

Clinical Policy: Givosiran (Givlaari)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.457

Effective Date: 03.01.20

Last Review Date: 02.25

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

Givosiran (Givlaari[®]) is an aminolevulinate synthase 1-directed small interfering RNA.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Givlaari is indicated for the treatment of adults with acute hepatic porphyria (AHP).

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 Givlaari is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Acute Hepatic Porphyria (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of AHP (i.e., acute intermittent porphyria [AIP], hereditary coproporphyria [HCP], variegate porphyria [VP], or ALA dehydratase-deficiency [ALAD] porphyria) confirmed by one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Genetic testing (i, ii, iii, or iv):
 - i. AIP: positive HMBS (aka PBGD) mutation;
 - ii. HCP: positive CPOX mutation;
 - iii. VP: positive PPOX mutation;
 - iv. ALAD porphyria: positive ALAD mutation;
 - b. History of at least a four-fold increase of 5-aminolevulinic acid (ALA) or porphobilinogen (PBG) using a random urine sample within the past year (*see Appendix E*);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist, hematologist, hepatologist, or neurologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. History of \geq 2 porphyria attacks in a 6-month period requiring hospitalization, urgent healthcare visit, or intravenous Panhematin^{®*} (hemin for injection) administration at home, and one of the following (a or b):
 - a. The porphyria attacks occurred within the last 6 months;
 - b. The porphyria attacks occurred in any 6-month period, and member is currently receiving prophylactic Panhematin therapy (e.g., once or twice a week on a regular basis);

**Prior authorization may be required.*

5. Panhematin, as a prophylactic treatment, is not prescribed concurrently with Givlaari (note: use of Panhematin for treatment of acute porphyria attacks while taking Givlaari is appropriate);
6. Documentation of member's current body weight (in kg);
7. Dose does not exceed 2.5 mg/kg once monthly.

Approval duration:

Medicaid/HIM – 6 months

Commercial – 6 months or to the member's renewal date, whichever is longer

B. 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: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, 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: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, 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: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. Acute Hepatic Porphyria (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. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Decreased number of porphyria attacks requiring hospitalization, urgent healthcare visit, or intravenous Panhematin administration at home;
 - b. No increase in porphyria attacks requiring hospitalization, urgent healthcare visit, or intravenous Panhematin administration at home if member was receiving prophylactic Panhematin therapy prior to Givlaari initiation;
3. Documentation of member's current body weight (in kg);
4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 2.5 mg/kg once monthly.

Approval duration:

Medicaid/HIM – 12 months

Commercial – 6 months or to the member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

B. 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: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, 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: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, 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: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, 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 policies – CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid, or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

AHP: acute hepatic porphyria	FDA: Food and Drug Administration
AIP: acute intermittent porphyria	HCP: hereditary coproporphyrin
ALA: 5-aminolevulinic acid	PBG: porphobilinogen
ALAD: ALA dehydratase-deficiency	VP: variegate porphyria

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 for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
Panhematin (hemin for injection)	AIP 1 to 4 mg/kg/day of hematin for 3 to 14 days based on the clinical signs.	6 mg/kg of hematin in any 24 hour period

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
	Standard dose in clinical practice per the package insert is 3 to 4 mg/kg/day - in more severe cases this dose may be repeated every 12 hours.	

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/Boxed Warnings

- Contraindication(s): severe hypersensitivity to Givlaari; reactions have included anaphylaxis
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

Appendix D: Porphyria Laboratory and Genetic Testing Resources (not all inclusive)

- Mayo Medical Laboratories (Rochester, MN)
- University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston - Porphyria Research Center (Galveston, TX)
- Department of Genetics, Icahn School of Medicine - Mount Sinai Porphyria Comprehensive Diagnostic and Treatment Center (New York, NY)
- Invitae (San Francisco, CA)
- LabCorp (Burlington, NC)

Appendix E: ALA and PBG Laboratory Testing

Concentrations of ALA or PBG in a random urine sample greater than four times the upper limit of normal establish the diagnosis of AHP (Wang 2019). Variations in reference ranges and reporting (e.g., with or without creatinine correction) may differ across U.S. laboratories; however, four times the upper limit of normal based on a random urine sample remains an appropriate evaluative tool.

Examples of laboratory reporting variations:*

**ALA/PBG values below are chosen for demonstration purposes only and do not reflect actual required values.*

- Corrected for creatinine:
 - *Additional units applicable here include mg/mmol creatinine.*
 - ALA = 38 mg/g creatinine (reference range 0-7 mg/g creatinine);
 - PBG = 85 mg/g creatinine (reference range 0-4 mg/g creatinine).
 - See Wang et al (2019) for additional information.*
- Uncorrected for creatinine:
 - *Additional units applicable here include mmol/L.*
 - ALA = 40 mg/L (reference range 0.0-5.4 mg/L);
 - PBG = 90 mg/L (reference range 0.0-2.0 mg/L).
 - See LabCorp (www.labcorp.com) and Mayo Medical Laboratories (www.mayoclinicalabs.com) testing information for additional information.*

Wang B, Rudnick S, Cengia B, Bonkovsky HL. Acute hepatic porphyrias: Review and recent progress. Hepatology Communications, 2019; 3(2): 193:206.

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
AHP	<p>2.5 mg/kg once monthly by subcutaneous injection</p> <p><u>Missed dose:</u> Administer Givlaari as soon as possible after a missed dose. Resume dosing at monthly intervals following administration of the missed dose.</p> <p><u>Dose modification for adverse reactions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In patients with severe or clinically significant transaminase elevations, who have dose interruption and subsequent improvement, reduce the dose to 1.25 mg/kg once monthly. • In patients who resume dosing at 1.25 mg/kg once monthly without recurrence of severe or clinically significant transaminase elevations, the dose may be increased to the recommended dose of 2.5 mg/kg once monthly. 	2.5 mg/kg/month

VI. Product Availability

Single-dose vial: 189 mg/mL

VII. References

1. Givlaari Prescribing Information. Cambridge, MA: Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; April 2024. Available at: <https://www.givlaari.com>. Accessed October 21, 2024.
2. Balwani M, Sardh E, Ventura P, et al. Phase 3 Trial of RNAi Therapeutic givosiran for acute intermittent porphyria. *N Eng J Med*. 2020; 382(24): 2289-2301.
3. Wang B, Rudnick S, Cengia B, Bonkovsky HL. Acute hepatic porphyrias: Review and recent progress. *Hepatology Communications*, 2019; 3(2): 193:206.
4. Balwani M, Wang B, Anderson KE, et al. Acute hepatic porphyrias: Recommendations for evaluation and long term management. *Hepatology*. 2017 October; 66(4): 1322. doi:10.1002/hep.29313.
5. Acute hepatic porphyrias. National Organization for Rare Disorders. Available at <https://rarediseases.org/?s=acute+hepatic+porphyria&submit=>. Accessed November 14, 2024.
6. Woolf J, Marsden JT, Degg T, et al. Best practice guidelines on first-line laboratory testing for porphyria. *Annals of Clinical Biochemistry*. 2017; 54(2): 188-198.
7. Anderson KE. Acute hepatic porphyrias: current diagnosis and management. *Mol Genet Metab*. 2019 Nov;128(3):219-227. doi: 10.1016/j.ymgme.2019.07.002.
8. Anderson KE, Bloomer JR, Bonkovsky HL, et al. Recommendations for the diagnosis and treatment of the acute porphyrias. *Ann Intern Med*. 2005; 142:439-450.

9. Wang B, Bonkovsky HL, Lim JK, and Balwani M. AGA Clinical practice update on diagnosis and management of acute hepatic porphyrias: Expert review. *Gastroenterology* 2023;164:484-491.

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
J0223	Injection, givosiran, 0.5 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
1Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; references to HIM.PHAR.21 revised to HIM.PA.154; references reviewed and updated.	10.20.20	02.21
1Q 2022 annual review: revised confirmatory diagnostic criteria from requiring both genetic testing and ALA/PBG to either genetic testing or elevated ALA/PBG as some AHP patients do not have identifiable mutations; clarified that ALA/PBG urine sample must be recent (within the past year); references reviewed and updated.	01.05.22	02.22
Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications and continued therapy section.	09.28.22	
1Q 2023 annual review: no significant changes; added hepatologist as specialty able to prescribe or be in consultation with; references reviewed and updated.	11.14.22	02.23
1Q 2024 annual review: no significant changes; added criteria “documentation of member’s current body weight (in kg);” references reviewed and updated.	10.13.23	02.24
1Q 2025 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	10.21.24	02.25

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.

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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.

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