

## Clinical Policy: Sebelipase Alfa (Kanuma)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.159

Effective Date: 02/16

Last Review Date: 02/17

[Revision Log](#)

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

### Description

The intent of the criteria is to ensure that patients follow selection elements established by Centene® clinical policy for sebelipase alfa (Kanuma™)

### Policy/Criteria

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

#### I. Initial Approval Criteria

##### A. Lysosomal Acid Lipase Deficiency (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of lysosomal acid lipase (LAL) deficiency confirmed by one of the following:
  - a. Enzyme assay demonstrating a deficiency of LAL activity;
  - b. LIPA gene mutation.

**Approval duration: 6 months**

##### B. Other diagnoses/indications: Refer to CP.PHAR.57 - Global Biopharm Policy.

#### II. Continued Approval

##### A. Lysosomal Acid Lipase Deficiency (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met all initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy.

**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; or
2. Refer to CP.PHAR.57 - Global Biopharm Policy.

### Background

#### *Description/Mechanism of Action:*

LAL deficiency is an autosomal recessive lysosomal storage disorder characterized by a genetic defect resulting in a marked decrease or loss in activity of the lysosomal acid lipase (LAL) enzyme. The primary site of action of the LAL enzyme is the lysosome, where the enzyme normally causes the breakdown of lipid particles including LDL-c. Deficient LAL enzyme activity results in progressive complications due to the lysosomal accumulation of cholesteryl

esters and triglycerides in multiple organs, including the liver, spleen, intestine, and the walls of blood vessels. The resulting lipid accumulation in the liver may lead to increased liver fat content and progression of liver disease, including fibrosis and cirrhosis. Lipid accumulation in the intestinal wall leads to malabsorption and growth failure. In parallel, dyslipidemia due to impaired degradation of lysosomal lipid is common with elevated LDL-c and triglycerides and low HDL-cholesterol (HDL-c). Sebelipase alfa binds to cell surface receptors via glycans expressed on the protein and is subsequently internalized into lysosomes. Sebelipase alfa catalyzes the lysosomal hydrolysis of cholesteryl esters and triglycerides to free cholesterol, glycerol and free fatty acids.

*Formulations:*

Kanuma (sebelipase alfa): Solution for intravenous use

- 20 mg/10 mL vial; 2 mg/mL (195 to 345 units/mg)

*FDA Approved Indications:*

Kanuma is a hydrolytic lysosomal cholesteryl ester and triacylglycerol-specific enzyme/intravenous formulation indicated for:

- Treatment of patients with a diagnosis of Lysosomal Acid Lipase (LAL) deficiency.

**Appendices**

**Appendix A: Abbreviation Key**

HDL-c: High density lipoprotein cholesterol

LAL: Lysosomal acid lipase

LDL-c: Low density lipoprotein cholesterol

rhLAL: Recombinant human lysosomal acid lipase

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	Approval Date
Policy split from CP.PHAR.48. Policy converted to new template.	01/16	02/16
Age restriction removed. Allergy history is removed as the drug can be continued in some cases. Positive response to therapy added. Background section converted to new template.	12/16	02/17

**References**

1. Kanuma prescribing information. Cheshire, CT: Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; Cambridge, MA: Genzyme Corporation; December 2015. Available at <http://www.kanuma.com/docs/full-prescribing-information.pdf>. Accessed December 21, 2016.
2. Zhang B, Porto AF. Cholesteryl ester storage disease: Protean presentations of lysosomal acid lipase deficiency. J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr. 2013; 56(6): 682.

**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 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.

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## CLINICAL POLICY

### Sebelipase Alfa

**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.

**Note: For Medicare members,** to ensure consistency with the Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), all applicable NCDs, LCDs and Medicare Coverage Articles should be reviewed prior to applying the criteria set forth in this clinical policy. Refer to the CMS website at <http://www.cms.gov> for additional information.

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