

## Clinical Policy: Brentuximab Vedotin (Adcetris)

Reference Number: LA.PHAR.303

Effective Date: 07.23.22

Last Review Date: <u>09.17.25</u>04.28.25

Line of Business: Medicaid

Coding Implications
Revision Log

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

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

## Description

Brentuximab vedotin for injection (Adcetris®) is a CD30-directed antibody and microtuble inhibitordrug conjugate.

#### FDA Approved Indication(s)

Adcetris is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with:

- Classical Hodgkin lymphoma:
  - Previously untreated Stage III or IV classical Hodgkin lymphoma (cHL), in combination with doxorubicin, vinblastine, and dacarbazine
  - cHL at high risk of relapse or progression as post-autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (auto-HSCT) consolidation
  - o cHL after failure of auto-HSCT or after failure of at least two prior multi-agent chemotherapy regimens in patients who are not auto-HSCT candidates
- <u>T-cell lymphomas:</u>
  - Previously untreated systemic anaplastic large cell lymphoma (sALCL) or other CD30expressing peripheral T-cell lymphomas (PTCL), including angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma and PTCL not otherwise specified, in combination with cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, and prednisone
  - o sALCL after failure of at least one prior multi-agent chemotherapy regimen
- Primary cutaneous lymphomas:
  - o Primary cutaneous anaplastic large cell lymphoma (pcALCL) or CD30-expressing mycosis fungoides (MF) who have received prior systemic therapy
- B-cell lymphoma:
  - Relapsed or refractory large B-cell lymphoma (LBCL), including diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) not otherwise specified (NOS), DLBCL arising from indolent lymphoma, or high-grade B-cell lymphoma (HGBL), after two or more lines of systemic therapy who are not eligible for auto-HSCT or chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy, in combination with lenalidomide and a rituximab product

Adcetris is indicated for the treatment of pediatric patients 2 years old and older with:

- Classical Hodgkin lymphoma:
  - Previously untreated high risk cHL, in combination with doxorubicin, vincristine, etoposide, prednisone, and cyclophosphamide

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## CLINICAL POLICY Brentuximab Vedotin

### 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<sup>®</sup> that Adcetris is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

### I. Initial Approval Criteria

- A. Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma in Adults (must meet all):
  - 1. Diagnosis of cHL;
  - 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
  - 3. Age  $\geq$  18 years\*;
    - \*-If age is between 2 to 21 years, consider using I.B cHL in Pediatric and Adolescent Patients below.
  - 4. If previously untreated disease, prescribed in one of the following ways (a, b, or c):
    - a. In combination with AVD (doxorubicin, vinblastine; and dacarbazine);
       If vinblastine is unavailable due to shortage, may be prescribed in combination with CHP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, prednisone) instead
    - b. For age > 60 years: In combination with dacarbazine <u>or nivolumab</u>;
    - c. For stage III-IV disease and age 18-61 years OR Deauville score 4-5: As a component of BrECADD (brentuximab vedotin, etoposide, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, dacarbazine, dexamethasone); with granulocyte colony-stimulating factor;
  - 5. If released or refractory disease, prescribed in one of the following ways (a-e):
    - a. As a single agent;
    - b. In combination with bendamustine;
    - c. In combination with ICE (ifosfamide, carboplatin, etoposide);
    - d. In combination with nivolumab;
    - e. Following high-dose therapy and autologous stem cell rescue;
  - 6. Request meets one of the following (a or b):\*\*
    - a. Dose does not exceed (i, ii, or iii):
      - i. Previously untreated Stage III or IV cHL: 1.2 mg/kg up to 120 mg every 2 weeks for a maximum of 12 doses;
      - ii. cHL consolidation: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks for a maximum of 16 cycles;
      - iii. Relapsed cHL: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks;
    - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).
    - \*\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

## **Approval duration: 6 months**

### B. Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma in Pediatric and Adolescent Patients (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of cHL;
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
- 3. Age between 2 years to 21 years;
- 4. One of the following (a, b, or c):



- a. If previously untreated: Prescribed as a component of Bv AVE PC (brentuximab vedotin, doxorubicin, vincristine, etoposide, prednisone, eyelophosphamide) or one of the following (i, ii, iii, or iv): AEPA (brentuximab vedotin, etoposide, prednisone, doxorubicin);
  - Bv-AVE-PC (brentuximab vedotin, doxorubicin, vincristine, etoposide, prednisone, cyclophosphamide);
  - ii. AEPA (brentuximab vedotin, etoposide, prednisone, doxorubicin);
  - Stage III-IV disease only: Bv-AVD (brentuximab vedotin, doxorubicin, vinblastine, dacarbazine);
  - iv. Stage III-IV disease only: BrECADD (brentuximab vedotin, etoposide, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, dacarbazine, dexamethasone);
- b. If following AEPA: Prescribed as a component of CAPDAC (cyclophosphamide, brentuximab vedotin, prednisone, dacarbazine);
- c. For relapsed or refracoryrefractory disease (i or ii):
  - i. Prescribed in combination with involved-site radiation therapy (ISRT<del>) or</del>), bendamustine, involumab, or gemcitabine;
  - #i.—Prescribed following high-dose therapy and autologous stem cell rescue;
  - 5-ii. For all requests except when prescribed in combination with ISRT or bendamustine/nivolumab/gemcitabine: Disease is classified as for high-risk (see Appendix D disease (progressive disease, refractory disease, or relapse within 1 year of original diagnosis);
- 5. If request is for stage I-II disease, member has risk factors (see Appendix D);
- 6. Request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - a. Dose does not exceed: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks for a maximum of 5 doses;
  - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

    \*\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

## **Approval duration: 6 months**

### C. T-Cell Lymphomas (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of one of the following (a, b, c, d, or e):
  - a. PTCL any of the following subtypes/histologies (i or ii):
    - i. sALCL;
    - ii. PTCL, including but not limited to the following (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5):
      - 1) Angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma;
      - 2) Enteropathy-associated T-cell lymphoma;
      - 3) Monomorphic epitheliotropic intestinal T-cell lymphoma;
      - 4) Nodal PTCL with TFH phenotype;
      - 5) Follicular T-cell lymphoma;
  - b. Breast implant-associated ALCL (off-label);
  - c. Adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma (off-label);
  - d. Relapsed or refractory extranodal NK/T-cell lymphoma (off-label);
  - e. Hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma (off-label);
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;

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- 3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
- 4. For all requests except ALCL: Disease is CD30-positive;
- 5. Prescribed in one of the following ways (a, b, or c):
  - a. As a single agent:
  - b. In combination with CHP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, prednisone);
  - c. For PTCL, breast implant-associated ALCL, or hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma only: In combination with bendamustine for relapsed/refractory disease;
- 6. Request meets one of the following (a, b, or c):\*
  - a. Previously untreated sALCL or other CD30-positive PTCL including angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma: Dose does not exceed 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks with each cycle of chemotherapy for 6 to 8 doses;
  - b. Relapsed sALCL: Dose does not exceed 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks;
  - c. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

### Approval duration: 6 months

#### D. Primary Cutaneous CD30+ T-Cell Lymphoproliferative Disorders (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of one of the following (a, b, or c):
  - a. pcALCL:
  - b. Cutaneous ALCL with multifocal lesions or lymph node positive (off-label);
  - c. Lymphomatoid papulosis as subsequent therapy for relapsed/refractory disease (off-label);
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
- 3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
- 4. Disease is CD30-positive;
- 5. Request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - Relapsed pcALCL: Dose does not exceed 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks for a maximum of 16 cycles;
  - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

### Approval duration: 6 months

## E. Mycosis Fungoides/Sezary Syndrome (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of MF or Sezary syndrome (off-label);
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
- 3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
- Prescribed as a single agent, in combination with skin directed therapy, or in combination with bendamustineskin-directed therapy;
- 5. Request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - a. Relapsed CD30-positive MF: Dose does not exceed 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks for a maximum of 16 cycles;
  - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

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## CLINICAL POLICY Brentuximab Vedotin

\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

#### **Approval duration: 6 months**

### F. B-Cell Lymphomas (must meet all):

- 1. Diagnosis of one of the following (a, b, c, d, or e):
  - a. LBCL;
  - b. DLBCL;
  - c. HGBL;
  - d. HIV-related B-cell lymphoma (off-label);
  - e. Monomorphic post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder (PTLD) (B-cell type) (off-label):
- 2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
- 3. One of the following (a or b):
  - a. Age  $\geq$  18 years and is prescribed in one of the following ways (i, ii, iii, or iv):
    - i. In combination with lenalidomide and rituximab;
    - ii. In combination with rituximab (off-label);
    - iii. In combination with nivolumab (off-label);
    - iv. As a single agent (off-label);
  - b. Age < 18 years (off-label) and both of the following (i and ii):
    - i. Disease is primary mediastinal LBCL;
    - ii. Prescribed in combination with nivolumab or pembrolizumab;
- 4. Disease is CD30-positive;
- 5. Disease is relapsed or refractory;
- 6. Adcetris is prescribed as subsequent therapy;
- Member is not a candidate for allogeneic, autologous stem cell transplant, or CAR Tcell therapy;
- 8. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
  - a. LBCL: Dose does not exceed 1.2 mg/kg up to 120 mg every 3 weeks;
  - b. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA-approved indication or is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).\*

\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

### Approval duration: 6 months

## **G. Other diagnoses/indications** (must meet 1 or 2):

- 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. All Indications in Section I (must meet all):

- Currently receiving medication via Louisiana Healthcare Connection benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Adcetris for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
- 2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
- 3. If request is for a dose increase, request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - a. New dose does not exceed (i-ix):
    - Previously untreated Stage III or IV cHL in adults: 1.2 mg/kg up to 120 mg every 2 weeks for a maximum of 12 doses;
    - ii. Previously untreated high risk cHL in pediatric and adolescent patients: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks for a maximum of 5 doses;
    - iii. cHL consolidation in adults: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks for a maximum of 16 cycles;
    - iv. Relapsed cHL in adults: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks;
    - v. Previously untreated sALCL or other CD30-positive PTCL including angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma in adults: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks with each cycle of chemotherapy for 6 to 8 doses;
    - vi. Relapsed sALCL in adults: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks;
    - vii. Relapsed pcALCL in adults: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks for a maximum of 16 cycles;
    - viii. Relapsed CD30-positive MF in adults: 1.8 mg/kg up to 180 mg every 3 weeks for a maximum of 16 cycles;
    - ix. LBCL: 1.2 mg/kg up to 120 mg every 3 weeks;
  - b. New dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN

### **Approval duration: 12 months**

#### **B.** Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):

- 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.

## IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key CAR: chimeric antigen receptor

cHL: classical Hodgkin lymphoma

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DLBCL: disffuse large B-cell lymphoma FDA: Food and Drug Administration HGBL: high-grade B-cell lymphoma HSCT: hematopoietic stem cell transplantation

LBCL: large B-cell lymphoma ISRT: involved-site radiation therapy

MF: mycosis fungoides

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NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network

NOS: not otherwise specified

pcALCL: primary cutaneous anaplastic large •

cell lymphoma

PTCL: peripheral T-cell lymphoma sALCL: systemic analplastic large cell

lymphoma

SS: Sezary syndrome

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives Not applicable

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

- Contraindication(s): concomitant use with bleomycin due to pulmonary toxicity
- Boxed warning(s): progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy

Appendix D: Definitions of High-Risk Disease Factors for Pediatric cHL
Per NCCN, high-risk disease is factors for pediatric cHL, defined as by EuroNET-PHL and Children's Oncolog Group (COG), include:

- Stage IIB-Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) > 30 mm/h
- B symptoms (unexplained recurrent fever > 38°C within the last month; drenching night sweats; or weight loss > 10% of body weight within 6 months of diagnosis)
- Mediastinal mass with bulk disease\*
- \*Large\_mediastinal adenopathy (LMA): a mediastinal mass where the tumor diameter is > 1/3 the maximal thoracic diameter on an upright posteroanterior (PA) chest radiograph OR large extramediastinal nodal aggregate: a contiguous extramediastinal nodal aggregate that measures > 6 cm in the longest transverse diameter (transaxial measurement) or craniocaudal dimension (measured on reformatted computed tomography)mass ratio (MMR) > 0.33
- Stage IIIA
- Stage IIIB with Any E-lesions\*\*
- \*\*Localized involvement of, defined as a contiguous infiltration of a lymph node mass into extralymphatic tissue (by contiguous growth from an involved lymph node structures or in close anatomic relation) that is treatable by irradiationorgans (e.g., lung or bone).
- Stage IV

Per the Adcetris pediatric cHL pivotal study, high risk was defined as the following Ann Arbor stages:

- Stage IIB with bulk disease (see definition of bulk disease above)
- Stage IIIB
- Stage IVA
- Stage IVB
  - Pleural and pericardial involvement should be considered E-lesions, but a pleural or pericardial effusion alone is not considered an E-lesion. Disease that extends beyond the lymphatic system without adjacent lymphatic involvement is considered stage IV;

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liver or bone marrow involvement is always considered stage IV disease. CNS disease is considered extra-axial

## V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum
		Dose
Previously	1.2 mg/kg IV up to a maximum of 120 mg in	120 mg every
untreated Stage III	combination with chemotherapy. Administer every 2	2 weeks up to
or IV cHL in	weeks until a maximum of 12 doses, disease	12 doses
adults	progression, or unacceptable toxicity.	
Previously	1.8 mg/kg IV up to a maximum of 180 mg in	180 mg every
untreated high risk	combination with chemotherapy. Administer every 3	3 weeks up to
cHL in pediatric	weeks with each cycle of chemotherapy for a	5 doses
and adolescent	maximum of 5 doses, disease progression, or	
patients	unacceptable toxicity.	
cHL consolidation	1.8 mg/kg IV up to a maximum of 180 mg. Initiate	180 mg every
in adults	Adcetris treatment within 4-6 weeks post-autoHSCT	3 weeks up to
	or upon recovery from auto-HSCT. Administer every	16 cycles
	3 weeks until a maximum of 16 cycles, disease	
	progression, or unacceptable toxicity.	
Relapsed cHL in	1.8 mg/kg IV up to a maximum of 180 mg.	180 mg every
adults	Administer every 3 weeks until disease progression	3 weeks
	or unacceptable toxicity.	
Previously	1.8 mg/kg IV up to a maximum of 180 mg in	180 mg every
untreated sALCL	combination with cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin,	3 weeks up to
or other CD30-	and prednisone. Administer every 3 weeks with each	6 to 8 doses
expressing PTCLs	cycle of chemotherapy for 6 to 8 doses.	
in adults		
Relapsed sALCL	1.8 mg/kg IV up to a maximum of 180 mg.	180 mg every
in adults	Administer every 3 weeks until disease progression	3 weeks
D 1 1 17 GT	or unacceptable toxicity.	100
Relapsed pcALCL	1.8 mg/kg IV up to a maximum of 180 mg.	180 mg every
or CD30-	Administer every 3 weeks until a maximum of 16	3 weeks up to
expressing MF in	cycles, disease progression, or unacceptable toxicity.	16 cycles
adults	10 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 1	120
Relapsed or	1.2 mg/kg up to a maximum of 120 mg in	120 mg every
refractory LBCL	combination with lenalidomide and rituximab.	3 weeks
	Administer every 3 weeks until disease progression,	
	or unacceptable toxicity	

## VI. Product Availability

Single-use vial: 50 mg for reconstitution

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#### VII. References

- Adcetris Prescribing Information. Bothell, WA: Seagen, Inc.; February 2025. Available at: https://www.adcetris.com/. Accessed February 20April 14, 2025.
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- National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Primary Cutaneous Lymphomas Version 2.20242025. Available at https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\_gls/pdf/primary\_cutaneous.pdf. Accessed May 16, 20246, 2025.
- 7. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. T-Cell Lymphomas Version 3.20241.2025. Available at https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\_gls/pdf/t-cell.pdf. Accessed May 20, 20246, 2025.
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## **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
J9042	Injection, brentuximab vedotin, 1 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	LDH Approval Date
Converted corporate to local policy	04.22	07.23.22
Per NCCN Compendium clarified extranodal NK/T-cell lymphoma should be in the relapsed or refractory setting and removed requirement for nasal type; clarified hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma should be after two first-line therapy regimens; references reviewed and updated.	06.02.23	10.05.23



Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	LDH Approval Date
New indication of previously untreated high risk cHL in pediatric and adolescent patients added to policy. Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications and continued therapy section.		
Annual review: for adult cHL, added specific regimens for use per both FDA and NCCN; for pediatric cHL, moved specific staging requirements for high risk disease to Appendix D to also allow for NCCN high risk definition and updated criteria per NCCN, including requirements for use in combination with chemotherapy as well as allowance for use as subsequent therapy; for T-cell lymphomas, clarified that CD30-positive disease requirement does not apply to ALCL and added requirement for use as a single agent or in combination with CHP per NCCN; for cutaneous ALCL, added pathway for disease multifocal lesions per NCCN; for MF/SS, removed requirement for CD30-positive disease per NCCN; for B-cell lymphomas, removed specific subtypes of DLBCL to simplify criteria, revised "AIDS-related" to "HIV-related", added B-cell type monomorphic PTLD, added pathway for pediatric primary mediastinal large B-cell lymphoma, and added that member is not a transplant candidate for all requests except T-cell type monomorphic PTLD per NCCN; references reviewed and updated.	05.13.24	08.20.24
Per NCCN – for cHL, added pathway for use as a component of BrECADD for stage III-IV disease for members aged 18-61 years; for T-cell lymphomas, removed requirement for 2 prior therapies for hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma and added pathway for combination use with bendamustine for PTCL, breast implant-associated ALCL, and hepatosplenic T-cell lymphoma; for MF and Sezary syndrome, added that Adcetris must be prescribed as a single agent, in combination with skin-directed therapy, or in combination with bendamustine; for B-cell lymphomas, removed T-cell type monomorphic PTLD; references reviewed and updated.	10.03.24	01.27.25
Added criteria for new FDA-approved indication of relapsed or refractory LBCL in adult patients – added criterion that disease is relapsed or refractory, added option that member is not a candidate for CAR T-cell therapy; per NCCN for B-cell lymphomas – added pathway for off-label use as a single agent or in combination with rituximab or nivolumab, clarified use in HIV-related B-cell lymphoma and PTLD are off-label indications	04.28.25	07.14.25
Annual review: per NCCN – for cHL, added option for use with CHP as alternative to AVD if vinblastine is unavailable due to shortage, added option for use with nivolumab for age > 60 years, revised	09.17.25	



Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	LDH Approval Date
requirements around use as component of BrECADD (removed requirement for stage III-IV disease, added option for use with Deauville score 4-5, added requirement for use with granulocyte colony-stimulating factor); for pediatric cHL, added option for use as a component of BrECADD and Bv-AVD for stage III-IV disease, specified that only use following high-dose therapy and autologous stem cell rescue has to be in high-risk disease, and modified requirement for high risk disease for nearly all requests to instead		
require risk factors only for stage I-II disease; for MF/Sezary syndrome, removed option for combination use with bendamustine; references reviewed and updated		

#### **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.

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