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| **Section:** | Prescription Drugs | **Effective Date:** | July 1, 2022 |
| **Subsection:** | Antineoplastic Agents | **Original Policy Date:** | April 22, 2016 |
| **Subject:** | Evomela | **Page:** | 1 of 5 |

***Last Review Date:*** June 16, 2022

# Evomela

## Description

### Evomela (melphalan)

**Background**
Evomela (melphalan) is an intravenous alkylating agent used as a conditioning treatment prior to hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) in patients with multiple myeloma and for the palliative treatment of patients with multiple myeloma. Evomela inhibits DNA replication and transcription causing cytotoxicity in multiple myeloma. Different formulations of intravenous melphalan are available. Some formulations may contain propylene glycol, which in large amounts can be toxic and have been associated with hyperosmolality, lactic acidosis, seizures, and respiratory depression. Evomela is a propylene glycol-free IV formulation of melphalan (1).

**Regulatory Status**
FDA-approved indications: Evomela is an alkylating drug indicated for: (1)

1. Use as a high-dose conditioning treatment prior to hematopoietic progenitor (stem) cell transplantation in patients with multiple myeloma
2. The palliative treatment of patients with multiple myeloma for whom oral therapy is not appropriate

Evomela has a boxed warning citing the risk of severe bone marrow suppression, hypersensitivity, and leukemogenicity. Severe bone marrow suppression with resulting infection or bleeding may occur. Controlled trials comparing intravenous (IV) melphalan to oral melphalan have shown more myelosuppression with the IV formulation. Monitor complete blood counts. Hypersensitivity reactions, including anaphylaxis, have occurred in approximately 2% of patients who received the IV formulation of melphalan. Discontinue treatment with Evomela for serious hypersensitivity

reactions. Melphalan produces chromosomal aberrations *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Evomela should be considered potentially leukemogenic in humans (1).

The use of Evomela is contraindicated in patients with a history of serious allergic reaction to melphalan (1).

Evomela can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Advise females of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with Evomela and for 6 months after the last dose. Advise males with female partners of reproductive potential to use effective contraception during treatment with Evomela and for 3 months after the last dose (1).

Safety and effectiveness of Evomela in pediatric patients less than 18 years of age have not been established (1).

**Related policies**
Pepaxto

## Policy

*This policy statement applies to clinical review performed for pre-service (Prior Approval, Precertification, Advanced Benefit Determination, etc.) and/or post-service claims.*

Evomela may be considered **medically necessary** in patients 18 years of age or older with multiple myeloma and if the conditions indicated below are met.

Evomela may be considered **investigational** in patients less than 18 years of age and for all other indications.

## Prior-Approval Requirements

**Age** 18 years of age or older

**Diagnoses**

Patient must have **ONE** of the following:

1. Multiple myeloma – conditioning treatment
    a. Used prior to hematopoietic progenitor (stem) cell transplantation

2. Multiple myeloma – palliative treatment

**AND** the following:

1. Inadequate treatment response, intolerance, or contraindication to generic injectable melphalan
2. Females of reproductive potential **only**: patient will be advised to use effective contraception during treatment with Evomela and for 6 months after the last dose
3. Males with female partners of reproductive potential **only**: patient will be advised to use effective contraception during treatment with Evomela and for 3 months after the last dose

## Prior – Approval *Renewal* Requirements

**Age** 18 years of age or older

**Diagnosis**

Patient must have the following:

1. Multiple myeloma – palliative treatment

**AND** the following:

1. **NO** disease progression or unacceptable toxicity

## Policy Guidelines

## Pre - PA Allowance

None

## Prior - Approval Limits

**Duration** 3 months

## Prior - Approval *Renewal* Limits

**Duration** 6 months **(Multiple myeloma – palliative treatment only)**

## Rationale

**Summary**

Evomela (melphalan) is an intravenous alkylating agent used as a conditioning treatment prior to hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) in patients with multiple myeloma and for the palliative treatment of patients with multiple myeloma. Evomela label includes a boxed warning citing the risk of severe bone marrow suppression, hypersensitivity, and leukemogenicity. Evomela can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman. Safety and effectiveness of Evomela in pediatric patients less than 18 years of age have not been established (1).

Prior authorization is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate and cost-effective use of Evomela while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

**References**

1. Evomela [package insert]. East Windsor, NJ: Acrotech Biopharma LLC; August 2021.
2. NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium® Melphalan 2022. National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. Accessed on April 13, 2022.

## Policy History

| Date | Action |
|---|---|
| April 2016 | Addition to PA |
| June 2016 | Annual review |
| September 2016 | Annual editorial review<br>Removal of inadequate treatment response, intolerance, or contraindication to oral melphalan per SME |
| June 2017 | Annual editorial review |
| June 2018 | Annual editorial review and reference update |
| June 2019 | Annual review |
| June 2020 | Annual review and reference update |
| March 2021 | Annual editorial review |

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| June 2021 | Annual editorial review and reference update |
| March 2022 | Annual review and reference update |
| June 2022 | Annual editorial review and reference update. Revised contraception requirement to updated verbiage |

## Keywords

**This policy was approved by the FEP® Pharmacy and Medical Policy Committee on June 16, 2022 and is effective on July 1, 2022.**