

Clinical Policy: Tolvaptan (Jynarque, Samsca)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.27

Effective Date: 06.05.18

Last Review Date: 08.21

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

[Revision Log](#)

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

Description

Tolvaptan (Jynarque[®], Samsca[®]) is a selective vasopressin V₂-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 euvolemic 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 health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation[®] 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 per day.

Approval duration:

Medicaid/HIM – 12 months

Commercial – Length of Benefit

B. Hyponatremia (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of hypervolemic or euvolemic 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 ≥ 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 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. Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (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 120 mg per day.

Approval duration:

Medicaid/HIM – 12 months

Commercial – Length of Benefit

B. Hyponatremia (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 as evidenced by increased sodium level since baseline;
3. Member must use generic tolvaptan, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
4. 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 Centene benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy.

Approval duration: Duration of request or 12 months; 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

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; need to raise serum sodium acutely; 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 PO per day administered as 45 mg in the morning and 15 mg 8 hours later.	120 mg/day

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
		<p>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.</p> <p>The target dose is 120 mg/day (90 mg in the morning and 30 mg 8 hours later), if tolerated.</p>	
Tolvaptan (Samsca)	hyponatremia	<p>15 mg PO QD, then 30 mg PO QD after 24 hours, to a maximum of 60 mg PO QD as needed to achieve the desired level of serum sodium.</p> <p>Do not administer Samsca for more than 30 days to minimize the risk of liver injury.</p>	60 mg/day

VI. Product Availability

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

VII. References

1. Jynarque Prescribing Information. Rockville, MD: Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. October 2020. Available at: www.jynarque.com. Accessed March 22, 2021.
2. Samsca Prescribing Information. Rockville, MD: Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. June 2018. Available at: www.samsca.com. Accessed March 22, 2021.
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.	06.05.18	08.18
Added HIM line of business; added Samsca and hyponatremia criteria to policy; references reviewed and updated.	09.04.18	11.18

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
4Q 2019 annual review: no significant changes; added to contraindications and boxed warnings per updated prescribing information; references reviewed and updated.	08.25.19	11.19
3Q 2020 annual review: no significant changes; updated product availability; updated Jynarque boxed warnings as per updated prescribing information; added criterion for medical justification supporting inability to use generic tolvaptan for brand Samsca request; references reviewed and updated.	07.22.20	08.20
3Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; revised “medical justification” to “must use”; updated reference for HIM off-label use to HIM.PA.154 (replaces HIM.PHAR.21); references reviewed and updated.	03.22.21	08.21

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.

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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.

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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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