms (i.e. decline in 6MWD) and pharmacy fill history.

Tadalafil (Adcirca)

- Coverage Criteria:** Reserved for patients with IPAH WHO FC II-IV with: (-) vasoreactivity test **OR** (+) vasoreactivity test and dose optimized CCB for 3 months who have tried and failed, or intolerant to, dose optimized therapy with Sildenafil for 3 months.
- Limits:** None
- Required Information for Approval:** Basic criteria as listed above plus all of the following: clinical documentation of inadequate response to dose optimized CCB and Sildenafil for 3 months evidenced by worsening of symptoms (i.e. decline in 6MWD) and pharmacy fill history for (+) vasoreactive patients **OR** for (-) vasoreactive patients, clinical documentation of inadequate response to dose optimized Sildenafil for 3 months evidenced by worsening of symptoms (i.e. decline in 6MWD) and pharmacy fill history

Endothelin Receptor Antagonists (ERAs): Bosentan, Ambrisentan, Macitentan

Macitentan (Opsumit), Ambrisentan (Letairis)

- Coverage Criteria:** Adequate trial of dose optimized PDE-5i for 3 months for [-]vasoreactive patients **OR** adequate trial of dose optimized CCB and PDE-5i for 3 months for [+]vasoreactive patients **OR** contraindication to PDE-5i
- Limits:** None
- Required Information for Approval:** Basic criteria as listed above plus all of the following: clinical documentation of inadequate response to dose optimized PDE-5i for 3 months for [-]vasoreactive patients or inadequate response to dose optimized PDE-5i and CCB for 3 months for [+]vasoreactive patients evidenced by worsening of symptoms (i.e. decline in 6MWD) and pharmacy fill history, or the nature of the contraindication to PDE-5i

Bosentan (Tracleer)

- Coverage Criteria:** Inadequate response or contraindication to either Ambrisentan or Macitentan
- Limits:** None
- Required Information for Approval:** Basic criteria as listed above and clinical documentation of inadequate response or contraindication to either Ambrisentan or Macitentan evidenced by pharmacy fill history +/- documentation of the nature of contraindication

Prostanoids: Epoprostenol, Iloprost, Treprostinil

Epoprostenol (Flolan, Veletri), Iloprost (Ventavis), Treprostinil (Orenitram, Remodulin)

- Coverage Criteria:** [1] WHO FC IV **OR** [2] Inadequate response to dose optimized PDE-5i and ERA for 3 months for (-) vasoreactive patients **OR** [3] Inadequate response to dose optimized CCB plus PDE-5i **AND** ERA for 3 months for (+) vasoreactivity test **OR** [4] Patients with clinical evidence of Right Ventricle (RV) failure or moderate to rapid rate of progression of symptoms/disease
- Limits:** None
- Required Information for Approval:** Basic criteria as listed above, clinical documentation of inadequate response evidenced by worsening of symptoms (i.e. decline in 6MWD), and pharmacy fill history or clinical evidence of Right Ventricle (RV) failure or moderate to rapid rate of progression of symptoms/disease
- Non-Formulary:** Orenitram ER tablets

Treprostinil Inhalation (Tyvaso)

- Coverage Criteria:** WHO FC III **AND one of the following:** [1] Inadequate response to dose optimized PDE-5i and ERA for 3 months for (-) vasoreactive patients **OR** [2] Inadequate response to dose optimized CCB plus PDE-5i AND ERA for 3 months for (+) vasoreactive patients **OR** [3] Contraindication to PDE-5i, Riociguat and ERA
- Limits:** None
- Required Information for Approval:** Basic criteria as listed above, clinical documentation of inadequate response evidenced by worsening of symptoms (i.e. decline in 6MWD), and pharmacy fill history +/- documentation of the nature of contraindication

Soluble Guanylate Cyclase Stimulants: Riociguat

Riociguat (Adempas)

- Coverage Criteria:** [1] WHO Group IV (Chronic Thromboembolic Pulmonary Hypertension- CTPH): after surgical treatment or inoperable or recurrent disease **OR** [2] WHO Group I PAH FC II to III: as a sequential add on to Bosentan with treatment failure to Sildenafil or contraindication to Sildenafil
- Limits:** None
- Required Information for Approval:** Basic criteria plus specific coverage criteria as listed above, clinical documentation of inadequate response evidenced by worsening of symptoms (i.e. decline in 6MWD), and pharmacy fill history +/- documentation of the nature of contraindication

Prostacyclin IP Receptor Agonist: Selexipag (Uptravi)

Selexipag (Uptravi)

- Coverage Criteria:** WHO FC III to IV **AND one of the following:** [1] Inadequate response to dose optimized PDE-5i and ERA for 3 months for (-) vasoreactive patients **OR** [2] Inadequate response to dose optimized CCB plus PDE-5i AND ERA for 3 months for (+) vasoreactivity test **OR** [3] Contraindication to PDE-5i, Riociguat and ERA
- Limits:** None
- Required Information for Approval:** Basic criteria plus specific coverage criteria clinical documentation of inadequate response evidenced by worsening of symptoms (i.e. decline in 6MWD), and pharmacy fill history +/- documentation of the nature of contraindication

Clinical Justification:

Diagnosis of Pulmonary Hypertension requires Right Heart Catheterization (RHC)⁵. Following the current Pulmonary Arteriole Hypertension recommendation, HPSJ formulary has set RHC and vasoreactivity test as a part of the requirements and restricts medications based on clinical evidence. Calcium channel blockers are the preferred agent in patients who can tolerate them, and who have shown good response during right heart catheterization, unless contraindicated. Drugs are restricted based on WHO Functional Class and patient's prior use of PAH medications. ERAs are not benign drugs. They are teratogenic, can potentially cause LFT elevations in patients who take them chronically, and can cause fluid retention. Sildenafil is widely available and relatively benign, thus carries few restrictions, while intravenous prostanoids carry significant risk, and should not be used unless all other therapeutic agents have been exhausted. Although 2019 Chest Guideline suggests Ambrisentan and Tadalafil as an initial therapy for WHO FC II and II, weak recommendation resulting from borderline clinically significant improvement in 6MWD, no change in WHO FC, variabilities of end points in clinical trial and studies, and the fact that the guideline does not prefer one regimen over the other in this treatment group, HPSJ has decided not to modify current PAH coverage criteria.

Triage:

- **Appropriate diagnosis: WHO Group I, and WHO Functional Class II-IV**
- **Right Heart Catheterization (RHC) with vasoreactivity test**
- **Provider Specialty- cardiologist, pulmonologist, or critical care provider**
- **Current Pulmonary Hypertension drugs**

☒ REFERENCES

1. HPSJ Formulary Criteria
2. Sitbon O., Channick R., Chin KM, et al. Selexipag for the Treatment of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension. *N Engl J Med* 2015; 373:2522-33
3. Galiè N, Humbert M, Vachiery JL, et al. 2015 ESC/ERS Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension. *Eur Heart J*. 2016; 37(1):67-119.
4. Whelton PK, Carey RM, et al. 2017 ACC/AHA/AAPA/ABC/ACPM/AGS/APhA/ASH/ASPC/NMA/PCNA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults, *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2017.11.006
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7. Galiè N et al. Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary hypertension. *Eur Heart J* 2009; 30:2493-537.
8. Gaile N, Corris PA, Frost A, et al. Updated treatment algorithm of pulmonary arterial hypertension. *J AM Coll Cardiol* 2013;62:D60-72
9. McLaughlin V, Badesch D, Barst R, et. al. ACCF/AHA 2009 Expert consensus document on pulmonary hypertension: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation Task Force on Expert Consensus Documents and the American Heart Association. *Circulation*. 2009;119:2250 –2294.
10. Galie N, Barbera J, Frost A, et al. Initial use of Ambrisentan plus Tadalafil in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension. August 27, 2015 *N Engl J Med* 2015; 373:834-844 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1413687
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12. Falk J, Phillip K., and Schwarz R., The emergence of oral tadalafil as a once-daily treatment for pulmonary arterial hypertension. *Vasc Health Risk Manag*. 2010; 6: 273–280.
13. Lajoie AC, Lauzière G, Lega J., et. al., Combination therapy versus monotherapy for pulmonary arterial hypertension: a meta-analysis. *Lancet Respir Med*. 2016 Apr;4(4):291-305. doi: 10.1016/S2213-2600(16)00027-8. Epub 2016 Feb 27.
14. Galiè N, Brundage BH, Ghofrani HA., et. al., Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension and Response to Tadalafil (PHIRST) Study Group. Possible blunting effect of Bosentan on Tadalafil due to Drug drug interactions -- Tadalafil therapy for pulmonary arterial hypertension. *Circulation*. 2009 Jun 9; 119(22):2894-903.
15. J Klinger, C Elliot, D Levine et al., Therapy for Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension in Adults Update of the CHEST Guideline and Expert Panel Report. *CHEST* 2019; 155(3):565-586.
16. Nazzareno Galiè, Vallerie V. McLaughlin, Lewis J. Rubin, Gerald Simonneau. An overview of the 6th World Symposium on Pulmonary Hypertension. *European Respiratory Journal* 2019 53: 1802148; DOI: 10.1183/13993003.02148-2018.
17. A Frost, D Badesch, J. Simon, et al. Diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension *European Respiratory Journal* 2019 53: 1801904; DOI: 10.1183/13993003.01904-2018.

☒ REVIEW & EDIT HISTORY

Document Changes	Reference	Date	P&T Chairman
Creation of Policy	PAH Class Review 5-21-2013.docx	5/2013	Jonathan Szkotak, PharmD BCACP
Update Policy	Drug Class Review – Respiratory disorders – Pulmonary Hypertension 2015-11.docx	11/2015	Johnathan Yeh, PharmD
Update Policy	HPSJ Coverage Policy – Respiratory disorders – Pulmonary Hypertension 2016-12.docx	12/2016	Johnathan Yeh, PharmD
Update Policy	HPSJ Coverage Policy – Respiratory disorders – Pulmonary Hypertension 2018-05.docx	5/2018	Johnathan Yeh, PharmD
Update Policy	HPSJ Coverage Policy – Respiratory disorders – Pulmonary Hypertension 2019-05.docx	5/2019	Matthew Garrett, PharmD

Note: All changes are approved by the HPSJ P&T Committee before incorporation into the utilization policy