

Clinical Policy: Pegaspargase (Oncaspar), Calaspargase Pegol-mknl (Asparlas)

Reference Number: PA.CP.PHAR.353

Effective Date: 10.17.18

Last Review Date: 11.20

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

Description

Pegaspargase (Oncaspar®) and calaspargase pegol-mknl (Asparlas™) are asparagine specific enzymes.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Oncaspar is indicated as a component of a multi-agent chemotherapeutic regimen for the treatment of pediatric and adult patients with:

- First-line treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)
- ALL and hypersensitivity to native forms of L-asparaginase

Asparlas is indicated as a component of a multi-agent chemotherapeutic regimen for the treatment of ALL in pediatric and young adult patients age 1 month to 21 years.

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 PA Health & Wellness® that Oncaspar and Asparlas are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of ALL;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;
3. Request meets one of the following (a, b, or c):
 - a. Oncaspar: dose does not exceed 2,500 IU/m² every 14 days (age ≤ 21 years) or 2,000 IU/m² every 14 days (age > 21 years);
 - b. Asparlas: dose does not exceed 2,500 IU/m² every 21 days (age 1 month to 21 years);
 - c. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Extranodal NK/T-Cell Lymphoma (off-label) (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of one of the following NK/T-cell lymphoma subtypes (a, b, or c):
 - a. Nasal type;
 - b. Extranodal type;
 - c. Aggressive NK-cell leukemia;
2. Request is for Oncaspar;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or hematologist;

4. Age \geq 18 years;
5. Prescribed as a component of any of the following regimens (a, b, c, or d):*
 - a. Modified-SMILE (steroid [dexamethasone], methotrexate, ifosfamide, pegaspargase, etoposide);
 - b. P-GEMOX (gemcitabine, pegaspargase, oxaliplatin);
 - c. DDGP (dexamethasone, cisplatin, gemcitabine, pegaspargase);
 - d. AspaMetDex (pegaspargase, methotrexate, dexamethasone);**Prior authorization may be required*
6. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA-approved indication or is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 6 months

C. 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 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Pennsylvania Health and 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, request meets one of the following (a, b, or c):
 - a. Oncaspar: new dose does not exceed 2,500 IU/m² every 14 days (age \leq 21 years) or 2,000 IU/m² every 14 days (age $>$ 21 years);
 - b. Asparlas: new dose does not exceed 2,500 IU/m² every 21 days (age 1 month to 21 years);
 - c. New dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

Approval duration: 12 months

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

1. Currently receiving medication via Pennsylvania Health and 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.

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 – PA.CP.PMN.53 or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices

Appendix A: Abbreviation Key

ALL: acute lymphoblastic leukemia

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

Not applicable

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

- Contraindication(s):
 - History of serious allergic reactions to Oncaspar or to pegylated L-asparaginase therapy
 - History of serious thrombosis with prior L-asparaginase therapy
 - History of pancreatitis with prior L-asparaginase therapy
 - History of serious hemorrhagic events with prior L-asparaginase therapy
 - Severe hepatic impairment
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

V. Dosage and Administration

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Oncaspar (pegaspargase)	ALL	Age \leq 21 years: 2,500 IU/m ² IM or IV no more frequently than every 14 days	Age \leq 21 years: 2,500 IU/m ² every 14 days
		Age > 21 years: 2,000 IU/m ² IM or IV no more frequently than every 14 days	Age >21 years: 2,000 IU/m ² every 14 days
Asparlas (calaspargase pegol-mknl)	ALL	Age 1 month to 21 years: 2,500 IU/m ² IV no more frequently than every 21 days	2,500 IU/m ² every 21 days

VI. Product Availability

Drug Name	Availability
Oncaspar (pegaspargase)	Single-dose vial: 3,750 IU/5 mL solution
Asparlas (calaspargase pegol-mknl)	Single-dose vial: 3,750 units/5 mL solution

VII. References

1. Oncaspar Prescribing Information. Boston, MA: Servier Pharmaceuticals LLC; August 2019. Available at: <http://www.oncaspar.com/>. Accessed July 23, 2020.
2. Asparlas Prescribing Information. Boston, MA: Servier Pharmaceuticals LLC; September 2019. Available at: <http://asparlas.com/>. Accessed July 23, 2020.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at: http://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug_compendium. Accessed July 23, 2020.

4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia Version 1.2020. Available at www.nccn.org. Accessed July 23, 2020.
5. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Pediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia Version 2.2020. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/ped_all.pdf. Accessed July 23, 2020.
6. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. T-Cell Lymphomas Version 1.2020. Available at www.nccn.org. Accessed July 23, 2020.

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.

HCPSC Codes	Description
J9118	Injection, calaspargase pegol-mknl (Asparlas), 10 units
J9266	Injection, pegaspargase (Oncaspar), per single dose vial
96401	Chemotherapy administration, subcutaneous or intramuscular; non-hormonal anti-neoplastic
96409	Chemotherapy administration; intravenous, push technique, single or initial substance/drug
96411	Intravenous, push technique, each additional substance/drug (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	Approval Date
New policy created.	10/18	
4Q 2019 annual review: No changes per Statewide PDL implementation 01-01-2020	10/30/19	
4Q 2020 annual review: extranasal and aggressive NK/T-cell subtypes and DDGP regimen added to NK/T-cell off-label criteria set - limited to Oncaspar per NCCN; references reviewed and updated.	08/20	11/20