



## Clinical Policy: Betaine (Cystadane)

Reference Number: PA.CP.PHAR.143

Effective Date: 10/2018

Last Review Date: 10/2022

[Revision Log](#)

### Description

Betaine (Cystadane®) is a methylating agent.

### FDA Approved Indication(s)

Cystadane is indicated in pediatric and adult patients for the treatment of homocystinuria to decrease elevated homocysteine blood concentrations. Included within the category of homocystinuria are:

- Cystathionine beta-synthase (CBS) deficiency
- 5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) deficiency
- Cobalamin cofactor metabolism (cbl) defect

### 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 PA Health & Wellness® that Cystadane is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

### I. Initial Approval Criteria

#### A. Homocystinuria (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of homocystinuria associated with one of the following (a, b, or c):
  - a. Cystathionine beta-synthase (CBS) deficiency;
  - b. 5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) deficiency;
  - c. Cobalamin cofactor metabolism (cbl) defect;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with metabolic or genetic disease specialist;
3. Dose does not exceed 20 g per day.

**Approval duration:** 6 months

#### B. Other diagnoses/indications

1. Refer to the off-label use policy if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): PA.CP.PMN.53.

### II. Continued Therapy

#### A. Homocystinuria (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via PA Health & Wellness benefit or member has previously met all initial approval criteria or the Continuity of Care Policy (PA.LTSS.PHAR.01) applies;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 20 g per day.

**Approval duration:** 12 months

**B. Other diagnoses/indications** (must meet 1 or 2):

1. Currently receiving medication via PA Health & Wellness benefit or member has previously met all initial approval criteria or the Continuity of Care Policy (PA.LTSS.PHAR.01) applies.

**Approval duration: Duration of request or 6 months (whichever is less);** or

2. Refer to the off-label use policy if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): PA.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 – PA.CP.PMN.53 or evidence of coverage documents.

**IV. Appendices/General Information**

*Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

CBL: cobalamin cofactor metabolism

CBS: cystathionine beta-synthase

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

MTHFR: 5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolate  
reductase

*Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives*

Not applicable

*Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings*

None reported

*Appendix D: General Information*

- Normal homocysteine levels range from 5 to 15  $\mu\text{mol/L}$
- Hyperhomocysteinemia has been classified as follows:
  - Moderate: 15 to 30  $\mu\text{mol/L}$
  - Intermediate: 30 to 100  $\mu\text{mol/L}$
  - Severe: > 100  $\mu\text{mol/L}$

**V. Dosage and Administration**

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Homocystinuria	3 g PO BID	150 mg/kg/day (20 g/day)

**VI. Product Availability**

Powder for oral solution: 180 g

**VII. References**

1. Cystadane Prescribing Information. Lebanon, NJ: Recordati Rare Diseases Inc.; October 2019. Available at: [www.cystadane.com](http://www.cystadane.com). Accessed August 27, 2022.
2. Morris AAM, Kozich V, Santra S, et al. Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of cystathionine beta-synthase deficiency. J Inherit Metab Dis 2017;40:49-74.

3. Huemer M, Diodato D, Schwahn B, et al. Guidelines for diagnosis and management of the cobalamin-related remethylation disorders cblC, cblD, cblE, cblF, cblG, and MTHFR deficiency. J Inherit Metab Dis 2017; 40:21-48.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy created	10/2018	
4Q 2019 annual review: No changes per Statewide PDL implementation 01-01-2020	10/2019	
4Q 2020 annual review: references reviewed and updated.	10/2020	
4Q 2021 annual review: references reviewed and updated.	10/2021	
4Q 2022 annual review: references reviewed and updated.	10/2022	