Clinical Policy: Long-Acting Injectable Atypical Antipsychotics
Reference Number: NH.PHAR.122
Effective Date: 03.18
Last Review Date: 02.19
Coding
Implications
Line of Business: Medicaid
Revision
Log

See Important Reminder at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description
The following are long-acting injectable (LAI) atypical antipsychotics requiring prior authorization:

- Abilify® Maintena® (aripiprazole extended-release injectable suspension)
- AristadaTM (aripiprazole extended-release injectable suspension)
- Aristada Initio (Aripiprazole lauroxil extended release injectable suspension)
- Invega® TrinzaTM (paliperidone palmitate extended-release injectable suspension)
- Zyprexa® RelprevvTM (olanzapine extended-release injectable suspension)

Preferred Formulary Products
NH Healthy Families has both Invega® Sustenna® (paliperidone palmitate extended-release injectable suspension) and Risperdal® Consta® (risperidone long-acting injection) as preferred formulary options (quantity limits apply).

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Abilify Maintena is indicated:

- For the treatment of schizophrenia in adults
- For maintenance monotherapy treatment of bipolar I disorder in adults

Aristada is indicated:

- For the treatment of schizophrenia.

Aristada Initio, in combination with oral aripiprazole, is indicated:

- For the initiation of Aristada when used for the treatment of schizophrenia in adults.

Invega Trinza is indicated:

- For the treatment of schizophrenia in patients after they have been adequately treated with Invega Sustenna (1-month paliperidone palmitate extended-release injectable suspension) for at least four months.

Zyprexa Relprevv is indicated:

- For the treatment of schizophrenia.
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 LAI atypical antipsychotics are medically necessary for members meeting the following criteria:

Initial Approval Criteria

I. Abilify Maintena
   A. Initiation of Abilify Maintena therapy for 3 months (meets all):
      1. Prescribed by a psychiatric specialist;
      2. Age ≥18 years;
      3. Documented trial and failure of Invega Sustenna OR Risperdal Consta for > 3 months unless contraindicated;
      4. Documented diagnosis of schizophrenia or Bipolar I disorder;
      5. History of nonadherence to oral antipsychotic therapy;
      6. Has established tolerability to oral antipsychotic therapy;
      7. Therapeutic plan includes an initial 14 days of concomitantly administered oral antipsychotic therapy with Abilify Maintena;
      8. No history of dementia-related psychosis.

   B. Continuation of Abilify Maintena for 12 months (meets all):
      1. Demonstrated a therapeutic response;
      2. The treatment plan includes concomitant oral aripiprazole for 14 days with the next administered injection if one of the following:
         a. The second or third doses are missed, and more than 5 weeks have elapsed since the last injection;
         3. The fourth dose is missed, and more than 6 weeks have elapsed since the last injection; No dementia-related psychosis.

II. Aristada/Aristada Initio
   A. Initiation of Aristada/Aristada Initio therapy for 3 months (meets all):
      1. Prescribed by a psychiatric specialist;
      2. Age ≥18 years;
      3. Documented trial and failure of Invega Sustenna OR Risperdal Consta for > 3 months unless contraindicated;
      4. Documented diagnosis of schizophrenia;
      5. History of nonadherence to oral antipsychotic therapy;
      6. Has established tolerability to oral antipsychotic therapy;
      7. Therapeutic plan includes an initial 21 days of concomitantly administered oral aripiprazole therapy with Aristada/Aristada Initio;
      8. No history of dementia-related psychosis.
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**B. Continuation of Aristada for 12 months (meets all):**
1. Demonstrated a therapeutic response;
2. The treatment includes concomitant oral aripiprazole if either of the following:
   a. Currently taking 441 mg of Aristada and > 6 weeks have elapsed since the last injection;
   b. Currently taking 662 mg or 882 mg of Aristada and > 8 weeks have elapsed since the last injection;
3. No dementia-related psychosis.

**III. Invega Trinza**

**A. Initiation of Invega Trinza therapy for 3 months (meets all):**
1. Prescribed by a psychiatric specialist;
2. Age ≥18 years;
3. Documented diagnosis of schizophrenia;
4. History of nonadherence to oral antipsychotic therapy;
5. Has been adequately treated with Invega Sustenna for ≥ 4 months;
6. No history of dementia-related psychosis.

**B. Continuation of Invega Trinza for 12 months (meets all):**
1. Demonstrated a therapeutic response;
2. No dementia-related psychosis;
3. If > 9 months have elapsed since the last Invega Trinza injection, the patient should re-establish treatment with Invega Sustenna x four months before reinitiating Invega Trinza therapy.

**IV. Zyprexa Relprevv**

**A. Initiation of Zyprexa Relprevv therapy for 3 months (meets all):**
1. Prescribed by a psychiatric specialist who is enrolled in the post-injection delirium/sedation syndrome (PDSS) REMS program;
2. Age ≥18 years;
3. Documented trial and failure of Invega Sustenna OR Risperdal Consta for > 3 months unless contraindicated;
4. Documented diagnosis of schizophrenia;
5. History of nonadherence to oral antipsychotic therapy;
6. Has established tolerability to oral antipsychotic therapy;
7. No history of dementia-related psychosis.

**B. Continuation of Zyprexa Relprevv therapy for 12 months (meets all):**
1. Demonstrated a therapeutic response;
2. No dementia-related psychosis.
Background
Schizophrenia
Schizophrenia is characterized by delusions, hallucinations, disorganized speech and behavior, and negative symptoms (diminished emotional expression or avolition). These symptoms are known as active-phase symptoms. Schizophrenia also is characterized by a decreased ability to care for one’s self, or function socially or occupationally. For a diagnosis, symptoms must be present for six months and include at least one month of active symptoms. Diagnosis also involves ruling out potential causes such as other medical conditions or medications.

Antipsychotic medications are considered first-line treatment for schizophrenia. The primary treatment goal is to prevent relapse and restore functioning. The relapse rate in patients with first-episode schizophrenia is relatively low during the first year but rises to over 50% after two years and over 80% after five years. Lack of adherence to oral medication is the most common cause of relapse and has been associated with a five-fold increased relapse risk in first-episode schizophrenia. LAI atypical antipsychotics have been associated with a decreased relapse rate compared to oral antipsychotic drugs in first-episode schizophrenia and have been shown to improve non-adherence. If transitioning to LAI therapy, patients should first establish tolerability to an oral antipsychotic agent. Evidence points to similar efficacy across the atypical LAIs.

Bipolar I Disorder and Schizoaffective Disorder
Bipolar I Disorder is defined by manic or mixed episodes lasting for at least one week (or less if hospitalization is required) with or without subsequent depressive episodes lasting for at least two weeks. Risperdal Consta is FDA approved as monotherapy, or as adjunctive therapy to lithium or valproate, for maintenance treatment of Bipolar I Disorder. Schizoaffective Disorder includes a combination of schizophrenia symptoms, such as hallucinations or delusions, and mood disorder symptoms, such as mania or depression. Invega Sustenna is FDA approved for treatment of Schizoaffective Disorder.

Appendices
Appendix A: Abbreviation Key
CrCl: creatinine clearance
LAI: long acting injectable
PDSS: post-injection delirium/sedation syndrome
WBC: white blood cells
Appendix B: Oral Antipsychotics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Typical Antipsychotics</th>
<th>Atypical Antipsychotics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Haldol (Haloperidol)</td>
<td>• Risperdal (Risperidone)*</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Prolixin (Fluphenazine)</td>
<td>• Invega (Paliperidone)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Navane (Thiothixene)</td>
<td>• Saphris (Asenapine)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Stelazine (Trifluoperazine)</td>
<td>• Zyprexa (Olanzapine)*</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Trilafon (Perphenazine)</td>
<td>• Fanapt (Iloperidone)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Loxitane (Loxapine)</td>
<td>• Abilify (Aripiprazole)*</td>
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<td>• Mellaril (Thioridazine)</td>
<td>• Latuda (Lurasidone)</td>
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<td>• Thorazine (Chlorpromazine)</td>
<td>• Geodon (Ziprasidone)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Orap (Pimozide)</td>
<td>• Clozaril (Clozapine)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Seroquel (Quetiapine)</td>
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*LAI atypical antipsychotic formulation available

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCPCS Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J0401</td>
<td>Injection, aripiprazole, extended release, 1 mg</td>
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<tr>
<td>J2426</td>
<td>Injection, paliperidone palmitate extended release, 1 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J2794</td>
<td>Injection, risperidone, long acting, 0.5 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J2358</td>
<td>Injection, olanzapine, long-acting, 1 mg</td>
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References

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Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Approval Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Policy developed.</td>
<td>01.18</td>
<td>01.18</td>
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<td>Addition of new FDA-approved indications for Abilify Maintena. Addition of Aristada Initio.</td>
<td>12.18</td>
<td>01.19</td>
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<td>Updated template</td>
<td>02.19</td>
<td>02.19</td>
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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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Providers, members and their representatives are bound to the terms and conditions expressed herein through the terms of their contracts. Where no such contract exists, providers, members and their representatives agree to be bound by such terms and conditions by providing services to members and/or submitting claims for payment for such services.

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.

Note: For Medicare members, to ensure consistency with the Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), all applicable NCDs and LCDs should be reviewed prior to applying the criteria set forth in this clinical policy. Refer to the CMS website at [http://www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov) for additional information.

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