

Clinical Policy: Febuxostat (Uloric)

Reference Number: HIM.PA.67

Effective Date: 12/14

Last Review Date: 08/17

Line of Business: Health Insurance Marketplace

[Revision Log](#)

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

### **Description**

Febuxostat (Uloric<sup>®</sup>) is a xanthine oxidase inhibitor.

### **FDA approved indication**

Uloric is indicated for the chronic management of hyperuricemia in patients with gout

Limitation of use: Uloric is not recommended for the treatment of asymptomatic hyperuricemia.

### **Policy/Criteria**

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

#### **I. Initial Approval Criteria**

##### **A. Hyperuricemia** (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of gout with hyperuricemia;
2. Current (within the last 30 days) serum urate  $\geq 6$  mg/dL;
3. Failure of combination urate-lowering therapy (allopurinol and probenecid **OR** allopurinol and probenecid/colchicine) at up to maximally indicated doses within the last 6 months unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
4. Dose does not exceed 80 mg/day (1 tablet/day).

**Approval duration: 12 months**

##### **B. Other diagnoses/indications**

1. Refer to HIM.PHAR.21 if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized).

#### **II. Continued Therapy**

##### **A. Hyperuricemia** (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
2. Documentation of positive response to therapy (e.g., reduced frequency of gout attacks, serum urate level  $< 6$  mg/dL);
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 80 mg/day (1 tablet/day).

**Approval duration: 12 months**

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

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

**Febuxostat**

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

2. Refer to HIM.PA.21 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 – HIM.PA.21 or evidence of coverage documents

**IV. Appendices/General Information**

*Appendix A: Abbreviation Key*

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

**V. References**

1. Uloric Prescribing Information. Deerfield, IL: Takeda Pharmaceuticals America, Inc.; March 2013. Available at: [www.ularic.com](http://www.ularic.com). Accessed on January 18, 2017.
2. Khanna D, Fitzgerald JD, Khanna PJ, et al. 2012 American College of Rheumatology guidelines for management of gout. Part 1: systematic nonpharmacologic and pharmacologic therapeutic approaches to hyperuricemia. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)*. 2012 Oct; 64(10):1431-46
3. Uloric Drug Monograph. Clinical Pharmacology. Accessed January 18, 2017. <http://www.clinicalpharmacology-ip.com>
4. Micromedex® Healthcare Series [Internet database]. Greenwood Village, Colo: Thomson Healthcare. Updated periodically. Accessed January 18, 2017.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Changed guideline to new format	08/16	
Converted to new template	04/17	08/17
Removed age requirement as it is not an absolute contraindication per FDA labeling		
Removed requirement for demonstrated adherence and added requirement for documentation of positive response upon re-auth		

**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

### Febuxostat

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.

This clinical policy is the property of the Health Plan. 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.

**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.

©2016 Centene Corporation. All rights reserved. All materials are exclusively owned by Centene Corporation and are protected by United States copyright law and international copyright law. No part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, modified, distributed,

## CLINICAL POLICY

### Febuxostat

displayed, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means, or otherwise published without the prior written permission of Centene Corporation. You may not alter or remove any trademark, copyright or other notice contained herein. Centene® and Centene Corporation® are registered trademarks exclusively owned by Centene Corporation.