

Clinical Policy: Rivastigmine (Exelon)

Reference Number: CP.PMN.101

Effective Date: 03.01.17

Last Review Date: 02.18

Line of Business: Medicaid

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

Rivastigmine (Exelon[®]) is an acetylcholinesterase inhibitor.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Exelon is indicated for treatment of

- Mild to moderate dementia of the Alzheimer's type (AD)*
- Mild to moderate dementia associated with Parkinson's disease (PDD)

**Exelon patch is also indicated for treatment of severe dementia of AD.*

Policy/Criteria

Provider must submit documentation (which may include office chart notes and lab results) supporting that member has met all approval criteria

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation[®] that Exelon is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Alzheimer's Disease (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease;
2. Age \geq 18 years;
3. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Failure of \geq 3 month trial of donepezil at doses \geq 10 mg/day or galantamine 24 mg/day, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
 - b. If member cannot take donepezil and galantamine due to intolerance or contraindication(s), failure of \geq 3 month trial of memantine at doses \geq 20 mg/day, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
4. Dose does not exceed 12 mg per day (oral) or 13.3 mg/24 hours (transdermal).

Approval duration: 12 months

B. Parkinson's Disease Dementia (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of Parkinson's disease dementia;
2. Age \geq 18 years;
3. Failure of \geq 3 month trial of donepezil at doses \geq 10 mg/day unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
4. Dose does not exceed 12 mg per day (oral) or 13.3 mg/24 hours (transdermal).

Approval duration: 12 months

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C. Other diagnoses/indications

1. Refer to CP.PMN.53 if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized).

II. Continued Therapy

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

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
2. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 12 mg per day (oral) or 13.3 mg/24 hours (transdermal).

Approval duration: 12 months

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

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy.

Approval duration: Duration of request or 12 months (whichever is less); or

2. Refer to CP.PMN.53 if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized).

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 – CP.PMN.53 or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

AD: Alzheimer’s disease

PDD: Parkinson’s disease dementia

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

PDL: preferred drug list

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Alzheimer’s disease	Patch: 9.5 mg/24 hours or 13.3 mg/24 hours once daily	Patch: 13.3 mg/24 hours transdermally
	Capsule: 1.5 to 6 mg twice daily	Capsule: 12 mg/day
Parkinson’s disease	Patch: 9.5 mg/24 hours or 13.3 mg/24 hours once daily	Patch: 13.3 mg/24 hours transdermally
	Capsule: 1.5 to 6 mg twice daily	Capsule: 12 mg/day

VI. Product Availability

Capsules: 1.5 mg, 3 mg, 4.5 mg, and 6 mg.

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Patches: 4.6 mg/24 hours, 9.5 mg/24 hours, and 13.3 mg/24 hours.

VII. Workflow Document

N/A

VIII. References

1. Exelon Patch Prescribing Information. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; November 2016. Available at: <https://www.pharma.us.novartis.com/sites/www.pharma.us.novartis.com/files/exelonpatch.pdf>. Accessed November 6, 2017.
2. Exelon. Prescribing Information. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; November 2016. Available at: <https://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/>. Accessed November 28, 2016.
3. Clinical Pharmacology [database online]. Tampa, FL: Gold Standard, Inc.; 2016. Available at: <http://www.clinicalpharmacology-ip.com/>.
4. Qaseem A, Snow V, Cross JT, Forcica MA, Hopkins R, Shekelle P, et al. Current Pharmacologic Treatment of Dementia: A Clinical Practice Guideline from the American College of Physicians and the American Academy of Family Physicians. *Ann Intern Med*. 2008;148:370-378.
5. American Academy of Neurology. Practice Parameter: evaluation and treatment of depression, psychosis, and dementia in Parkinson disease (an evidence-based review): report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. <https://www.aan.com/guidelines/>. Accessed November 6, 2017.
6. Doody RS, Stevens MD, Beck RN et al. Practice Parameter: Management of Dementia (An Evidence-Based Review). *Neurology* 2001;56:1154-1166.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
New policy created.	11.16	02.17
1Q18 annual review: - No significant changes - Policy number changes from CP.PPA.22 to CP.PMN.XX - Age added per safety guidance endorsed by Centene Medical Affairs - Referenced reviewed and updated	11.14.17	02.18

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. The Health Plan 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

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practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

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 Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. 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. The Health Plan 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 the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

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Note: For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

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