Clinical Policy: Chenodiol (Chenodal)
Reference Number: CP.CPA.300
Effective Date: 10.01.17
Last Review Date: 11.18
Line of Business: Commercial

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

Description
Chenodiol (Chenodal®) is a naturally occurring human bile acid.

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Chenodal is indicated for patients with radiolucent stones in well-opacifying gallbladders, in whom selective surgery would be undertaken except for the presence of increased surgical risk due to systemic disease or age.

Limitations of Use: Safety of use beyond 24 months is not established. Chenodiol will not dissolve calcified (radiopaque) or radiolucent bile pigment stones.

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 Chenodal is medically necessary when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria
   A. Radiolucent Gallstones (must meet all):
      1. Presence of radiolucent stones in well-opacifying gallbladders;
      2. Age ≥ 18 years;
      3. Failure of a 6 month trial of ursodiol, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
      4. Member is not a candidate for surgery (e.g., due to systemic disease or age);
      5. Dose does not exceed 18 mg/kg/day.

   Approval duration: 12 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.

II. Continued Therapy
   A. Radiolucent Gallstones (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. Total treatment duration does not exceed 24 months;
4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 18 mg/kg/day.

Approval duration: 12 months (up to 24 months total treatment)

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 12 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.

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 or evidence of coverage documents

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key
FDA: Food and Drug Administration

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug Name</th>
<th>Dosing Regimen</th>
<th>Dose Limit/Maximum Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ursodiol (Actigall®)</td>
<td>8-10 mg/kg/day PO in 2-3 divided doses</td>
<td>Not available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Appendix C: Contraindications
- Presence of known hepatocyte dysfunction or bile ductal abnormalities such as intrahepatic cholestasis, primary biliary cirrhosis or sclerosing cholangitis
- Pregnancy

Appendix D: General Information
- Oral cholecystograms or ultrasonograms are recommended at 6 to 9 month intervals to monitor response. Complete dissolutions should be confirmed by a repeat test after 1 to 3 months continued administration of Chenodal. Most patients who eventually achieve complete dissolution will show partial (or complete) dissolution at the first on-treatment test. If partial dissolution is not seen by nine to 12 months, the likelihood of success of treating longer is greatly reduced.
- Stone recurrence can be expected within 5 years in 50% of cases. After confirmed dissolution, treatment generally should be stopped. Serial cholecystograms or
ultrasonograms are recommended to monitor for recurrence, keeping in mind that radiolucent and gallbladder function should be established before starting another course of Chenodal.

V. Dosage and Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indication</th>
<th>Dosing Regimen</th>
<th>Maximum Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treatment of cholelithiasis via the dissolution of radiolucent cholesterol gallstones</td>
<td>The recommended range is 13 to 16 mg/kg/day PO in two divided doses, morning and night, starting with 250 mg BID the first two weeks and increasing by 250 mg/day each week thereafter until the recommended or maximum tolerated dose is reached. Chenodiol should be discontinued if there is no response by 18 months. Safety of use beyond 24 months is not established.</td>
<td>18 mg/kg/day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VI. Product Availability

Table: 250 mg

VII. References


Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>P&amp;T Approval Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy created per SDC.</td>
<td>09.25.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Q 2018 annual review: added requirement for 6 month trial of ursodiol; added requirement that member is not a candidate for surgery, modified approval durations to 12 months; reference reviewed and updated.</td>
<td>05.01.18</td>
<td>11.18</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.

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