Clinical Policy: Aflibercept (Eylea)
Reference Number: CP.PHAR.184
Effective Date: 03.16
Last Review Date: 02.19
Line of Business: Commercial, Medicaid

Coding Implications
Revision Log

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

Description
Aflibercept (Eylea®) is a vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) inhibitor.

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Eylea is indicated for the treatment of patients with:
• Neovascular (wet) age-related macular degeneration (AMD)
• Macular edema following retinal vein occlusion (RVO)
• Diabetic macular edema (DME)
• Diabetic retinopathy (DR) in patients with DME

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 health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation® that Eylea is medically necessary when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria
   A. Ophthalmic Disease (must meet all):
      1. Diagnosis of one of the following (a, b, c, or d):
         a. Neovascular (wet) AMD;
         b. Macular edema following RVO;
         c. DME;
         d. DR in the presence of DME;
      2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an ophthalmologist;
      3. Age ≥ 18 years;
      4. For all indications except for DME in members with baseline visual acuity worse than 20/50: Failure of intravitreal bevacizumab unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
         *Prior authorization is required for bevacizumab
      5. Dose does not exceed:
         a. AMD: 2 mg (1 vial) every 4 weeks for the first 3 months, then every 8 weeks thereafter;
         b. DME, and DR in the presence of DME: 2 mg (1 vial) every 4 weeks for the first 5 injections, then every 8 weeks thereafter;
         c. RVO: 2 mg (1 vial) every 4 weeks.

   Approval duration: 6 months
B. Other diagnoses/indications
   1. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy
   A. Ophthalmic Disease (must meet all):
      1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
      2. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by one of the following (a, b, c, or d):
         a. Detained neovascularization;
         b. Improvement/stabilization in visual acuity;
         c. Maintenance of corrected visual acuity from prior treatment;
         d. Supportive findings from optical coherence tomography or fluorescein angiography;
      3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed:
         a. AMD, DME, and DR in the presence of DME: 2 mg (1 vial) every 8 weeks;
         b. RVO: 2 mg (1 vial) every 4 weeks.
      Approval duration: 6 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 6 months (whichever is less); or
      2. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

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 policies – CP.CPA.09 for commercial and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage document.

IV. Appendices/General Information
   Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key
   AMD: age-related macular degeneration
   DME: diabetic macular edema
   DR: diabetic retinopathy
   FDA: Food and Drug Administration
   RVO: retinal vein occlusion
   VEGF: vascular endothelial growth factor

   Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives
   This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent and may require prior authorization.
### V. Dosage and Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indication</th>
<th>Dosing Regimen</th>
<th>Maximum Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMD</td>
<td>2 mg (1 vial) administered by intravitreal injection once a month for 3 months then 2 mg every 2 months</td>
<td>2 mg/month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Indication | Dosing Regimen | Maximum Dose
---|---|---
Macular Edema Following RVO | 2 mg (1 vial) administered by intravitreal injection once every 4 weeks (monthly) | 2 mg/month
DME and DR with DME | 2 mg (1 vial) administered by intravitreal injection once a month for the first 5 injections, followed by 2 mg via intravitreal injection once every 2 months. Although Eylea may be dosed as frequently as 2 mg every 4 weeks (monthly), additional efficacy was not demonstrated in most patients when Eylea was dosed every 4 weeks compared to every 8 weeks. Some patients may need every 4 week (monthly) dosing after the first 20 weeks (5 months). | 2 mg/month

VI. Product Availability
Single-use vial: 40 mg/mL solution in a 0.05 mL total volume

VII. References

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCPCS Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J0178</td>
<td>Injection, aflibercept, 1 mg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>P&amp;T Approval Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid: Policy converted to new template and split from CP.PHAR.39 AMD Retinal Disorder Treatments. Criteria: added age and max dose; monotherapy defined as “other anti-VEGF drugs” since Visudyne sometimes used with anti-VEGF drugs in nonresponsive cases; removed requests for documentation.</td>
<td>03.16</td>
<td>03.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid: Removed age requirement. Removed hypersensitivity safety criteria. For re-auth: modified “Currently receiving…” to “Previously received…”; modified documentation of positive response criterion to be open-ended; added criterion to verify that Eylea is not being used with other anti-VEGF therapies.</td>
<td>03.17</td>
<td>03.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1Q18 annual review: Policy combined for Medicaid and commercial lines of business For Medicaid: Added bevacizumab redirection except for members with baseline visual acuity worse than 20/50 due to clinical superiority of Eylea, Moved initial and continued therapy criterion “not used concomitantly with other VEGF therapies” to section III. Diagnoses/indications NOT authorized, Added specialist requirement, Removed criteria checking for contraindications (ocular infections) due to its ophthalmic nature and addition of specialist requirement, Added age limit following safety guidance endorsed by Medical Affairs; References reviewed and updated.</td>
<td>11.23.17</td>
<td>02.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1Q 2019 annual review: removed section III requirement against concurrent use with VEGF medications; reduced commercial approval durations from length of benefit to 6 months; references reviewed and updated.</td>
<td>11.20.18</td>
<td>02.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

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, displayed, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means, or otherwise