



## Bill Medicare for CAR T-cell Therapy to Get Paid

### Original Medicare covers authorized CAR T-cell treatment for cancer through 2020

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) added coverage for chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy (YESCARTA®). CMS issued a national coverage determination (NCD) that clarifies CAR T-cell therapy must be billed to original Medicare through 2020.<sup>1</sup> As such, CAR T-cell therapy is not included in Health Net\* participating physician group (PPG) or hospital capitation for Cal MediConnect members.

#### Requirements for coverage

CAR T-cell treatment for cancer is covered by Medicare when administered at health care facilities that are enrolled in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) risk evaluation and mitigation strategies (REMS) when the treatment is:

- Used for a medically accepted indication as defined at Social Security Act section 1861(t)(2).
- Used for the FDA-approved indication (according to the FDA-approved label for that product).
- Other uses when the product has been FDA-approved and the use is supported in one or more CMS-approved compendia.<sup>1</sup>

This policy continues to be covered for routine costs in clinical trials that use CAR T-cell therapy as an investigational agent and meet the requirements listed NCD 310.1.<sup>2</sup>

#### Criteria for coverage

FDA-approved CAR T-cell therapies are approved to treat some patients with specific types of cancer. This includes non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukemia.<sup>2</sup>

The patient must meet the Medicare coverage criteria for CAR T-Cell treatment as follows:

- Treatment must be administered in a facility enrolled in the FDA REMS and follow FDA-approved indications.
- Treatment must be administered in approved centers in California, such as UCLA, UC Davis, Stanford, City of Hope, UC San Diego, and UC San Francisco.<sup>3</sup>

Health Net does not issue a prior authorization since the services are provided under Medicare fee-for-service. Health Net can provide a tracking number and note that the member was referred to a specific designated Medicare facility for further evaluation for CAR T-cell treatment.

THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO  
**CAL MEDICONNECT**  
 PROVIDERS:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups
- Hospitals
- Ancillary Providers

#### PROVIDER SERVICES

provider\_services@healthnet.com  
 Los Angeles County – 1-855-464-3571  
 San Diego County – 1-855-464-3572  
 www.healthnet.com

#### PROVIDER COMMUNICATIONS

provider.communications@  
 healthnet.com

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The use of non-FDA-approved autologous T-cells expressing at least one CAR is not covered. Autologous treatment for cancer with T-cells expressing at least one CAR is not covered when the requirements in Section A are not met.<sup>2</sup>

### What happens after 2020?

The NCD gives CMS time to evaluate the cost when a significant (high-cost) treatment becomes covered after the bids have been submitted. This allows time for CMS to develop a methodology for payment for CAR T that can be included in the rates released next year for the 2021 bids.

### Questions about claims billed to Health Net

If a provider has billed Health Net, the claim will be denied with a message stating that services for CAR T-cell therapy must be billed directly to Medicare.

If a provider has already been paid for this coverage, Health Net will recover the payment and instruct the provider to bill Medicare directly.

### Additional information

Providers are encouraged to access the provider portal online at [provider.healthnet.com](http://provider.healthnet.com) for real-time information, including eligibility verification, claims status, prior authorization status, plan summaries, and more.

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update, contact the Health Net Provider Services Center by county within 60 days at:

Line of Business	Telephone Number	Email Address
<b>Cal MediConnect – Los Angeles County</b>	1-855-464-3571	provider_services@healthnet.com
<b>Cal MediConnect – San Diego County</b>	1-855-464-3572	

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the CMS website at [www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/nca-decision-memo.aspx?NCAId=291](http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/nca-decision-memo.aspx?NCAId=291).

<sup>2</sup> Refer to YESCARTA website at [www.yescartahcp.com/science-behind-new-cancer-treatment#mechanism](http://www.yescartahcp.com/science-behind-new-cancer-treatment#mechanism).

<sup>3</sup> Refer to YESCARTA website at [www.yescarta.com/treatment-centers](http://www.yescarta.com/treatment-centers).