Geisinger

POLICIES AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Policy: MBP 54.0

Section: Medical Benefit Pharmaceutical Policy

Subject: Eculizumab (Soliris) and Biosimilars

Applicable line of business:

Commercial	X	Medicaid	X
Medicare	X	ACA	X
CHIP	X		

I. Policy:
Eculizumab (Soliris) and Biosimilars

II. Purpose/Objective:
To provide a policy of coverage regarding Soliris (eculizumab) and Epysqli (eculizumab-aagh)

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 the department requiring/authoring the policy.
3. Devised – the date the policy was implemented.
4. Revised – the date of every revision to the policy, including typographical and grammatical changes.
5. 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
Medically Necessary — A service, item, procedure, or level of care compensable under the Medical Assistance program that is necessary for the proper treatment or management of an illness, injury, or disability is one that:

i. Will, or is reasonably expected to, prevent the onset of an illness, condition, injury or disability.
ii. Will, or is reasonably expected to, reduce or ameliorate the physical, mental or developmental effects of an illness, condition, injury or disability.
iii. 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:
Eculizumab is a humanized monoclonal IgG antibody that binds to complement protein C5, preventing cleavage into C5a and C5b. Blocking the formation of C5b inhibits the subsequent formation of terminal complex C5b-9 or MAC. Terminal complement-mediated intravascular hemolysis is a key clinical feature of paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH); blocking the formation of membrane attack complex (MAC) results in stabilization of hemoglobin and a reduction in the need for RBC transfusions. Impairment of complement activity regulation leads to uncontrolled complement activation in atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS).

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

Eculizumab products for Commercial, Exchange, CHIP, and Medicaid lines of business	
Preferred	**Non-preferred**
eculizumab-aagh (Epysqli)	eculizumab (Soliris)

Soliris (eculizumab) and Epysqli (eculizumab-aagh) will be considered medically necessary for the commercial, exchange, CHIP, and Medicaid lines of business when all of the following criteria are met per indication:

1. **Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH)**
   - Medical record documentation of a diagnosis of paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH)
   - Physician provided documentation of flow cytometry confirming diagnosis **AND**
   - Physician provided documentation of Soliris or eculizumab biosimilar being prescribed by a hematologist **AND**
   - Physician provided documentation of the insured individual being vaccinated with the meningococcal vaccine **AND**
   - Physician documentation of one of the following:
     - Member is transfusion-dependent (i.e., has at least 1 transfusion in the 24 months prior to initiation of eculizumab due to documented hemoglobin less than 7 g/dL in persons without anemic symptoms or less than 9 g/dL in persons with symptoms from anemia) prior to initiation of eculizumab treatment **OR**
     - There is a significant adverse impact on the insured individual's health such as end organ damage or thrombosis without other cause

   AND
   - For eculizumab reference product requests (ie. Soliris): Medical record documentation of therapeutic failure on, intolerance to, or contraindication to a preferred eculizumab biosimilar

   AUTHORIZATION DURATION: Approval will be given for 6 months. Additional coverage will only be provided when documentation of the following is provided:
   - Member requires fewer transfusions or has stabilization of Hb levels **AND**
   - Reduction in intravascular hemolysis as evidenced reduction in elevated LDH levels from baseline **AND**
   - No recurrent infections

2. **Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (aHUS)**
   - Medical record documentation of a diagnosis of atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS) **AND**
   - For eculizumab reference product requests (ie. Soliris): Medical record documentation of therapeutic failure on, intolerance to, or contraindication to a preferred eculizumab biosimilar

   (Soliris is used to inhibit complement-mediated thrombotic microangiopathy)

   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 continued disease improvement or lack of disease progression. The medication will no longer be covered if patient experiences toxicity or worsening of disease.

3. Generalized Myasthenia Gravis (gMA)

- Medical record documentation supporting a confirmed diagnosis of Generalized Myasthenia Gravis **AND**
- Medical record documentation that member is anti-acetylcholine receptor (AchR) antibody positive **AND**
- Prescribed by or in consultation with a neuromuscular specialist **AND**
- Medical record documentation of age ≥ 6 years **AND**
- Medical record documentation of a prescribed dose and administration that is consistent with FDA-approved package labeling, nationally recognized compendia, or peer-reviewed medical literature **AND**
- Medical record documentation of Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America Clinical Classification (MGFA) Class II to IV **AND***
- For members 18 years of age or older: Medical record documentation Myasthenia Gravis-Activities of Daily Living (MG-ADL) score of 6 or more at baseline **AND****
- For members under the age of 18 years: Medical record documentation of baseline Myasthenia Gravis-Activities of Daily Living (MG-ADL), Quantitative Myasthenia Gravis (QMG) or Myasthenia Gravis Composite (MGC) score **AND**
- Medical record documentation of therapeutic failure on, intolerance to, or contraindication to corticosteroids **AND**
- Medical record documentation of therapeutic failure on intolerance to, or contraindication to at least two (2) non-steroidal immunosuppressive therapies **OR** has failed at least one (1) immunosuppressive therapy and required chronic plasmapheresis or plasma exchange (PE) **AND**
- Medical record documentation of failure on intolerance to, or contraindication to intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) **AND**
- For eculizumab reference product requests (ie. Soliris): Medical record documentation of therapeutic failure on, intolerance to, or contraindication to a preferred eculizumab biosimilar

AUTHORIZATION DURATION: Initial approval will be given for 6 months.
Subsequent approvals will be for an additional 6 months and will require:

- Medical record documentation of continued disease improvement or lack of disease progression **AND**
- For members 18 years of age or older: Medical record documentation that the member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by a 3-point reduction in MG-ADL total score**;

The medication will no longer be covered if patient experiences toxicity or worsening of disease.

**Note: Class I Myasthenia gravis is indicated by any eye muscle weakness, possible ptosis (drooping or falling of the upper eyelid) and no other evidence of muscle weakness elsewhere, Class II to IV include muscle weakness in areas of the body beyond the eye.*

Note: Corticosteroids: betamethasone, dexamethasone, methylprednisolone, prednisone
Cholinesterase inhibitors: pyridostigmine, neostigmine
Immunosuppressants: azathioprine, mycophenolate, cyclosporine, Rituxan

Note: Dosing for MG is 900 mg IV every 7 days for the first 4 weeks, followed by a single dose of 1,200 mg 7 days after the fourth dose, and then 1,200 mg every 2 weeks thereafter. Max dosage is 1,200 mg per dose.

MG Activities of Daily Living (MG-ADL)**

Grade	0	1	2	3	Score
Talking	Normal	Intermittent slurring or nasal speech	Constant slurring or nasal, but can be understood	Difficult to understand speech	
Chewing	Normal	Fatigue with solid food	Fatigue with soft food	Gastric tube	
Swallowing	Normal	Rare episode of choking	Frequent choking necessitating changes in diet	Gastric tube	
Breathing	Normal	Shortness of breath with exertion	Shortness of breath at rest	Ventilator dependence	
Impairment of ability to brush teeth or comb hair	None	Extra effort, but no rest periods needed	Rest periods needed	Cannot do one of these functions	
Impairment of ability to arise from a chair	None	Mild, sometimes uses arms	Moderate, always uses arms	Severe, requires assistance	
Double vision	None	Occurs, but not daily	Daily, but not constant	Constant	
Eyelid droop	None	Occurs, but not daily	Daily, but not constant	Constant	
				Total score _____	

4. SOLIRIS ONLY: Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder (NMOSD)

- Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurologist
- Medical record documentation that member is 18 years or older **AND**
- Medical record documentation of diagnosis of Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder (NMOSD) **AND**
- Medical record documentation that member is anti-Aquaporin-4 (AQP4) antibody positive **AND**
- Medical record documentation of failure on intolerance to, or contraindication to rituximab or rituximab biosimilar **AND**
- Medical record documentation of therapeutic failure on, intolerance to, or contraindication to Enspryng.

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 continued disease improvement or lack of disease progression. The medication will no longer be covered if patient experiences toxicity or worsening of disease.

Soliris (eculizumab) and Epysqli (eculizumab-aagh) will be considered medically necessary for the Medicare line of business when all of the following criteria are met per indication:

1. **Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH)**
   - Medical record documentation of a diagnosis of paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH)
   - Physician provided documentation of flow cytometry confirming diagnosis **AND**
   - Physician provided documentation of Soliris or eculizumab biosimilar being prescribed by a hematologist **AND**
   - Physician provided documentation of the insured individual being vaccinated with the meningococcal vaccine **AND**
   - Physician documentation of one of the following:
     - member is transfusion-dependent (i.e., has at least 1 transfusion in the 24 months prior to initiation of eculizumab due to documented hemoglobin less than 7 g/dL in persons without anemic symptoms or less than 9 g/dL in persons with symptoms from anemia) prior to initiation of eculizumab treatment; **or**
     - there is a significant adverse impact on the insured individual's health such as end organ damage or thrombosis without other cause.

   AUTHORIZATION DURATION: Approval will be given for 6 months. Additional coverage will only be provided when documentation of the following is provided:
   - Member requires fewer transfusions or has stabilization of Hb levels **AND**
   - Reduction in intravascular hemolysis as evidenced reduction in elevated LDH levels from baseline **AND**
   - No recurrent infections

2. **Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (aHUS)**
   - Medical record documentation of a diagnosis of atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS) *(Soliris is used to inhibit complement-mediated thrombotic microangiopathy)*

   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 continued disease improvement or lack of disease progression. The medication will no longer be covered if patient experiences toxicity or worsening of disease.

3. **Generalized Myasthenia Gravis (gMA)**
   - Medical record documentation supporting a confirmed diagnosis of Generalized Myasthenia Gravis **AND**
   - Medical record documentation that member is anti-acetylcholine receptor (AchR) antibody positive **AND**
   - Prescribed by or in consultation with a neuromuscular specialist **AND**
   - Medical record documentation of age $\geq$ 6 years **AND**
   - Medical record documentation of a prescribed dose and administration that is consistent with FDA-approved package labeling, nationally recognized compendia, or peer-reviewed medical literature **AND**
   - Medical record documentation of Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America Clinical Classification (MGFA) Class II to IV **AND***
   - For members 18 years of age or older: Medical record documentation Myasthenia Gravis-Activities of Daily Living (MG-ADL) score of 6 or more at baseline **AND****
   - For members under the age of 18 years: Medical record documentation of baseline Myasthenia Gravis-Activities of Daily Living (MG-ADL), Quantitative Myasthenia Gravis (QMG) or Myasthenia Gravis Composite (MGC) score **AND**
   - Medical record documentation of therapeutic failure on, intolerance to, or contraindication to corticosteroids **AND**
   - Medical record documentation of therapeutic failure on intolerance to, or contraindication to at least two (2) non-steroidal immunosuppressive therapies **OR** has failed at least one (1) immunosuppressive therapy and required chronic plasmapheresis or plasma exchange (PE) **OR**
   - Medical record documentation of failure on intolerance to, or contraindication to intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG)

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- Medical record documentation of continued disease improvement or lack of disease progression **AND**
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The medication will no longer be covered if patient experiences toxicity or worsening of disease.

**Note: Class I Myasthenia gravis is indicated by any eye muscle weakness, possible ptosis (drooping or falling of the upper eyelid) and no other evidence of muscle weakness elsewhere, Class II to IV include muscle weakness in areas of the body beyond the eye.*

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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 continued disease improvement or lack of disease progression. The medication will no longer be covered if patient experiences toxicity or worsening of disease.

Note: For Medicaid (GHP Family), any requests for services that do not meet criteria set in the PARP will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

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.

REFERENCES:

1. Soliris [prescribing information]. Boston, MA: Alexion Pharmaceuticals Inc; February 2025.
2. Epysqli [Prescribing Information]. Teaneck NJ. Samsung Bioepis Co., Ltd. January 2025.
3. Bird, SJ, Shefner JM, Goddeau, R. Overview of the treatment of myasthenia gravis. UpToDate. 2023 Aug 7 [cited 2023 Dec 26. Avialable from: https://www.uptodate.com/contents/overview-of-the-treatment-of-myasthenia-gravis?search=myathenia%20gravis&source=search_result&selectedTitle=1~150&usage_type=default&display_rank=1
4. Sander DB, Wolf GI, Benatar M, et al. International consensus guidance for management of myasthenia gravis. American Academy of Neurology. Neurology; 2016 Jun 29. 87(4):419-425. Available from: https://www.neurology.org/doi/pdf/10.1212/WNL.0000000000002790

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

Devised: 7/11/07

Revised: 2/12 (criteria added); 2/13 (criteria revision), 1/20/15 (formatting changes), 3/22/17 (criteria updated, DHS), 3/20/18 (Myasthenia Gravis), 11/19/19 (NMOSD), 1/19/21 (form alt), 8/25/22 (gMA formulary alternative deletes, Medicaid PARP statement), 8/25/23 (LOB carve out, Medicaid business segment), 8/19/24 (references added, description, LOB table, taglines), 8/18/25 (MG age, dose, [from 7/8/25 P&T: Epysqli])

Reviewed: 10/09, 3/16, 1/31/17, 10/31/17, 2/26/19, 11/2/20, 1/13/22

MA UM Committee approval: 12/31/23, 12/31/24, 9/10/25

DHS PARP approval: 10/2/24, 10/2/25