Kanuma

Description

Kanuma (sebelipase alfa)

Background
Kanuma (sebelipase alfa) is used to treat Lysosomal Acid Lipase (LAL) deficiency. LAL deficiency is a disorder characterized by a genetic defect resulting in a marked decrease or loss in activity of the lysosomal acid lipase enzyme. This enzyme normally causes the breakdown of lipid particles including LDL cholesterol (LDL-c). Deficient LAL enzyme activity results in progressive complications due to the lysosomal accumulation of fat molecules in multiple organs, including the liver, spleen, intestine, and the walls of blood vessels. The resulting lipid accumulation in the liver may lead to increased liver fat content and progression of liver disease, including fibrosis and cirrhosis. Accumulation of lipid in the intestinal wall leads to malabsorption and growth failure. In parallel, dyslipidemia due to impaired degradation of lysosomal lipid is common with elevated LDL-c and triglycerides and low HDL-cholesterol (HDL-c). Kanuma is administered via intravenous infusions once weekly or once every other week (1).

Regulatory Status
FDA-approved indication: Kanuma is a hydrolytic lysosomal cholesteryl ester and triacylglycerol-specific enzyme indicated for the treatment of patients with a diagnosis of Lysosomal Acid Lipase (LAL) deficiency (1).

Safety and effectiveness of Kanuma have been established in pediatric patients aged 1 month and older (1).

Related policies
Kanuma may be considered *medically necessary* in patients 1 month of age and older for the treatment of Lysosomal Acid Lipase (LAL) deficiency.

Kanuma is considered *investigational* for patients less than 1 month of age and for all other indications.

**Prior-Approval Requirements**

**Age**  
1 month of age and older

**Diagnoses**  
Patient must have the following:

Lysosomal Acid Lipase (LAL) deficiency

**Prior – Approval Renewal Requirements**  
Same as above

**Policy Guidelines**

**Pre - PA Allowance**  
None

**Prior – Approval Limit**  
Duration 2 years

**Prior – Approval Renewal Limits**  
Same as above

**Rationale**

**Summary**  
Kanuma is indicated for patients with a diagnosis of Lysosomal Acid Lipase (LAL) deficiency.
LAL deficiency is a disorder characterized by a genetic defect resulting in a marked decrease or loss in activity of the lysosomal acid lipase enzyme. This enzyme normally causes the breakdown of lipid particles including LDL cholesterol. Kanuma is administered via intravenous infusions once weekly or once every other week. Safety and effectiveness of Kanuma have been established in pediatric patients aged 1 month and older (1).

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

References

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2015</td>
<td>Addition to PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2016</td>
<td>Annual review</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Policy number changed from 5.08.40 to 5.30.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2016</td>
<td>Annual review</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2016</td>
<td>Annual editorial review</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2017</td>
<td>Annual review</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2018</td>
<td>Annual review</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2019</td>
<td>Annual editorial review. Changed approval duration from lifetime to 2 years</td>
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Keywords

This policy was approved by the FEP® Pharmacy and Medical Policy Committee on December 6, 2019 and is effective on January 1, 2020.