

**Clinical Policy: Desmopressin Acetate (DDAVP, Stimate, Nocurna, Noctiva)**

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.214

Effective Date: 05.01.16

Last Review Date: 02.22

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

**Description**

Desmopressin acetate (DDAVP<sup>®</sup>, Stimate<sup>®</sup>, Nocurna<sup>®</sup>, Noctiva<sup>™</sup>) is a synthetic vasopressin analog.

**FDA Approved Indication(s)**

DDAVP and Stimate are indicated for the treatment of patients with:

- Mild to moderate classic von Willebrand's disease (VWD; type I) with factor VIII levels greater than 5%
- Hemophilia A with factor VIII coagulant activity levels greater than 5%

DDAVP is also indicated for the management of central (cranial) diabetes insipidus and for the management of the temporary polyuria and polydipsia following head trauma or surgery in the pituitary region.

Nocurna and Noctiva are indicated for the treatment of nocturia due to nocturnal polyuria in adults who awaken at least 2 times per night to void.

Limitation(s) of use:

- DDAVP and Stimate are not indicated for the treatment of hemophilia A with factor VIII coagulant activity levels equal to or less than 5%, or for the treatment of hemophilia B, or in patients who have factor VIII antibodies.
- DDAVP and Stimate are not indicated for the treatment of severe classic VWD (type I) and when there is evidence of an abnormal molecular form of factor VIII antigen.
- DDAVP is ineffective for the treatment of nephrogenic diabetes insipidus.
- Noctiva has not been studied in patients less than 50 years of age.

**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 Centene Corporation<sup>®</sup> that DDAVP injection, Stimate, Nocurna, and Noctiva are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

**I. Initial Approval Criteria**

**A. Polyuria and Central Diabetes Insipidus (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of one of the following (a or b):
  - a. Central (cranial) diabetes insipidus;

- b. Temporary polyuria and polydipsia following head trauma or surgery in the pituitary region;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an endocrinologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  12 years;
4. Request is for DDAVP injection;
5. Failure of desmopressin tablets, unless contraindicated, clinically significant adverse effects are experienced, or documentation supports inability to swallow tablets;
6. Dose does not exceed 4 mcg per day.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 6 months

**Commercial** – 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer

**B. Congenital Hemophilia A (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of congenital hemophilia A (factor VIII deficiency);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a hematologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  3 months;
4. Request is for DDAVP injection or Stimate for one of the following uses (a, b, or c):
  - a. Control and prevention of bleeding episodes;
  - b. Perioperative management;
  - c. Routine prophylaxis to prevent or reduce the frequency of bleeding episodes;
5. Factor VIII coagulant activity levels are  $>$  5%;
6. Member does not have factor VIII antibodies;
7. Dose does not exceed any of the following (a or b):
  - a. DDAVP injection: 0.3 mcg/kg per dose;
  - b. Stimate: 300 mcg per day.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 6 months

**Commercial** – DDAVP injection: 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer; Stimate: 12 months

**C. Von Willebrand Disease (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of VWD type 1 or type 2;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a hematologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  3 months;
4. Request is for DDAVP injection or Stimate for one of the following uses (a, b, or c):
  - a. Control and prevention of bleeding episodes;
  - b. Perioperative management;
  - c. Routine prophylaxis to prevent or reduce the frequency of bleeding episodes;
5. Factor VIII coagulant activity levels are  $>$  5%;
6. Dose does not exceed any of the following (a or b):
  - a. DDAVP injection: 0.3 mcg/kg per dose;
  - b. Stimate: 300 mcg per day.

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 6 months

**Commercial** – DDAVP injection: 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer; Stimate: 12 months

**D. Nocturia (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of nocturia due to nocturnal polyuria;
2. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
3. Request is for Nocdurna or Noctiva;
4. Dose does not exceed any of the following (a or b):
  - a. Nocdurna: 1 tablet per day (27.7 mcg for women, 55.3 mcg for men);
  - b. Noctiva: 1.66 mcg per day (1 bottle per 30 days).

**Approval duration: 12 months**

**E. Other diagnoses/indications**

1. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

**II. Continued Therapy**

**A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all):**

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed any of the following (a, b, c, or d):
  - a. DDAVP injection: 4 mcg per day for polyuria or diabetes insipidus and 0.3 mcg/kg per dose for hemophilia A or VWD;
  - b. Stimate: 300 mcg per day;
  - c. Nocdurna: 1 tablet per day (27.7 mcg for women, 55.3 mcg for men);
  - d. Noctiva: 1.66 mcg per day (1 bottle per 30 days).

**Approval duration:**

**Medicaid/HIM – 12 months**

**Commercial – DDAVP injection: 6 months or to member's renewal date, whichever is longer; Stimate/Nocdurna/Noctiva: 12 months**

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

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy.  
**Approval duration: Duration of request or 6 months (whichever is less);** or
2. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

**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 policies –**

CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid, or evidence of coverage documents;

**B.** Noctiva for primary nocturnal enuresis.

#### IV. Appendices/General Information

##### *Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

DDAVP: 1-deamino-8-D-arginine vasopressin

eGFR: estimated glomerular filtration rate

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

SIADH: syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone

VWD: von Willebrand disease

##### *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 for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.*

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
desmopressin acetate oral tablets (DDAVP®)	<b>Polyuria and Central Diabetes Insipidus</b> 0.05 mg PO BID, titrated to a maintenance dose in the range of 0.1-1.2 mg divided into 2-3 daily doses as needed to obtain adequate antidiuresis	1.2 mg/day

*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: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings*

- Contraindication(s):
  - DDAVP injection: moderate to severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 50 mL/min), hyponatremia or a history of hyponatremia
  - Stimate: none reported
  - Noctiva: primary nocturnal enuresis; hyponatremia or a history of hyponatremia; polydipsia; concomitant use with loop diuretics or systemic/inhaled glucocorticoids; renal impairment with an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) below 50 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>; known or suspected syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone (SIADH) secretion, during illnesses that can cause fluid or electrolyte imbalance, such as gastroenteritis, salt-wasting nephropathies, or systemic infection; congestive heart failure (New York Heart Association class II to IV); uncontrolled hypertension
  - Nocurna: hyponatremia or a history of hyponatremia; polydipsia; concomitant use with loop diuretics or systemic/inhaled glucocorticoids; renal impairment with an eGFR below 50 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>; SIADH secretion; during illnesses that can cause fluid or electrolyte imbalance; heart failure; uncontrolled hypertension
- Boxed warning(s):
  - DDAVP injection, Stimate: none reported
  - Nocurna and Noctiva: hyponatremia

*Appendix D: General Information*

- The American Urology Association defines nocturnal polyuria as the production of greater than 20 to 33% of total 24-hour urine output during the period of sleep, which is age-dependent with 20% for younger individuals and 33% for elderly individuals.
- Nocturnal polyuria was defined in the Noctiva clinical trials as nighttime urine production exceeding one-third of the 24-hour urine production.
- Noctiva is contraindicated in the treatment of primary nocturnal enuresis because of reports of hyponatremic-related seizures in pediatric patients treated with other intranasal forms of desmopressin. Desmopressin acetate tablets, however, are FDA-approved for this use.

**V. Dosage and Administration**

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Desmopressin injection (DDAVP)	Central diabetes insipidus	2 to 4 mcg IV or SC daily, usually in 2 divided doses	4 mcg/day
	Hemophilia A, VWD	0.3 mcg/kg IV or SC as needed	0.3 mcg/kg/dose
Desmopressin nasal spray (Stimate)	Hemophilia A, VWD	One spray per nostril	300 mcg/dose
Desmopressin sublingual tablet (Nocdurna)	Nocturnal polyuria	Women: 27.7 mcg PO QD one hour before bedtime  Men: 55.3 mcg PO QD one hour before bedtime	Women: 27.7 mcg/day; Men: 55.3 mcg/day
Desmopressin nasal spray (Noctiva)	Nocturnal polyuria	One spray in either nostril approximately 30 minutes before bedtime; dose varies by age and hyponatremia risk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients &lt; 65 years without increased risk for hyponatremia: 1.66 mcg/spray</li> <li>• Patients ≥ 65 years or younger patients at risk for hyponatremia: 0.83 mcg/spray (may titrate to 1.66 mcg after at least 7 days with normal sodium levels)</li> </ul>	1.66 mcg/day

**VI. Product Availability**

Drug Name	Availability
Desmopressin injection (DDAVP)	Ampule: 4 mcg/mL (1 mL) Vial: 4 mcg/mL (10 mL)
Desmopressin nasal spray (Stimate)	Bottle with spray pump: 25 sprays of 150 mcg (2.5 mL)

Drug Name	Availability
Desmopressin sublingual tablet (Nocdurna)	Sublingual tablets: 27.7 mcg, 55.3 mcg
Desmopressin nasal spray (Noctiva)	Nasal spray: 3.5 mL bottle (30 effective 0.1 mL doses of either 0.83 mcg or 1.66 mcg)

## VII. References

1. DDAVP Injection Prescribing Information. Parsippany, NJ: Ferring Pharmaceuticals; July 2021. Available at: <https://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/drugInfo.cfm?setid=651f6fee-a2c7-431b-8d5d-58b156c72244>. Accessed November 27, 2021.
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4. Noctiva Prescribing Information. Chesterfield, MO: Avadel Specialty Pharmaceuticals, LLC; December 2017. Available at: [www.noctiva.com](http://www.noctiva.com). Accessed November 4, 2020.
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7. Medical and Scientific Advisory Council (MASAC) of the National Hemophilia Foundation (NHF): Database of treatment guidelines. Available at <https://www.hemophilia.org/Researchers-Healthcare-Providers/Medical-and-Scientific-Advisory-Council-MASAC/MASAC-Recommendations>. Accessed November 4, 2020.
8. Van Kerrebroeck P, Abrams P, Chaikin D et al. The standardization of terminology in nocturia: Report from the standardization sub-committee of the International Continence Society. *Neurourol Urodyn* 2002; 21: 179.
9. MASAC Recommendations Concerning Products Licensed for the Treatment of Hemophilia and Other Bleeding Disorders (Revised August 2020). MASC Document #263. Available at: [https://www.hemophilia.org/sites/default/files/document/files/263\\_treatment.pdf](https://www.hemophilia.org/sites/default/files/document/files/263_treatment.pdf). Accessed November 4, 2020.

## Coding Implications

Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

HCPCS Codes	Description
J2597	Injection, desmopressin acetate, per 1 mcg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
1Q18 Annual Review - Policies combined for Centene Medicaid and Marketplace lines of business. Marketplace policy included Stimat. - Added age limit for diabetes insipidus.	11.29.17	01.18
Removed the requirement for CrCl at least 50 mL/min and serum sodium at least 35 mEq/L to adhere to the accepted approach re: inclusion of safety precautions in PA policies.	01.23.18	
4Q annual review: added commercial line of business; added Noctiva; modified Medicaid/HIM approval durations to 6 months for initial and 12 months for continued for all indications except nocturia; references reviewed and updated.	07.03.18	11.18
1Q 2019 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	09.26.18	02.19
No significant changes; added Nocdurna to policy per SDC and prior approved clinical guidance.	02.01.19	
1Q 2020 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	10.29.19	02.20
1Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; removed reference to non-formulary HIM policy for Nocdurna and Noctiva requests; references to HIM.PHAR.21 revised to HIM.PA.154; references reviewed and updated.	11.04.20	02.21
1Q 2022 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	11.27.21	02.22

**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. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy,

contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. 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. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

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**Note:**

**For Medicaid members**, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

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