



## PRIOR AUTHORIZATION POLICY

**POLICY:** Cushing's – Recorlev Prior Authorization Policy

- Recorlev® (levoketoconazole tablets – Xeris)

**REVIEW DATE:** 04/01/2026

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE**

THE FOLLOWING COVERAGE POLICY APPLIES TO HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS ADMINISTERED BY CIGNA COMPANIES. CERTAIN CIGNA COMPANIES AND/OR LINES OF BUSINESS ONLY PROVIDE UTILIZATION REVIEW SERVICES TO CLIENTS AND DO NOT MAKE COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS. REFERENCES TO STANDARD BENEFIT PLAN LANGUAGE AND COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS DO NOT APPLY TO THOSE CLIENTS. COVERAGE POLICIES ARE INTENDED TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE IN INTERPRETING CERTAIN STANDARD BENEFIT PLANS ADMINISTERED BY CIGNA COMPANIES. PLEASE NOTE, THE TERMS OF A CUSTOMER'S PARTICULAR BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT [GROUP SERVICE AGREEMENT, EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE, CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE, SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION (SPD) OR SIMILAR PLAN DOCUMENT] MAY DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THE STANDARD BENEFIT PLANS UPON WHICH THESE COVERAGE POLICIES ARE BASED. FOR EXAMPLE, A CUSTOMER'S BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT MAY CONTAIN A SPECIFIC EXCLUSION RELATED TO A TOPIC ADDRESSED IN A COVERAGE POLICY. IN THE EVENT OF A CONFLICT, A CUSTOMER'S BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT ALWAYS SUPERSEDES THE INFORMATION IN THE COVERAGE POLICIES. IN THE ABSENCE OF A CONTROLLING FEDERAL OR STATE COVERAGE MANDATE, BENEFITS ARE ULTIMATELY DETERMINED BY THE TERMS OF THE APPLICABLE BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT. COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS IN EACH SPECIFIC INSTANCE REQUIRE CONSIDERATION OF 1) THE TERMS OF THE APPLICABLE BENEFIT PLAN DOCUMENT IN EFFECT ON THE DATE OF SERVICE; 2) ANY APPLICABLE LAWS/REGULATIONS; 3) ANY RELEVANT COLLATERAL SOURCE MATERIALS INCLUDING COVERAGE POLICIES AND; 4) THE SPECIFIC FACTS OF THE PARTICULAR SITUATION. EACH COVERAGE REQUEST SHOULD BE REVIEWED ON ITS OWN MERITS. MEDICAL DIRECTORS ARE EXPECTED TO EXERCISE CLINICAL JUDGMENT WHERE APPROPRIATE AND HAVE DISCRETION IN MAKING INDIVIDUAL COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS. WHERE COVERAGE FOR CARE OR SERVICES DOES NOT DEPEND ON SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES, REIMBURSEMENT WILL ONLY BE PROVIDED IF A REQUESTED SERVICE(S) IS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT CRITERIA OUTLINED IN THE APPLICABLE COVERAGE POLICY, INCLUDING COVERED DIAGNOSIS AND/OR PROCEDURE CODE(S). REIMBURSEMENT IS NOT ALLOWED FOR SERVICES WHEN BILLED FOR CONDITIONS OR DIAGNOSES THAT ARE NOT COVERED UNDER THIS COVERAGE POLICY (SEE "CODING INFORMATION" BELOW). WHEN BILLING, PROVIDERS MUST USE THE MOST APPROPRIATE CODES AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE SUBMISSION. CLAIMS SUBMITTED FOR SERVICES THAT ARE NOT ACCOMPANIED BY COVERED CODE(S) UNDER THE APPLICABLE COVERAGE POLICY WILL BE DENIED AS NOT COVERED. COVERAGE POLICIES RELATE EXCLUSIVELY TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS. COVERAGE POLICIES ARE NOT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TREATMENT AND SHOULD NEVER BE USED AS TREATMENT GUIDELINES. IN CERTAIN MARKETS, DELEGATED VENDOR GUIDELINES MAY BE USED TO SUPPORT MEDICAL NECESSITY AND OTHER COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS.

### **CIGNA NATIONAL FORMULARY COVERAGE:**

#### **OVERVIEW**

Recorlev, a cortisol synthesis inhibitor, is indicated for the **treatment of endogenous hypercortisolemia** in adults with **Cushing's syndrome** for whom surgery is not an option or has not been curative. Recorlev was approved through the 505(b)(2) pathway and as such relied upon existing safety and efficacy information for ketoconazole tablets to support approval. Recorlev contains levoketoconazole as the active ingredient. Levoketoconazole is the 2S, 4R-enantiomer derived from racemic ketoconazole.

#### **Disease Overview**

Cushing's syndrome refers to the general state of excessive levels of cortisol (hypercortisolism) in the blood.<sup>2,3</sup> Hypercortisolism can occur for reasons that are either endogenous or exogenous in nature (e.g., Cushing's disease, cortisol-containing medications, adrenal gland tumor, certain cancers). Cushing's disease (hypercortisolism caused by pituitary adenomas) is the most common type of

adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH)-dependent Cushing's syndrome. Treatment for Cushing's syndrome requires a multi-modal approach. The goals of treatment are normalization of cortisol excess, long-term disease control, avoidance of recurrence, and reversal of clinical features.<sup>4</sup>

## **Guidelines**

The Endocrine Society published clinical practice guidelines (2015) for the treatment of Cushing's syndrome.<sup>5</sup> Recorlev is not addressed in the guidelines. First-line treatment involves resection of the tumor unless surgery is not possible or is unlikely to meaningfully reduce excess glucocorticoid levels. In patients with ACTH-dependent Cushing's syndrome who underwent non-curative surgery or for whom surgery was not possible, the guidelines advocate several second-line therapies (e.g., repeat transsphenoidal surgery, radiotherapy, medical therapy, and bilateral adrenalectomy). For Cushing's disease, the guidelines recommend all medical therapies as second-line options after transsphenoidal surgery: steroidogenesis inhibitors (ketoconazole, Metopirone<sup>®</sup> [metyrapone capsules], Lysodren<sup>®</sup> [mitotane tablets], etomidate) in patients either with or without radiotherapy/radiosurgery; pituitary-directed medical treatments (cabergoline, Signifor<sup>®</sup> [pasireotide subcutaneous injection]) in patients who are not surgical candidates or who have persistent disease; and mifepristone tablets (Korlym<sup>®</sup>, generic) in patients with diabetes or glucose intolerance who are not surgical candidates or who have persistent disease after transsphenoidal surgery.

A 2021 guideline update does recognize Recorlev as an investigational drug for the treatment of Cushing's syndrome but did not give recommendations for therapy placement within existing medications.<sup>6</sup>

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

Prior Authorization is recommended for prescription benefit coverage of Recorlev. All approvals are provided for the duration noted below. In cases where the approval is authorized in months, 1 month is equal to 30 days. Because of the specialized skills required for evaluation and diagnosis of patients treated with Recorlev as well as the monitoring required for adverse events and long-term efficacy, approval requires Recorlev to be prescribed by or in consultation with a physician who specializes in the condition being treated.

**Recorlev<sup>®</sup> (levoketoconazole tablets - Xeris) is(are) covered as medically necessary when the following criteria is(are) met for FDA-approved indication(s) or other uses with supportive evidence (if applicable):**

### **FDA-Approved Indication**

- 1. Endogenous Cushing's Syndrome.** Approve for 1 year if the patient meets ALL of the following (A, B, C, D, and E):
  - A)** Patient is  $\geq$  18 years of age; AND
  - B)** Patient has hypercortisolemia; AND

- C) Patient meets ONE of the following (i, ii, OR iii)
  - i. According to the prescriber, the patient is not a candidate for surgery or surgery has not been curative; OR
  - ii. Patient is awaiting surgery for endogenous Cushing’s syndrome; OR
  - iii. Patient is awaiting therapeutic response after radiotherapy for endogenous Cushing’s syndrome; AND
- D) Patient has tried ketoconazole tablets; AND
- E) The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with an endocrinologist or a physician who specializes in the treatment of endogenous Cushing’s syndrome.

**CONDITIONS NOT COVERED**

**Recorlev® (levoketoconazole tablets - Xeris) is(are) considered not medically necessary for ANY other use(s) including the following (this list may not be all inclusive; criteria will be updated as new published data are available):**

- 1. **Fungal Infections.** Recorlev is not approved for the treatment of fungal infections.<sup>1</sup>

**REFERENCES**

1. Recorlev® tablets [prescribing information]. Chicago, IL: Xeris; June 2023.
2. Sharma ST, Nieman LK, Feelders RA. Cushing's syndrome: epidemiology and developments in disease management. *Clin Epidemiol.* 2015;7:281-293.
3. Tritos NA, Biller BM. Advances in medical therapies for Cushing's syndrome. *Discov Med.* 2012;13(69):171-179.
4. Biller BMK, Grossman AB, Stewart PM, et al. Treatment of adrenocorticotropin-dependent Cushing’s syndrome: A consensus statement. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2008;93:2454-2462.
5. Nieman LK, Biller BM, Findling JW. Treatment of Cushing’s Syndrome: An Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guideline. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab.* 2015;100(8):2807-2831.
6. Fleseriu M, Auchus R, Bancos I, et al. Consensus on diagnosis and management of Cushing's disease: a guideline update. *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol.* 2021 Dec;9(12):847-875.

**HISTORY**

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Review Date
Early Annual Revision	<p><b>Endogenous Cushing’s Syndrome:</b> Criteria that patient who is awaiting surgery for endogenous Cushing’s Syndrome or awaiting therapeutic response after radiotherapy for endogenous Cushing’s Syndrome were added.</p> <p><b>Endogenous Cushing’s Syndrome – Patient Awaiting Surgery:</b> This condition was removed from the policy and is now addressed under Endogenous Cushing’s Syndrome.</p> <p><b>Endogenous Cushing’s Syndrome – Patient Awaiting Therapeutic Response After Radiotherapy:</b> This condition was removed from the policy and is now addressed under Endogenous Cushing’s Syndrome.</p>	04/19/2024

Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	04/09/2025
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	04/01/2026

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