Clinical Policy: Dimethyl Fumarate (Tecfidera)
Reference Number: CP.PHAR.249
Effective Date: 08.01.16
Last Review Date: 05.19
Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

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

Description
Dimethyl fumarate (Tecfidera®) is a nuclear factor-like 2 activator.

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Tecfidera is indicated for the treatment of patients with relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis (MS).

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 Tecfidera is medically necessary when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria
   A. Multiple Sclerosis (must meet all):
      1. Diagnosis of relapsing-remitting MS;
      2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist;
      3. Age ≥ 18 years;
      4. Tecfidera is not prescribed concurrently with other disease modifying therapies for MS (see Appendix D);
      5. Dose does not exceed:
         a. Starting dose: 240 mg (2 capsules) per day for 7 days;
         b. Maintenance dose: 480 mg (2 capsules) per day.

   Approval duration:
   Medicaid/HIM – 6 months
   Commercial – Length of Benefit

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, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.
II. Continued Therapy
   A. Multiple Sclerosis (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;
      3. Tecfidera is not prescribed concurrently with other disease modifying therapies for MS (see Appendix D);
      4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 480 mg (2 capsules) per day.
   
   Approval duration:
   Medicaid/HIM – 12 months
   Commercial – Length of Benefit

   B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):
      1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy.
      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, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, 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, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents;
   B. Primary progressive MS.

IV. Appendices/General Information
   Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key
   FDA: Food and Drug Administration
   MS: multiple sclerosis

   Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives
   Not applicable

   Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings
   • Contraindication(s): known hypersensitivity to dimethyl fumarate or any of the excipients of Tecfidera
   • Boxed warning(s): none reported

   Appendix D: General Information
   • Disease-modifying therapies for MS are: glatiramer acetate (Copaxone®, Glatopa®), interferon beta-1a (Avonex®, Rebif®), interferon beta-1b (Betaseron®, Extavia®), peginterferon beta-1a (Plegridy®), dimethyl fumarate (Tecfidera®), fingolimod
(Gilenya™), teriflunomide (Aubagio®), alemtuzumab (Lemtrada®), mitoxantrone (Novantrone®), natalizumab (Tysabri®), and ocrelizumab (Ocrevus™).

V. Dosage and Administration

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indication</th>
<th>Dosing Regimen</th>
<th>Maximum Dose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relapsing MS</td>
<td>Starting: 120 mg PO BID for 7 days</td>
<td>480 mg/day</td>
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<td>Maintenance: 240 mg PO BID</td>
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VI. Product Availability

Delayed-release capsules: 120 mg, 240 mg

VII. References


Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals

| Policy split from CP.PHAR.18 MS Treatments. Criteria: added max dosing, clarified monotherapy restriction, removed re-authorization requirement for documented adherence, updated reasons to discontinue, modified efficacy criteria from “No increase in neurologic dysfunction/disability as a result of relapses or progressive disease, including a change in diagnostic status from RRMS to SPMS” to “Responding positively to therapy”. Changed renewal approval duration to 12 months. | 06.16 | 08.16 |
| Added age requirement. Removed MRI requirement. Removed contraindication as it constitutes a hypersensitivity reaction. Removed reasons to discontinue. | 07.17 | 08.17 |
| 2Q 2018 annual review: no significant changes from previously approved corporate policy; policies combined for Medicaid, HIM and Commercial lines of business; age added; HIM: removed MRI requirement; Commercial: removed COC statement for reauth; added requirement for no concurrent use with other MS therapies; references reviewed and updated. | 01.05.18 | 05.18 |
| 2Q 2019 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated. | 02.04.19 | 05.19 |
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.

**For Health Insurance Marketplace members**, when applicable, this policy applies only when the prescribed agent is on your health plan approved formulary. Request for non-formulary drugs must be reviewed using the formulary exception policy.