



## Clinical Policy: Tolvaptan (Jynarque, Samsca)

Reference Number: PA.CP.PHAR.27

Effective Date: 10/2018

Last Review Date: 07/2022

[Revision Log](#)

### Description

Tolvaptan (Jynarque<sup>®</sup>, Samsca<sup>®</sup>) is a selective vasopressin V<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonist .

### FDA Approved Indication(s)

Jynarque is indicated to slow kidney function decline in adults at risk of rapidly progressing autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD).

Samsca is indicated for the treatment of clinically significant hypervolemic and euvoletic hyponatremia [serum sodium < 125 mEq/L or less marked hyponatremia that is symptomatic and has resisted correction with fluid restriction], including patients with heart failure and syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone (SIADH).

Limitation(s) of use:

- Patients requiring intervention to raise serum sodium urgently to prevent or to treat serious neurological symptoms should not be treated with Samsca.
- It has not been established that Samsca provides a symptomatic benefit to patients.

### 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<sup>®</sup> that Jynarque and Samsca are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

#### I. Initial Approval Criteria

##### A. Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of ADPKD;
2. Request is for Jynarque;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a nephrologist;
4. Age ≥ 18 years;
5. Dose does not exceed 120 mg/day.

**Approval duration:** 12 months

##### B. Hyponatremia (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of hypervolemic or euvoletic hyponatremia;
2. Request is for Samsca;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a nephrologist, cardiologist, or endocrinologist;
4. Recent (within the last 7 days) serum sodium level < 125 mEq/L, unless hyponatremia is symptomatic and has resisted correction with fluid restriction;

5. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
6. Member must use generic tolvaptan, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
7. Dose does not exceed 60 mg per day.

**Approval duration: 30 days**

**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

**II. Continued Therapy**

**A. Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (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 120 mg/day.

**Approval duration: 12 months**

**B. Hyponatremia (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 as evidenced by increased sodium level since baseline;
3. Member has not received more than 30 days of Samsca treatment;
4. Member must use generic tolvaptan, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
5. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 60 mg/day.

**Approval duration: up to a total duration of 30 days**

**C. 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 12 months; 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 policy – PA.CP.PMN.53 or evidence of coverage documents

**IV. Appendices/General Information**

*Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

ADPKD: Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease  
FDA: Food and Drug Administration

*Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives*  
Not applicable

*Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings*

- Contraindication(s):
  - Jynarque:
    - History, signs or symptoms of significant liver impairment or injury, does not include uncomplicated polycystic liver disease; concomitant use of strong CYP 3A inhibitors is contraindicated; uncorrected abnormal blood sodium concentrations; unable to sense or respond to thirst; hypovolemia; hypersensitivity to tolvaptan or any of its components; uncorrected urinary outflow obstruction; anuria.
  - Samsca:
    - Use in patients with ADPKD outside of FDA-Approved REMS patients who are unable to respond appropriately to thirst; hypovolemic hyponatremia; concomitant use of strong CYP 3A inhibitors; anuria; hypersensitivity
- Boxed warning(s):
  - Jynarque:
    - Risk of serious liver injury, acute liver failure requiring liver transplantation has been reported; measure transaminases and bilirubin before initiating treatment, at 2 weeks and 4 weeks after initiation, then continuing monthly for the first 18 months and every 3 months thereafter, Jynarque is only available through a restricted distribution program called Jynarque REMS program.
  - Samsca:
    - Initiate and re-initiate in a hospital and monitor serum sodium; not for use for ADPKD

## V. Dosage and Administration

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Tolvaptan (Jynarque)	ADPKD	60 mg/day administered PO as 45 mg in the morning and 15 mg 8 hours later.  If dose is tolerated after at least a week, the total daily dose of 90 mg (60 mg in the morning and 30 mg 8 hours later) can be given.  The target dose is 120 mg/day (90 mg in the morning and 30 mg 8 hours later), if tolerated.	120 mg/day
Tolvaptan (Samsca)	hyponatremia	15 mg PO once daily, then 30 mg PO once daily after 24 hours, to a maximum of 60 mg PO once daily as	60 mg/day

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
		needed to achieve the desired level of serum sodium.  Samsca initiation and re-initiation should occur in a hospital. Do not administer Samsca for more than 30 days to minimize the risk of liver injury.	

## VI. Product Availability

Drug Name	Availability
Tolvaptan (Jynarque)	Tablets (7-day and 28-day blister-packs): 45 mg with 15 mg, 60 mg with 30 mg, 90 mg with 30 mg  Tablets (30 pack): 15 mg, 30 mg
Tolvaptan (Samsca)	Tablets: 15 mg, 30 mg

## VII. References

1. Jynarque Prescribing Information. Rockville, MD: Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. October 2020. Available at: [www.jynarque.com](http://www.jynarque.com). Accessed March 25, 2022.
2. Samsca Prescribing Information. Rockville, MD: Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. June 2018. Available at: [www.samsca.com](http://www.samsca.com). Accessed March 25, 2022.
3. Torres V, Chapman A, et al. Tolvaptan in Patients with autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease. N Engl J Med 2012; 367:2407-18.
4. Torres V, Chapman A, et al. Tolvaptan in later-stage autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease. N Engl J Med. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1710030.
5. Muller RU, Haas CS, Sayer JA. Practical approaches to the management of autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease patients in the era of tolvaptan. Clin Kidney J, 2018 Feb; 11(1):62-69.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy created.	10/2018	
3Q 2019 annual review: No changes per Statewide PDL implementation 01-01-2020	07/2019	
4Q 2019 annual review: No changes per Statewide PDL implementation 01-01-2020	10/2019	
3Q 2020 annual review: added age limit; updated product availability; updated Jynarque boxed warnings as per updated prescribing information; references reviewed and updated.	07/2020	
3Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; revised “medical justification” to “must use”; references reviewed and updated.	07/2021	
3Q 2022 annual review: no significant changes; updated Section V to state “Samsca initiation and re-initiation should occur in a	07/2022	

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
hospital”; updated Samsca contraindication section removing “need to raise serum sodium acutely” to align with prescribing information; provided duration clarification for continued hyponatremia treatment with Samsca; references reviewed and updated.		