



Subject: **Bisphosphonates for Injection***

Effective Date: **July 28, 2009**

Department(s): **Utilization Management**

Policy: The use of injectable bisphosphonates is reimbursable for Plans administered by QualCare, Inc. that require pharmacy overrides, for indications enumerated in this Policy.

Objective: To assure proper and consistent reimbursement and to delineate criteria for coverage of a specific medication category.

Procedure: Specific injectable bisphosphonate therapy is considered medically necessary for the diagnoses in the table below when criteria in column III are met.

I. Diagnosis	II. Bisphosphonate Drug	III. Criteria for Use
Bone metastases due to solid tumors or bone pain attributed to bone metastases from solid tumors (198.5; ICD-10 C79.51, C79.52)	Ibandronate (Boniva [®]) (HCPCS J1740) Pamidronate (Aredia [®]) (HCPCS J2430) Zoledronic acid (Zometa [®]) HCPCS J3489)	Presence of diagnosis per column I
Hypercalcemia of malignancy (ICD-9 275.42 with any from 140-239; ICD-10 E83.52 with any from C00.0-C90.02)	Pamidronate (Aredia [®]) (HCPCS J2430) Zoledronic acid (Zometa [®]) HCPCS J3489)	Presence of diagnosis per column I
Immobilization-related	Pamidronate (Aredia [®]) (HCPCS J2430)	Unresponsive to at least one

hypercalcemia (ICD-9 733.03, 275.42; ICD-10 M81.8, E83.52)		non-injectable treatment
Multiple myeloma (ICD-9 203.00 – 203.02; ICD-10 C90.00-C90.02)	Ibandronate (Boniva [®]) (HCPCS J1740) Pamidronate (Aredia [®]) (HCPCS J2430) Zoledronic acid (Zometa [®]) HCPCS J3489)	Presence of diagnosis per column I
Osteogenesis imperfecta (ICD-9 756.51; ICD-10 Q78.0)	Pamidronate (Aredia [®]) (HCPCS J2430)	History of recurrent fractures
Osteoporosis (ICD-9 733.01; ICD-10 M81.0)	Zoledronic acid (Reclast [®]) (HCPCS J3489) Ibandronate (Boniva [®]) (HCPCS J1740)	Bone mineral density T score ≤-2.5 (ie -2.5, -2.7, -3.0), with documented failure or intolerance to oral bisphosphonate therapy(e.r.Fosamax [®] , alendronate)
Osteoporosis, glucocorticoid induced - treatment(ICD-9 733.09; ICD-10 M81.8)	Zoledronic acid (Reclast [®])(HCPCS J3489)	Bone mineral density T score ≤-2.5 (ie -2.5, -2.7, -3.0) with documented failure or intolerance to oral bisphosphonate therapy(e.r.Fosamax [®] , alendronate)
Osteoporosis, glucocorticoid induced- prevention (ICD-9 V58.65; ICD-10 Z79.52)	Zoledronic acid (Reclast [®])(HCPCS J3489)	Taking equivalent of 7.5 mg of prednisone daily with expected use for at least 12 months. with documented failure or intolerance to oral bisphosphonate therapy(e.r.Fosamax [®] , alendronate)
Prostate cancer (ICD-9 185; ICD-10 C61)	Zoledronic acid (Zometa [®]) (HCPCS J3489) Pamidronate (Aredia [®]) (HCPCS J2430)	Prevention of osteopenia caused by androgen deprivation therapy, OR Presence of bone metastases
Post-menopausal osteopenia (no specific ICD, M81.0 or M81.8 may be used)	Zoledronic acid (Reclast [®])(HCPCS J3489)	Bone mineral density T score of -1 to -2.5 SD is present, with documented failure or intolerance to oral bisphosphonate therapy(e.r.Fosamax [®] , alendronate)
Breast cancer (ICD-9 174; ICD-10 C50.011 – C50.919)	Zoledronic acid (Zometa [®]) (HCPCS J3489)	When used to prevent osteopenia in individuals receiving aromatase inhibitor therapy

Paget's disease of bone (ICD-9 731.0; ICD-10 M88, M88.0, M88.1, M88.8, M88.81 - M88.879, M88.88, M88.89)	Zoledronic acid (Reclast®) (HCPCS J3489)- single annual injection.	Presence of diagnosis per column I
Organ transplant-related (ICD-9 V42.0 - V42.89; ICD-10 Z94.0 - Z94.6, Z94.8 - Z94.89, Z48.2 - Z48.298) osteopenic or osteoporotic fractures (ICD-9 805 - 806, 813 - 814, 820 - 821 and others)	Pamidronate (Aredia®) (HCPCS J2430)	Presence of diagnosis per column I

NOTE: bisphosphonate therapy is not reimbursable for uncomplicated solitary plasmacytoma (ICD-9 238.6; ICD-10 D47.Z9) or non-osteoporotic osteopenia (ICD-9 733.9; ICD-10 M85.9) other than in patients treated with hormone therapy for breast cancer, as its efficacy in these conditions is unproven.

Annual authorization renewal for use in osteoporosis requires documentation of favorable response (either improvement or arrest of progression of bone mineral density T score) by DXA imaging, or indication of planned assessment of response at the two year treatment interval.

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Drafted By/Date: B. Fisher, MD 06/06/09
Approved By/Date: QM Committee 07/28/09
Revised By/Date: M. McNeil, MD 08/12/11
Approved By/Date: QM Committee 09/13/11
Revised By/Date: M. McNeil, MD 09/21/11
Approved By/Date: QM Committee 10/25/11
Revised By/Date: M. McNeil, MD 08/20/13
Approved By/Date: QM Committee 09/10/13
Revised By/Date: MMcNeil, MD 01/13/16
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Revised By/Date: MMcNeil, MD 12/21/17
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*Consistent with Summary Plan Description (SPD). When there is discordance between this policy and the SPD, the provisions of the SPD prevail.