

Clinical Policy: Pertuzumab (Perjeta)

Reference Number: ERX.SPA.43

Effective Date: 07.01.16

Last Review Date: 05.18

[Revision Log](#)

See **Important Reminder** at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

Pertuzumab (Perjeta[®]) is a human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 protein (HER2)/neu receptor antagonist.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Perjeta is indicated for:

- Use in combination with trastuzumab and docetaxel for the treatment of patients with HER2-positive metastatic breast cancer who have not received prior anti-HER2 therapy or chemotherapy for metastatic disease
- Use in combination with trastuzumab and chemotherapy as:
 - Neoadjuvant treatment of HER2-positive, locally advanced, inflammatory, or early stage breast cancer (either greater than 2 cm in diameter or node positive) as part of a complete treatment regimen for early breast cancer;
 - Adjuvant treatment of patients with HER2-positive early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence.

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 Envolve Pharmacy Solutions[™] that Perjeta is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Breast Cancer (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of HER2-positive breast cancer;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. Prescribed as combination regimen (*see Appendix B*);
5. Dose does not exceed the following:
 - a. Initial dose: 840 mg;
 - b. Maintenance dose: 420 mg every 3 weeks.

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications

1. Refer to ERX.PA.01 if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized).

II. Continued Therapy

A. Breast Cancer (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via a health plan affiliated with Envolve Pharmacy Solutions, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Perjeta for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 420 mg every 3 weeks.

Approval duration: 12 months (total of 18 cycles if neoadjuvant or adjuvant therapy)

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

1. Currently receiving medication via a health plan affiliated with Envolve Pharmacy Solutions and documentation supports positive response to therapy.
Approval duration: Duration of request or 6 months (whichever is less); or
2. Refer to ERX.PA.01 if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized).

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 – ERX.PA.01 or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

HER2: human epidermal growth factor receptor 2

LVEF: left ventricular dysfunction

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria.

The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
Examples of drugs that may be used with Perjeta: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemotherapeutic agents: carboplatin, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin • HER2-targeted agents: docetaxel (Taxotere®), paclitaxel, Herceptin® (trastuzumab) • Endocrine therapy: tamoxifen; aromatase inhibitors: anastrozole (Arimidex®), letrozole (Femara®), exemestane (Aromasin®). 	Regimens are dependent on a variety of factors including menopausal status, treatment/progression history, clinical stage, histology, mutational, receptor status, treatment purpose (e.g., adjuvant and neoadjuvant treatment, treatment for metastatic disease).	Varies

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name® (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name®) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.

Appendix C: General Information

Black box warning: Decreases in left ventricular dysfunction (LVEF) have been reported with drugs that block HER2 activity, including Perjeta. Assess LVEF prior to initiation of Perjeta and at regular intervals during treatment to ensure that LVEF is within normal limits. If the LVEF declines and has not improved, or has declined further at the subsequent assessment, discontinuation of Perjeta and trastuzumab should be strongly considered.

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Breast cancer	Initial dose of 840 mg IV, followed by maintenance dose of 420 mg IV every 3 weeks <i>For metastatic disease, Perjeta should be administered as outlined above.</i> <i>For neoadjuvant treatment, Perjeta should be administered for 3-6 cycles. Following surgery, patients should continue to receive Perjeta to complete 1 year of treatment (up to 18 cycles)</i> <i>For adjuvant treatment, Perjeta should be administered for a total of 1 year (up to 18 cycles) or until disease recurrence or unmanageable toxicity</i>	See regimen

VI. Product Availability

Single-dose vial for injection: 420 mg/14 mL

VII. References

1. Perjeta Prescribing Information. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc.; December 2017. Available at http://www.gene.com/download/pdf/perjeta_prescribing.pdf. Accessed February 2018.
2. Pertuzumab. In: National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at www.nccn.org. Accessed February 2018.
3. Breast cancer (Version 3.2017). In: National Comprehensive Cancer Network Guidelines. Available at www.nccn.org. Accessed February 2018.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy created	05.16	06.16
Increased approval durations from 3/6 months to 6/12 months.	04.17	05.17
2Q 2018 annual review: NCCN and FDA approved uses summarized for improved clarity; specialist involvement in care added; breast cancer FDA labels updated: neoadjuvant treatment with trastuzumab and docetaxel replaced with trastuzumab and chemotherapy; adjuvant treatment added; references reviewed and updated.	02.13.18	05.18

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information.

This Clinical Policy is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine, nor does it constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members.

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