# JULY 2020 CIGNA'S CLINICAL UPDATE

# Cigna Pharmacy Management®

As part of our ongoing commitment to provide affordable and quality health care coverage, we regularly review and update our formularies. We act on research findings gleaned from integrated benefits and evaluate new drugs to market, **such as biosimilars**, and other opportunities to reduce drug spend and improve health. **And now with Cigna and Express Scripts combined**, we are positioned to deliver on our target of achieving a 2% drug trend reduction for our integrated book, and medical cost trend at or below CPI by 2021.<sup>1</sup> Here are major areas of strategic clinical focus as part of our July 2020 clinical update.





# **Biosimilar update**

Biosimilar is a biological product highly similar to (no clinically meaningful differences) an existing U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) – approved reference product (e.g., specialty drug) – typically at a discounted cost. There are 15 on the market today.<sup>2</sup>

- Market launch and uptake of biosimilars has been relatively slow due to multiple factors, including patent litigation, pricing strategies by both biosimilar and brand drug manufacturers, provider familiarity and experience with biosimilars, and ongoing development of FDA regulatory guidance.
- > Cigna assesses the affordability opportunity of each biosimilar to determine the lower-cost coverage option.
- > We predict that, over time, the biosimilar market will help reduce the rapidly increasing cost of specialty drugs through healthy competition. We continue to study it carefully and create strategies to prefer coverage for the biosimilar or reference product when appropriate.

#### **Factors considered**

Clinical safety and efficacy data Condition treated and duration of therapy - chronic vs. acute Market factors and ability of biosimilar to achieve significant market share

# Together, all the way."



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This update provides Cigna's biosimilar strategy, as of July 2020, to drive affordability for clients and members – specifically in the oncology and inflammatory therapeutic classes.

Biosimilar preferred over reference/ original branded product	Co-preferred with reference/ original branded product	Reference/original branded product preferred over biosimilar
<ul> <li>Infection during cancer treatment:</li> <li>&gt; Zarxio biosimilar and Granix<sup>3</sup> preferred over Neupogen, Nivestym</li> </ul>	Anemia: > Procrit, Epogen at parity with biosimilar Retacrit	<ul><li>Inflammatory:</li><li>&gt; Remicade preferred over biosimilars Renflexis or Inflectra</li></ul>
<ul> <li>Oncology:</li> <li>Mvasi, Zirabev biosimilars preferred over Avastin</li> <li>Ogivri, Trazimera<sup>4</sup> biosimilars preferred over Herceptin/Herceptin Hylecta, Kanjinti</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Infection during cancer treatment:</li> <li>Neulasta at parity with biosimilars Fulphila, Udenyca, Ziextenzo</li> </ul>	
Oncology/Inflammatory: > Truxima, Ruxience biosimilars preferred over Rituxan, Rituxan Hycela		

#### > Expanded customer choice

Customers whose plan sponsors elect self-injectable coverage will have access to Neulasta and its biosimilars under the pharmacy benefit in addition to the medical benefit.



## Additional therapeutic class strategies July 2020 formulary changes

Class/condition	Change	
Rare disease Huntington's disease	<ul> <li>Xenazine</li> <li>Standard/Performance/Value/Advantage formularies: Move to non-formulary to promote new AB-rated generic<sup>5</sup></li> <li>Legacy formularies: Updating prior authorization criteria to include embedded step to generic</li> </ul>	
<b>Rare disease</b> Hereditary angioedema (HAE)	<ul> <li>Managing high-cost class through promotion of generic for this rare disease</li> <li>For all commercial group formularies, we will prefer <b>icatibant</b> (generic for Firazyr) through embedded step in prior authorization criteria.</li> <li>Affects members new to therapy only</li> </ul>	
<b>Opioid</b> Cancer pain	<ul> <li>Subsys</li> <li>Standard/Performance/Value/Advantage formularies: Moving to non-formulary to promote other generic options<sup>5</sup></li> <li>Legacy formularies: Moving to non-preferred brand with embedded step through generic transmucosal fentanyl lozenge</li> </ul>	

1. Cigna drug trend synergies study, March 2019. Comparison of expected drug trend for 24-month period pre and post combination, based on current integration plan.

2. FDA's Purple Book: Database of Licensed Biological Products, March 2020.

3. Granix is also preferred over Neupogen but is not categorized as a biosimilar.

4. Launch of Trazimera anticipated Q1 2020.

If a member and/or prescriber believes any of the products that will no longer be covered as preferred options are medically necessary, then Cigna will review requests for a medical necessity exception.



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