



Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees  
of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Medical benefit drug policies are a source for BCBSM and BCN medical policy information only. These documents are not to be used to determine benefits or reimbursement. Please reference the appropriate certificate or contract for benefit information. This policy may be updated and therefore subject to change.

**Effective Date: 10/03/2024**

**Kanuma™ (sebelipase alfa)**

**HCPCS: J2840**

**Policy:**

*Requests must be supported by submission of chart notes and patient specific documentation.*

- A. Coverage of the requested drug is provided when all the following are met:
  - a. FDA approved indication
  - b. FDA approved age
  - c. Confirmation of diagnosis by serum assay showing a decrease of lysosomal acid lipase (LAL) activity followed by genetic testing showing a mutation in the LIPA gene
  - d. Symptomatic manifestations of the disease are present, such as, elevated liver enzymes, microvesicular steatosis, elevated low-density lipoprotein, low high-density lipoprotein, or coronary artery disease
  - e. Trial and failure, contraindication, OR intolerance to the preferred drugs as listed in BCBSM/BCN's utilization management medical drug list.
  
- B. Quantity Limitations, Authorization Period and Renewal Criteria
  - a. Quantity Limits: Align with FDA recommended dosing
  - b. Authorization Period: 1 year at a time
  - c. Renewal Criteria: Clinical documentation must be provided to confirm that current criteria are met and that the medication is providing clinical benefit

\*\*\*Note: Coverage and approval duration may differ for Medicare Part B members based on any applicable criteria outlined in Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) or National Coverage Determinations (NCD) as determined by Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). See the CMS website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/>. Determination of coverage of Part B drugs is based on medically accepted indications which have supported citations included or approved for inclusion determined by CMS approved compendia.

## Background Information:

- Lysosomal acid lipase deficiency (LAL-D) is an autosomal recessive lysosomal storage disorder caused by a mutation on the LIPA gene. It is characterized by accumulation of undegraded triglycerides and cholesteryl esters due to a deficiency or insufficient activity of the enzyme lysosomal acid lipase (LAL). Age of onset and phenotypic spectrum are variable and range from an infantile-onset form or Wolman disease with severe clinical course and death before 1 year of age to childhood/adult-onset disease with milder symptoms, historically also known as cholesteryl ester storage disease. The most common symptoms of Wolman's disease include abdominal distension, hepatosplenomegaly, ascites, fibrosis of the liver, vomiting, diarrhea, steatorrhea, malnutrition, failure to thrive, calcification of the adrenal gland, and developmental delays. Patients with cholesteryl ester storage disease present with a range of symptoms depending on the degree of LAL activity including hypercholesterolemia, hypertriglyceridemia, high-density lipoprotein deficiency, abnormal lipid deposits, hepatomegaly, splenomegaly, adrenomegaly, fatty liver disease, and liver fibrosis.
- LAL-D diagnosis is confirmed through identifying reduced lysosomal acid lipase activity in peripheral leukocytes or skin fibroblasts followed by genetic testing that shows the patient has a mutation of the LIPA gene.
- Enzyme replacement is the standard of care in lysosomal acid lipase deficiency. Kanuma is the only enzyme replacement therapy FDA approved for the treatment of pediatric and adult patients with LAL-D. Kanuma has been studied in patients as young as 1 month of age. All patients studied were symptomatic at study entry and showed improvement in liver function, lipid panel, hepatosplenomegaly, and gastrointestinal symptoms.

## References:

1. Kanuma [prescribing information]. New Haven, CT: Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; July 2024.
2. Burton BK, Balwani M, Feillet F, et al. A phase 3 trial of sebelipase alfa in lysosomal acid lipase deficiency. *N Engl J Med.* 2015; 373: 1010 – 20.
3. Jones SA, Plantaz D, Vara R, et al. Effect of sebelipase alfa on survival and liver function in infants with rapidly progressive lysosomal acid lipase deficiency. *Molecular Gene Met.* 2015;114 (2): S59.
4. Erwin AL. The role of sebelipase alfa in the treatment of lysosomal acid lipase deficiency. *Therap Adv Gastroenterol.* 2017 Jul; 10 (7): 553 – 62.
5. National Organization for Rare Disorders. Wolman disease. 2015. Available at: <https://rarediseases.org/rare-diseases/wolman-disease/>. Accessed on July 6, 2020.
6. National Organization for Rare Disorders. Cholesteryl ester storage disease. 2019. Available at: <https://rarediseases.org/rare-diseases/cholesteryl-ester-storage-disease/>. Accessed on July 6, 2020.
7. Jones SA, Rojas-Caro S, Quinn AG, et al. Survival in infants treated with sebelipase alfa for lysosomal acid lipase deficiency: an open-label, multicenter, dose-escalation study. *Orphanet J Rare Dis.* 2017 Feb 8; 12 (1): 25 – 36.
8. Balwani M, Breen C, Enns GM, et al. Clinical effect and safety profile of recombinant human lysosomal acid lipase in patients with cholesteryl ester storage disease. *Hepatology.* 2013 Sep; 58 (3): 950 – 7.
9. Valayannopoulos V, Malinova V, Honzik T, et al. Sebelipase alfa over 52 weeks reduces serum transaminases, liver volume and improves serum lipids in patients with lysosomal acid lipase deficiency. *J Hepatol.* 2014 Nov; 61 (5): 1135 – 42.
10. Burton BK, Balwani M, Feillet F, et al. A phase 3 trial of sebelipase alfa in lysosomal acid lipase deficiency. *N Engl J Med.* 2015 Sep 10; 373 (11): 1010 - 20.

Policy History												
#	Date	Change Description										
1.8	Effective Date: 10/03/2024	Annual review – no changes made to the criteria at this time										
1.7	Effective Date: 10/12/2023	Updated to remove prescriber requirement										
1.6	Effective Date: 10/06/2022	Annual review – no changes made to the criteria at this time										
1.5	Effective Date: 10/07/2021	Annual review of policy. No changes were made to the criteria.										
1.4	Effective Date: 10/08/2020	New policy created for this disease state and drug. The Enzyme Replacement Therapy policy will be retired										
1.3	Effective Date: 02/01/2019	UM medical management system update for MAPPO <table border="1" data-bbox="483 611 1365 821"> <thead> <tr> <th>Line of Business</th> <th>PA Required in Medical Management System (Yes/No)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BCBS</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BCN</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MAPPO</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BCNA</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Line of Business	PA Required in Medical Management System (Yes/No)	BCBS	Yes	BCN	Yes	MAPPO	Yes	BCNA	Yes
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\* The prescribing information for a drug is subject to change. To ensure you are reading the most current information it is advised that you reference the most updated prescribing information by visiting the drug or manufacturer website or <http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/index.cfm>.

This policy and any information contained herein is the property of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and its subsidiaries, is strictly confidential, and its use is intended for the P&T committee, its members and BCBSM employees for the purpose of coverage determinations.

# Blue Cross Blue Shield/Blue Care Network of Michigan Medication Authorization Request Form



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This form is to be used by participating physicians to obtain coverage for **drugs covered under the medical benefit**. For commercial members only, please complete this form and submit via fax to 1-877-325-5979. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact BCBSM Provider Relations and Servicing or the Medical Drug Helpdesk at 1-800-437-3803 for assistance.

PATIENT INFORMATION	PHYSICIAN INFORMATION
<b>Name</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>ID Number</b>	<b>Specialty</b>
<b>D.O.B.</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	<b>Address</b>
<b>Diagnosis</b>	<b>City /State/Zip</b>
<b>Drug Name</b>	<b>Phone/Fax: P: (     )     -     F: (     )     -</b>
<b>Dose and Quantity</b>	<b>NPI</b>
<b>Directions</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>
<b>Date of Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact Person Phone / Ext.</b>

### STEP 1: DISEASE STATE INFORMATION

1. Is this request for:  Initiation       Continuation      *Date patient started therapy:* \_\_\_\_\_
2. Administered by patient or a medical professional?  patient (self)       health care professional (physician, nurse, etc.)
3. Site of administration?  Provider office/Home infusion       Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hospital outpatient facility (go to #4)      *Reason for Hospital Outpatient administration:* \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hospital inpatient facility for Car-T therapy only (for example: Kymriah, Yescarta, or Tecartus) (go to #5)
4. Please specify location of administration if hospital outpatient infusion: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Please specify location of administration if hospital inpatient infusion: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Please provide the NPI number for the place of administration: \_\_\_\_\_
7. **Initiation AND Continuation of therapy:**
  - a. What is the patient's diagnosis? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What other medication has the patient received for their condition? Please list \_\_\_\_\_  
    - i. Please describe the response to previous therapies: \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Will the patient be receiving any other treatment for the listed condition while on this medication? Please list: \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Please list any labs values important for diagnosing or monitoring this patient's condition: \_\_\_\_\_
8. **Continuation of therapy:**
  - a. Has the patient progressed while on this medication?  yes     no
  - b. How has the patient's condition changed while on this medication?  
 Improved; Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Stable; please describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Worsened; Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other; Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

*Chart notes are required for the processing of all requests. Please add any other supporting medical information necessary for our review (required)*

**Coverage will not be provided if the prescribing physician's signature and date are not reflected on this document.**

Request for expedited review: I certify that applying the standard review time frame may seriously jeopardize the life or health of the member or the member's ability to regain maximum function

<b>Physician's Name</b>	<b>Physician Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Step 2:</b> Checklist	<input type="checkbox"/> Form Completely Filled Out <input type="checkbox"/> Provide chart notes	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach test results
<b>Step 3:</b> Submit	<b>By Fax: BCBSM Specialty Pharmacy Mailbox 1-877-325-5979</b>	<b>By Mail: BCBSM Specialty Pharmacy Program P.O. Box 312320, Detroit, MI 48231-2320</b>

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