cholic acid (Cholbam®)

EOCCO POLICY

Policy Type: PA/SP Pharmacy Coverage Policy: EOCCO089

Description

Cholic acid (Cholbam) is an orally administered bile acid to help maintain bile acid homeostasis.

Length of Authorization

- Initial: three months
- Renewal: 12 months

Quantity limits

Product Name	Dosage Form	Indication	Quantity Limit	DDID
cholic acid (Cholbam)	50 mg capsules	Single Enzyme Defects (SEDs)	240 capsules/30 days	187995
	250 mg capsules	Peroxisomal disorders	240 capsules/30 days	187996

Initial Evaluation

I. Cholic acid (Cholbam) may be considered medically necessary when the following criteria below are met:
   A. Medication is prescribed by, or in consultation with a hepatologist or gastroenerologist; **AND**
   B. Member has **ALL** the following baseline lab values completed before initiation of therapy and continued monitoring when clinically appropriate:
      1. Aspartate aminotransferase test (AST)
      2. Alanine transaminase (ALT)
      3. Gamma-glutamyl transferase (GGT)
      4. Alkaline phosphate
      5. Bilirubin
      6. International normalized ratio (INR); **AND**
   C. A diagnosis of one of the following:
      1. **Single Enzyme Defects (SEDs); AND**
         i. Member has ONE of the following SEDs:
            a. 3-beta-hydroxy-delta-5-C27-steroid oxidoreductase (3β-HSD) deficiency

b. Delta4-3 oxosteroid 5-beta-reductase, also known as aldoketoreductase (AKR1D1) deficiency
c. Cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis (CTX)
d. Alpha-methylacyl-CoA racemase (AMACR) deficiency
e. Sterol 27-hydroxylase (CYP27A1) deficiency
f. Smith-Lemli-Opitz; **AND**

ii. The request is for bile acid synthesis disorder due to one of the SEDs diagnosis above; **OR**

2. **Peroxisomal Disorders (PD); AND**
   i. Member has ONE of the following peroxisomal disorders:
      a. Neonatal Adrenoleukodystropyhy
      b. Generalized Peroxisomal Disorder
      c. Refsum Disease
      d. Zellweger Syndrome
      e. Peroxisomal Disorder, Type Unknown; **AND**
   ii. Member exhibits manifestation of liver disease, steatorrhea or complications from decreased fat soluble vitamin absorption; **AND**
   iii. Member will be using cholic acid (Cholbam) as adjunctive treatment

II. Cholic acid (Cholbam) is considered investigational when used for all other conditions, including but not limited to:
   A. Extrahepatic manifestation of bile acid synthesis disorders due to SEDs or PDs
   B. Familial hypertriglyceridemia without the diagnosis of SEDs or PDs

Renewal Evaluation

I. Member has received a previous prior authorization approval for this agent; **AND**
II. Member has exhibited improvement or stability of disease symptoms.

Supporting Evidence

I. For the indication of single enzyme defects (SEDs), cholic acid (Cholbam) was studied in two clinical trials. Trial 1 was a non-randomized, open-label, single-arm trial in 50 patients over an 18 year period; trial 2 was an extension trial with 33 patients enrolled. Response to cholic acid (Cholbam) treatment was assessed with the following end points: ALT or AST values reduced to less than 50 U/L or baseline levels reduced by 80%, total bilirubin values reduced to less than or

equal to 1 mg/dL, no evidence of cholestasis on liver biopsy, body weight increased by 10% or stable at greater than the 50th percentile, and survival for greater than 3 years on treatment or alive at the end of Trial 2. Regarding the 44 patients that were able to be measured at the end of the study, 28 patients (64%) were responders. Attrition information was limited.

II. For the indication of preoxisomal disorders (PDs) cholic acid (Cholbam) was studied in two clinical trials. Trial 1 was an open-label, single-arm trial in 29 patients followed over an 18 year period; while trial 2 was an extension trial with 12 patients enrolled. Response to cholic acid (Cholbam) treatment was assessed with the following end points: ALT or AST values reduced to less than 50 U/L, or baseline levels reduced by 80%, total bilirubin values reduced to less than or equal to 1 mg/dL, no evidence of cholestasis on liver biopsy, body weight increased by 10% or stable at greater than the 50th percentile, and survival for greater than 3 years on treatment or alive at the end of Trial 2. Of the 24 patients that were able to be measured at the end of the study, 11 patients (46%) were responders. Attrition information was limited.

III. Initial approval duration of three months allows for appropriate follow up with the prescriber per FDA label for cholic acid (Cholbam). It is then recommended to monitor AST, ALT, GGT, alkaline phosphatase, bilirubin and INR every month for the first 3 months, every 3 months for the next 9 months, every 6 months for the next three years, and annually for the remainder of the treatment.

Investigational or Not Medically Necessary Uses

I. Extrahepatic manifestation of bile acid synthesis disorders due to SEDs or PDs
   A. Cholic acid (Cholbam) has not been evaluated for safety and efficacy in the setting of extrahepatic manifestations.

II. Familial hypertriglyceridemia without the diagnosis of SEDs or PDs
   A. Although cholic acid (Cholbam) has an approved dosing regimen for concomitant familial hypertriglyceridemia, the safety and efficacy for patients diagnosed with familial hypertriglyceridemia without SEDs or PDs has not yet been evaluated.

References

1. Cholbam [Prescribing Information]. San Diego, CA: Manchester Pharmaceuticals, Inc. January 2016.

Policy Implementation/Update:

Date Created	April 2015
Date Effective	April 2015
Last Updated	
Last Reviewed	10/2019

Action and Summary of Changes	Date
Criteria was transitioned into policy. In this transition process, the following updates were made: addition of quantity limit, initial approval duration was changed from one year to three months following label recommendation for appropriate monitoring, renewal criteria and duration was added, supporting evidence was added, and investigational indications were added.	10/2019