

Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP[®], Glassia[®])



Pharmacy Coverage Policy

Effective Date: January 01, 2016

Revision Date: March 23, 2022

Review Date: March 16, 2022

Line of Business: Commercial, Medicaid - Humana, Medicaid - Ohio

Policy Type: Prior Authorization

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Disclaimer

State and federal law, as well as contract language, including definitions and specific inclusions/exclusions, take precedence over clinical policy and must be considered first in determining eligibility for coverage. Coverage may also differ for our Medicare and/or Medicaid members based on any applicable Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) coverage statements including National Coverage Determinations (NCD), Local Medical Review Policies (LMRP) and/or Local Coverage Determinations. See the CMS website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/>. The member's health plan benefits in effect on the date services are rendered must be used. Clinical policy is not intended to pre-empt the judgment of the reviewing medical director or dictate to health care providers how to practice medicine. Health care providers are expected to exercise their medical judgment in rendering appropriate care. Clinical technology is constantly evolving, and we reserve the right to review and update this policy periodically. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any shape or form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying or otherwise without permission from Humana.

Description

Aralast NP is a lyophilized preparation of purified human alpha1-proteinase inhibitors (a1-PI), also known as alpha1-antitrypsin. Glassia is a liquid preparation of purified human alpha1-proteinase inhibitor (a1-PI).

Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP, Glassia) inhibit neutrophil elastase (NE) which degrades protein components of the alveolar walls. Patients with a1-PI deficiency have little protection from the harmful effects of NE. Severe forms of this deficiency lead to panacinar emphysema which significantly shortens life expectancy.

Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP, Glassia) are indicated for chronic augmentation and maintenance therapy in individuals with a1-PI deficiency and clinical evidence of emphysema.

Aralast NP is available in vials containing the labeled amount of functionally active a1-PI, usually 0.5gm or 1.0gm in powder form that must be reconstituted before use.

Glassia is available in a single use vial containing 1 gm of 2% a1-PI in 50ml of phosphate-buffered, ready to use solution.

Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP®, Glassia®)

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Coverage Determination

Please note the following regarding medically accepted indications:

All reasonable efforts have been made to ensure consideration of medically accepted indications in this policy. Medically accepted indications are defined by CMS as those uses of a covered Part D drug that are approved under the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, or the use of which is supported by one or more citations included or approved for inclusion in any of the compendia described in section 1927(g)(1)(B)(i) of the Act. These compendia guide review of off-label and off-evidence prescribing and are subject to minimum evidence standards for each compendium. Currently, this review includes the following references when applicable and may be subject to change per CMS:

- American Hospital Formulary Service-Drug Information (AHFS-DI)
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Drugs and Biologics Compendium
- Truven Health Analytics Micromedex DrugDEX
- Elsevier/Gold Standard Clinical Pharmacology
- Wolters Kluwer Lexi-Drugs

Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP, Glassia) will require a prior authorization. Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP, Glassia) may be considered medically necessary when the following criteria is met:

Congenital Alpha1-antitrypsin Deficiency

- The member has a diagnosis of congenital alpha1-antitrypsin deficiency with clinically evident emphysema and chronic replacement therapy is needed.
- The member has an alpha1-antitrypsin phenotype of PiZZ, PiZ(null), or Pi (null, null) or phenotypes associated with serum alpha 1-antitrypsin concentrations of less than 50mg/dL if/when measured by laboratories using nephelometry instead of radial immunodiffusion. Otherwise, a deficiency is shown at 80mg/dL. (This product should not be used in individuals with the PiMZ or PiMS phenotypes of alpha1-antitrypsin deficiency because these individuals appear to be at small risk of developing clinically evident emphysema.)

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Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP, Glassia) will be approved in plan year durations.

Coverage Limitations

Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP, Glassia) therapy is not considered medically necessary for members with the following concomitant conditions:

- IgA deficient members or presence of antibodies against IgA.
- Experimental/Investigational Use – Indications not supported by CMS recognized compendia or acceptable peer reviewed literature.

Background

This is a prior authorization policy about Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP, Glassia).

Alpha-1 antitrypsin (a1-PI) deficiency is a chronic and hereditary disorder. It usually manifests in the third or fourth decades of life. The panacinar emphysema that develops is usually worse in the lower areas of the lung. The pathogenesis of emphysema in patients with this deficiency is not well understood. Alpha-1 Proteinase Inhibitors (Aralast NP, Glassia) work to replace the anti-elastase activity that is missing in patients with a1-PI deficiency.

Some other key points include: Alpha1-PI is not indicated as therapy for lung disease patient in whom congenital alpha1-PI is not established. In some adults, alpha1-antitrypsin deficiency is complicated by cirrhosis or panniculitis.

Alpha-1 Proteinase inhibitors are contraindicated in IgA deficient patients with antibodies against IgA, since these products may contain trace amounts of IgA and cause an increased risk for severe hypersensitivity.

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The long-term effects of chronic replacement therapy with alpha1-PI in individuals having emphysema due to alpha1-antitrypsin deficiency are not known because of inadequate clinical data (the number of patients is small and the course of disease is variable and slowly progressive).

	PROLASTIN-C	ARALAST NP	ZEMAIRA	GLASSIA
Entered market	February 1988	May 2003	July 2003	October 2010
Marketed by	Talecris Biotherapeutics	Baxter Healthcare	CSL Behring	Kamada Ltd.
Recommended dose	60mg/kg IV weekly	60mg/kg IV weekly	60mg/kg IV weekly	60 mg/kg IV weekly
How Supplied	1G/50ml and 0.5G/50ml	1G/50ml and 0.5G/50ml	1G/20ml vial	1G/50ml vial
Quantity needed for 28 Day Supply (90kg male)	1200ml (24 vials) or 2160ml (44 vials)	1200ml (24 vials) or 2160ml (44 vials)	480 ml or 24 vials	1200 ml or 24 vials
Storage	Refrigerated 2-8° C/36-46° F or at temperatures not to exceed 25° C or 77° F Do not freeze	Refrigerated 2-8° C/35-46° F or at temperatures not to exceed 25° C or 77° F Use product removed from refrigeration within one month Do not freeze	Up to 25°C or 77°F Do not freeze	Refrigerated 2-8° C/36-46° F Do not freeze Brief excursions to room temperature are acceptable
Dilutant (sterile water)	20ml for 1000mg vial	25ml 500mg vial 50ml 1,000mg vial	20ml 1,000mg vial	None (comes as a liquid ready to use). Volume of product 50ml for 1000mg vial
Infusion rate	0.08 ml/kg per min	0.08 ml/kg per min	0.08 ml/kg per min	0.2 ml/kg per min
Infusion time (approximate)	15 minutes	15 minutes	15 minutes	15 minutes
Contraindications	Individuals with known selective IgA deficiency with antibodies against IgA	Individuals with known selective IgA deficiency (< 15mg/dl) with antibodies against IgA	Individuals with known selective IgA deficiency with antibodies against IgA	Individuals with known selective IgA deficiency with antibodies against IgA
Common side effects	Chills, malaise, headache, rash, hot flush, pruritis	Headache, somnolence, chills, fever, vasodilation, pruritus, (itching) rash, abnormal vision, chest pain, increased cough, dyspnea	Asthenia (weakness) injection site pain, dizziness, headache, paresthesia (abnormal skin sensations) and Pruritis (itching)	Headache, dizziness
Viral inactivation processes	Solvent detergent Nanofiltration	Solvent detergent Nanofiltration	Pasteurization Dual ultra-filtration	Solvent detergent Nanofiltration
Number for reporting adverse events	800-520-2807 	888-675-2762 	800-504-5434 	866-GLASSIA

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Provider Claims Codes For medically billed requests, please visit www.humana.com/PAL. Select applicable Preauthorization and Notification List(s) for medical and procedural coding information.

Medical Terms Aralast NP; Glassia; infusion; Alpha-1 Proteinase inhibitors; antitrypsin; chronic augmentation therapy; chronic replacement therapy; pharmacy

References

1. Aralast NP [package insert] Baxter Healthcare Corporation; Westlake Village, CA. 91632 Revised March 2014.
2. Clinical Pharmacology [database online]. Tampa, FL: Gold Standard, Inc. URL: <http://www.clinicalpharmacology.com> Updated Periodically
3. Glassia [package insert] Kamada Ltd. Biet Kama MP Negev 85325 Israel. (Distributed by Baxter Healthcare Corporation. Westlake Village CA 91362 June 2012.
4. Lexi-Comp [database online]. Hudson, OH Lexi-comp, Inc.: URL <http://online.lexi.com> Updated Periodically
5. Micromedex Healthcare Series: DRUGDEX. Thomson Micromedex, Greenwood Village, CO. Updated Periodically

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