

**Policy: MBP 241.0**

**Section: Medical Benefit Pharmaceutical Policy**

**Subject: Amondys 45 (casimersen)**

**I. Policy:**

Amondys 45 (casimersen)

**II. Purpose/Objective:**

To provide a policy of coverage regarding Amondys 45 (casimersen)

**III. Responsibility:**

- A. Medical Directors
- B. Medical Management
- C. Pharmacy Department

**IV. Required Definitions**

1. Attachment – a supporting document that is developed and maintained by the policy writer or department requiring/authoring the policy.
2. Exhibit – a supporting document developed and maintained in a department other than
3. the department requiring/authoring the policy.
4. Devised – the date the policy was implemented.
5. Revised – the date of every revision to the policy, including typographical and grammatical changes.
6. Reviewed – the date documenting the annual review if the policy has no revisions necessary.

**V. Additional Definitions**

Medical Necessity or Medically Necessary means Covered Services rendered by a Health Care Provider that the Plan determines are:

- a. appropriate for the symptoms and diagnosis or treatment of the Member's condition, illness, disease or injury;
- b. provided for the diagnosis and the direct care and treatment of the Member's condition, illness disease or injury;
- c. in accordance with current standards good medical treatment practiced by the general medical community;
- d. not primarily for the convenience of the Member, or the Member's Health Care Provider; and
- e. the most appropriate source or level of service that can safely be provided to the Member. When applied to hospitalization, this further means that the Member requires acute care as an inpatient due to the nature of the services rendered or the Member's condition, and the Member cannot receive safe or adequate care as an outpatient

**Medicaid Business Segment**

Medical Necessity shall mean a service or benefit that is compensable under the Medical Assistance Program and if it meets any one of the following standards:

- (i) the service or benefit will, or is reasonably expected to, prevent the onset of an illness, condition or disability.
- (ii) the service or benefit will, or is reasonably expected to, reduce or ameliorate the physical, mental or development effects of an illness, condition, injury or disability.
- (iii) the service or benefit will assist the Member to achieve or maintain maximum functional capacity in performing daily activities, taking into account both the functional capacity of the Member and those functional capacities that are appropriate for members of the same age

**DESCRIPTION:**

Casimersen is an antisense oligonucleotide designed to bind exon 45 of dystrophin pre-mRNA, resulting in exclusion of this exon during mRNA processing. Skipping of exon 45 allows for production of an internally truncated dystrophin protein in patients with a confirmed mutation that is amenable to exon 45 skipping.

Casimersen is approved under accelerated approval based on an increase in dystrophin production in skeletal muscle observed in patients treated with casimersen. Continued approval may be contingent upon verification of a clinical benefit in confirmatory trials.

**CRITERIA FOR USE: Requires Prior Authorization by Medical Director or Designee**

Amondys 45 (casimersen) will be considered medically necessary when all of the following criteria are met:

- Medical record documentation of interdisciplinary team involvement including, at a minimum, neurology, cardiology, pulmonology, and a genetic specialist (e.g., geneticist, genetic counselor, etc.) **AND**
- Medical record documentation of Duchenne’s Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) confirmed by genetic testing **AND**
- Medical record documentation that the member has a confirmed mutation of the DMD gene that is amenable to exon 45 skipping confirmed by a genetic counselor **AND**
- Medical record documentation of a baseline evaluation, including a standardized assessment of motor function by a neurologist with experience treating Duchenne muscular dystrophy **AND**
- Medical record documentation that Amondys 45 is being given concurrently with oral corticosteroids unless contraindicated or intolerant **AND**
- Medical record documentation that patient will receive a dose consistent with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved labeling (maximum dose of 30 mg/kg infused once weekly) **AND**
- **For Commercial Lines of Business only:**
  - Medical record documentation that the patient is ambulatory (e.g., able to walk with assistance, not wheelchair bound, does not have full-time dependence on motorized wheelchairs or scooters for mobility) as proven by documentation of a 6-Minute Walk Test Distance (6MWT) within the past 3 months of initiation of Amondys 45.

**Note:** Exon Deletions\* on the Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Gene Theoretically Amenable to Exon 45 Skipping

7-44									
12-44	18-44								
44									
46	46-47	46-48	46-49	46-51	46-53	46-55	46-57	46-59	46-60
46-67	46-69	46-75	46-78						

\*The first number represents the first exon deleted. The last number is the last exon deleted. The dash (-) represents all exons in between the first and last exon deleted.

**AUTHORIZATION DURATION:** Initial approval will be for 6 months or less if the reviewing provider feels it is medically appropriate. Subsequent approvals will be for an additional 6 months or less if the reviewing provider feels it is medically appropriate and will require medical record documentation of the following:

- Medical record documentation that the member continues to benefit from treatment with casimersen **AND**
- Medical record documentation of an annual evaluation, including an assessment of motor function ability, by a neurologist with experience treating Duchenne muscular dystrophy **AND**
- Medical record documentation that Amondys 45 continues to be given concurrently with oral corticosteroids unless contraindicated or intolerant **AND**
- Medical record documentation that the patient will continue to receive a dose consistent with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved labeling (maximum dose of 30 mg/kg infused once weekly) **AND**
- **For Commercial Lines of Business only:**
  - Medical record documentation that the patient remains ambulatory (e.g., able to walk with assistance, not wheelchair bound, does not have full-time dependence on motorized wheelchairs or scooters for mobility) as proven by documentation of a follow-up 6-Minute Walk Test Distance (6MWT) within the past 6 months.

**LINE OF BUSINESS:**

**Eligibility and contract specific benefit limitations and/or exclusions will apply. Coverage statements found in the line of business specific benefit document will supersede this policy.**

This policy will be revised as necessary and reviewed no less than annually.

**Devised:** 8/31/21

**Revised:**

**Reviewed:**