Clinical Policy: Abiraterone (Zytiga)

Reference Number: PA.CP.PHAR.84
Effective Date: 01/18
Last Review Date: 04/18 Revision Log

Description
The intent of the criteria is to ensure that patients follow selection elements established by Pennsylvania Health and Wellness ® clinical policy for abiraterone (Zytiga®) tablets for oral use.

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Zytiga is indicated in combination with prednisone for the treatment of metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer and metastatic high-risk castration-sensitive prostate cancer.

Policy/Criteria
It is the policy of Pennsylvania Health and Wellness that Zytiga is **medically necessary** when one of the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Prostate Cancer (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of metastatic prostate cancer;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Member meets one of the following (a, b or c):
   a. History of bilateral orchiectomy;
   b. Previously failed androgen deprivation therapy (ADT)
   c. Will use ADT concurrently with Zytiga;
5. Zytiga is prescribed in combination with prednisone;
6. Dose does not exceed 1,000 mg once daily, or 1,000 mg twice daily if prescribed concomitantly with a strong CYP3A4 inducer (e.g., phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampin, rifabutin, rifapentine, and phenobarbital).

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications: Refer to PA.CP.PHAR.57 - Global Biopharm Policy.

II. Continued Approval

A. Prostate Cancer (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. Prescribed dose of Zytiga does not exceed 1,000 mg per day (1,000 mg twice per day if concomitant use with a strong CYP3A4 inducer [e.g., phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampin, rifabutin, rifapentine, phenobarbital]);

Approval duration: 12 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2)**:**
1. Currently receiving medication via Pennsylvania Health and Wellness benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy; or the Continuity of Care policy (PA.LTSS.PHAR.01) applies; or
2. Refer to PA.CP.PHAR.57 - Global Biopharm Policy.

Background

Description/Mechanism of Action:

Zytiga is a 17 α‑hydroxylase/C17,20-lyase (CYP17) inhibitor. Abiraterone acetate (Zytiga) is converted *in vivo* to abiraterone, an androgen biosynthesis inhibitor that inhibits CYP17. This enzyme is expressed in testicular, adrenal, and prostatic tumor tissues and is required for androgen biosynthesis. CYP17 catalyzes two sequential reactions: 1) the conversion of pregnenolone and progesterone to their 17α-hydroxy derivatives by 17α-hydroxylase activity and 2) the subsequent formation of dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA) and androstenedione, respectively, by C17, 20 lyase activity. DHEA and androstenedione are androgens and are precursors of testosterone. Inhibition of CYP17 by abiraterone can also result in increased mineralocorticoid production by the adrenals.

Androgen sensitive prostatic carcinoma responds to treatment that decreases androgen levels. Androgen deprivation therapies, such as treatment with gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) agonists or orchiectomy, decrease androgen production in the testes but do not affect androgen production by the adrenals or in the tumor.

Formulations:

Zytiga is available in 250 mg tablets and 500mg tablets for oral administration.

Appendices

Appendix A: Abbreviation Key

ALT: alanine aminotransferase
AST: aspartate aminotransferase
CRPC: castration-resistant prostate cancer
CYP17: 17 α‑hydroxylase/C17,20-lyase
DHEA: dehydroepiandrosterone
GnRH: gonadotropin-releasing hormone
ULN: upper limit of normal

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	Approval Date
Converted to new template. added clarification that Zytiga must be used in combination with; added efficacy requirement of positive response; references reviewed and updated.		

References

1. Zytiga Prescribing Information. Horsham, PA: Janssen Biotech, Inc.; May 2016. Available at: https://www.zytiga.com/. Accessed February 13, 2018.
2. Abiraterone acetate. In: National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at www.NCCN.org. Accessed February 19, 2018.

3. Micromedex® Healthcare Series [Internet database]. Greenwood Village, Colo: Thomson Healthcare. Updated periodically. Accessed January 5, 2018.
4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Prostate Cancer Version 02.2017. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/prostate.pdf. Accessed February 19, 2018.