Clinical Policy: Ferric Carboxymaltose (Injectafer)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.234
Effective Date: 06.01.16
Last Review Date: 02.23
Line of Business: HIM, Medicaid

Coding Implications
Revision Log

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

Description

Ferric carboxymaltose (Injectafer®) injection is an iron replacement product.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Injectafer is indicated for treatment of iron deficiency anemia (IDA) in:

- Adult and pediatric patients 1 year of age and older who have either intolerance to oral iron or an unsatisfactory response to oral iron; or
- Adult patients who have non-dialysis dependent chronic kidney disease (CKD).

Policy/Criteria

Provider must submit documentation (including 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 Injectafer is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Iron Deficiency Anemia with Chronic Kidney Disease (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of IDA and CKD;
2. IDA is confirmed by either of the following:
   a. Transferrin saturation (TSAT) ≤ 30%;
   b. Serum ferritin ≤ 500 ng/mL;
3. If CKD does not require hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis, oral iron therapy is not optimal due to any of the following:
   a. TSAT < 12%;
   b. Hgb < 7 g/dL;
   c. Symptomatic anemia;
   d. Severe or ongoing blood loss;
   e. Oral iron intolerance;
   f. Unable to achieve therapeutic targets with oral iron;
   g. Co-existing condition that may be refractory to oral iron therapy;
4. Dose does not exceed two 750 mg elemental iron infusions/injections or a single 1,000 mg elemental iron infusion/injection.

Approval duration: 3 months

B. Iron Deficiency Anemia without Chronic Kidney Disease (must meet all):
1. Diagnosis of IDA confirmed by any of the following:
   a. Serum ferritin < 15 ng/mL or < 30 ng/mL if pregnant;
   b. Serum ferritin ≤ 41 ng/mL and Hgb < 12 g/dL (women)/< 13 g/dL (men);
   c. TSAT < 20%;
   d. Absence of stainable iron in bone marrow;
   e. Increased soluble transferring receptor (sTfR) or sTfR-ferritin index;
   f. Increased erythrocyte protoporphyrin level;
2. Oral iron therapy is not optimal due to any of the following:
   a. TSAT < 12%;
   b. Hgb < 7 g/dL;
   c. Symptomatic anemia;
   d. Severe or ongoing blood loss;
   e. Oral iron intolerance;
   f. Unable to achieve therapeutic targets with oral iron;
   g. Co-existing condition that may be refractory to oral iron therapy;
3. At the time of the request, member does not have CKD;
4. Dose does not exceed two 750 mg elemental iron infusions/injections or a single 1,000 mg elemental iron infusion/injection.

Approval duration 3 months

C. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2)**:**
1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
   a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
   b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Approval Criteria

A. Iron Deficiency Anemia with Chronic Kidney Disease (must meet all):
1. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
   b. Member is currently receiving medication and is enrolled in a state and product with continuity of care regulations (*refer to state specific addendums for CC.PHARM.03A and CC.PHARM.03B);*

2. Documentation of one of the following laboratory results measured since the last IV iron administration:
   a. TSAT ≤ 30%;
   b. Serum ferritin ≤ 500 ng/mL;
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed two 750 mg elemental iron infusions/injections or a single 1,000 mg elemental iron infusion/injection.

Approval duration 3 months

B. Iron Deficiency Anemia without Chronic Kidney Disease (must meet all):
1. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
   b. Member is currently receiving medication and is enrolled in a state and product with continuity of care regulations (*refer to state specific addendums for CC.PHARM.03A and CC.PHARM.03B);*
2. Documentation of one of the following laboratory results measured since the last IV iron administration:
   a. Serum ferritin < 15 ng/mL or < 30 ng/mL if pregnant;
   b. Serum ferritin ≤ 41 ng/mL and Hb < 12 g/dL (women)/< 13 g/dL (men);
   c. TSAT < 20%;
   d. Absence of stainable iron in bone marrow;
   e. Increased sTfR or sTfR-ferritin index;
   f. Increased erythrocyte protoporphyrin level;
3. At the time of the request, member does not have CKD;
4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed two 750 mg elemental iron infusions/injections or a single 1,000 mg elemental iron infusion/injection.

Approval duration 3 months

C. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):
1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
   a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
   b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: HIM.PA.154 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 policy – HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace or CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid, or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

CKD: chronic kidney disease
ESA: erythropoiesis stimulating agent
Hb: hemoglobin
IDA: iron deficiency anemia
TSAT: transferrin saturation
sTfR: soluble transferring receptor

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.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
Examples of OTC Oral Iron Formulations*		
Ferrous fumarate (Ferretts, Ferrimin 150)	Varies	
Ferrous gluconate (Ferate)		
Ferrous sulfate (BProtected Pedia Iron, Fer-In-Sol, FeroSul, Iron Supplement, Iron Supplement Childrens, Slow Fe, Slow Iron)		
Polysaccharide-iron complex (EZFE 200, Ferrex 150, Ferrix x-150, IFerex 150, NovaFerrum 125, NovaFerrum, NovaFerrum Pediatric Drops, Nu-Iron, Poly-Iron 150)		

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name® (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name®) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.
**Oral formulations include elixirs, liquids, solutions, syrups, capsules, and tablets - including delayed/extended-release tablets.*

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

- Contraindication(s): Hypersensitivity to Injectafer or any of its inactive components.
- Boxed warning(s): None reported.

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
IDA with non-dialysis dependent CKD (adults)	≥ 50kg (110lb): two 750 mg doses by IV infusion separated by at least 7 days for a cumulative dose of 1,500 mg per course. Alternatively, a single-dose treatment course may be administered as 15 mg/kg to a maximum of 1,000 mg.	Two dose treatment course: 750 mg per dose (up to 1,500 mg)

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
	< 50kg (110lb): two doses by IV infusion separated by at least 7 days as 15 mg/kg body weight.	Single dose treatment course: 1,000 mg Treatment may be repeated
IDA with intolerance to oral iron or unsatisfactory response to oral iron (adults and pediatric patients ≥ 1 year old)	≥ 50kg (110lb): two 750 mg doses by IV infusion separated by at least 7 days for a cumulative dose of 1,500 mg per course. < 50kg (110lb): two doses by IV infusion separated by at least 7 days as 15 mg/kg body weight.	See dosing regimen

VI. Product Availability

Intravenous solution single-dose vial: 100 mg/2 mL, 750 mg/15 mL, 1,000 mg/20 mL

VII. References

1. Injectafer prescribing information. Shirley, NY: American Regent, Inc.; February 2022. Available from https://injectafer.com/. Accessed November 9, 2022.
2. KDIGO 2012 clinical practice guideline for evaluation and management of chronic kidney disease. *Kidney International Supplements.* January 2013; 3(1): 1-136.
3. KDIGO 2012 clinical practice guideline for anemia in chronic kidney disease. *Kidney International Supplements.* August 2012; 2(4): 279-331.
4. Babitt JL, Eisenga MF, Haase VH, et al. Controversies in optimal anemia management: conclusions from a Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Conference. Kidney Int. 2021;99(6):1280-1295.
5. Camaschella C. Iron-Deficiency Anemia. *N Engl J Med.* 2015; 372: 1832-43. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMra1401038.
6. Short MW, Domagalski JE. Iron Deficiency Anemia: Evaluation and Management. *Am Fam Physician.* 2013; 87(2): 98-104. http://www.aafp.org/afp/2013/0115/p98.pdf
7. Oral iron monographs. In: UpToDate (Lexicomp), Waltham, MA: Wolters Kluwer Health. Updated periodically. Accessed November 20, 2022.

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.

HCPCS Codes	Description
J1439	Injection, ferric carboxymaltose, 1 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
1Q18 annual review: - No significant changes - Converted to the new template - Dosing added - References reviewed and updated.	12.01.17	02.18
1Q 2019 annual review; under IDA initial and continuation criteria, a serum ferritin of less than or equal to 500 is edited by deleting the additional requirement of receiving an ESA based on the KDIGO 2012 guidelines which do not include this restriction; under IDA and IDA with CKD continuation criteria, the greater than or equal to 4 week waiting period before retesting after the last IV iron administration is removed per the KDIGO 2012 guidelines which note that only one week need pass before retesting; references reviewed and updated.	11.13.18	02.19
1Q 2020 annual review: no significant changes; added HIM line of business; references reviewed and updated.	11.09.19	02.20
1Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; references to HIM.PHAR.21 revised to HIM.PA.154; references reviewed and updated.	11.18.20	02.21
RT4: added 1,000 mg/20 mL vial size and alternative single-dose treatment regimen.	05.25.21	
1Q 2022 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	11.08.21	02.22
Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications and continued therapy section.	10.07.22	
1Q 2023 annual review: no significant changes; added updated vial strength of 100 mg/2 mL; FDA-approved age expansion was updated to reflect approval for pediatric patients 1 year of age and older who have either intolerance to oral iron or have had an unsatisfactory response to oral iron; references reviewed and updated.	11.21.22	02.23

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.