

## Clinical Policy: Panitumumab (Vectibix)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.321

Effective Date: 03.01.17

Last Review Date: 11.22

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM\*, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

### Description

Panitumumab (Vectibix<sup>®</sup>) is an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist.

*\*For Health Insurance Marketplace (HIM), if request is through the pharmacy benefit, Vectibix 400 mg/20 mL is non-formulary and cannot be approved using these criteria; refer to the formulary exception policy, HIM.PA.103.*

### FDA Approved Indication(s)

Vectibix is indicated for the treatment of patients with wild-type *RAS* (defined as wild-type in both *KRAS* and *NRAS* as determined by an FDA-approved test for this use) metastatic colorectal cancer (CRC):

- In combination with FOLFOX for first-line treatment
- As monotherapy following disease progression after prior treatment with fluoropyrimidine-, oxaliplatin-, and irinotecan-containing chemotherapy

Limitation(s) of use: Vectibix is not indicated for the treatment of patients with *RAS*-mutant metastatic CRC or for whom *RAS* mutation status is unknown.

### 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<sup>®</sup> that Vectibix is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

#### I. Initial Approval Criteria

##### A. Colorectal Cancer (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of advanced, recurrent, or metastatic CRC;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
4. Disease is one of the following (a, b, or c):
  - a. Wild-type *RAS* (defined as wild-type in both *KRAS* and *NRAS*);
  - b. BRAF wild-type;
  - c. BRAF V600E mutation positive;
5. One of the following (a, b, or c)\*:
  - a. Request is for first-line treatment: Prescribed in combination with FOLFOX or FOLFIRI (off-label);

- b. Request is for subsequent line treatment: Prescribed as a single agent, in combination with FOLFIRI or FOLFOX, or in combination with irinotecan (off-label);
  - c. Request is for BRAF V600E mutation positive disease: Prescribed in combination with Braftovi<sup>®</sup> (off-label);  
*\*Prior authorization may be required.*
6. Request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
- a. Dose does not exceed 6 mg/kg every 14 days;
  - b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).  
*\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

**Approval duration:**

**Commercial/Medicaid** – 6 months

**HIM** – 6 months for Vectibix 100 mg/5 mL (*refer to HIM.PA.103 for Vectibix 400 mg/20 mL if pharmacy benefit*)

**B. Other diagnoses/indications** (must meet 1 or 2):

- 1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
  - a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
  - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
- 2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

**II. Continued Therapy**

**A. Colorectal Cancer** (must meet all):

- 1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Vectibix for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
- 2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
- 3. If request is for a dose increase, request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - a. New dose does not exceed 6 mg/kg every 14 days;
  - b. New dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).  
*\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

**Approval duration:**

**Commercial/Medicaid** – 12 months

**HIM** – 12 months for Vectibix 100 mg/5 mL (*refer to HIM.PA.103 for Vectibix 400 mg/20 mL if pharmacy benefit*)

**B. Other diagnoses/indications** (must meet 1 or 2):

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
  - a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
  - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

**III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:**

- A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off label use policy – CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents.

**IV. Appendices/General Information**

*Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

|   |  |
|---|--|
| CRC: colorectal cancer                        | KRAS: Kirsten rat sarcoma 2 viral oncogene homologue         |
| EGFR: epidermal growth factor receptor        | CRC: colorectal cancer                                       |
| FDA: Food and Drug Administration             | FOLFOXIRI: fluorouracil, leucovorin, oxaliplatin, irinotecan |
| FOLFIRI: fluorouracil, leucovorin, irinotecan | NRAS: neuroblastoma RAS viral oncogene homologue             |
| FOLFOX: fluorouracil, leucovorin, oxaliplatin |  |

*Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives*

*This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.*

| Drug Name         | Dosing Regimen   | Dose Limit/Maximum Dose |
|-------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Modified FOLFOX 6 | Day 1: oxaliplatin 85 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV<br>Day 1: Folinic acid 400 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV | See dosing regimen      |

| Drug Name              | Dosing Regimen   | Dose Limit/<br>Maximum Dose |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
|                        | Days 1–3: 5-FU 400 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV bolus on day 1, then 1,200 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day × 2 days (total 2,400 mg/m <sup>2</sup> over 46–48 hours) IV continuous infusion<br>Repeat cycle every 2 weeks.  |                             |
| CapeOX                 | Day 1: Oxaliplatin 130 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV<br>Days 1–14: Capecitabine 1,000 mg/m <sup>2</sup> PO BID<br>Repeat cycle every 3 weeks.   | See dosing regimen          |
| FOLFIRI                | Day 1: Irinotecan 180 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV<br>Day 1: Leucovorin 400 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV<br>Day 1: Flurouracil 400 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV followed by 2,400 mg/m <sup>2</sup> continuous IV over 46 hours<br>Repeat cycle every 14 days.             | See dosing regimen          |
| FOLFOXIRI              | Day 1: Irinotecan 165 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV, oxaliplatin 85 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV, leucovorin 400 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV, flurouracil 1,600 mg/m <sup>2</sup> continuous IV for 2 days (total 3,200 mg/m <sup>2</sup> )<br>Repeat cycle every 2 weeks. | See dosing regimen          |
| Braftovi (Encorafenib) | 300 mg PO once daily in combination with panitumumab (6 mg/kg IV every 14 days) until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity.  | 450 mg/day                  |

*Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name<sup>®</sup> (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name<sup>®</sup>) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.*

#### Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

- Contraindication(s): none reported
- Boxed warning(s): dermatologic toxicity

#### V. Dosage and Administration

| Indication | Dosing Regimen   | Maximum Dose |
|------------|--|--------------|
| CRC        | 6 mg/kg IV over 60 minutes (≤ 1,000 mg) or 90 minutes (> 1,000 mg) every 14 days | 6 mg/kg      |

#### VI. Product Availability

Single-dose vial for injection: 100 mg/5 mL, 400 mg/20 mL

#### VII. References

1. Vectibix Prescribing Information. Thousand Oaks, CA: Amgen, Inc.; August 2021. Available at <https://www.vectibix.com/>. Accessed August 9, 2022.
2. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at: [http://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug\\_compendium](http://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug_compendium). Accessed August August 9, 2022.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Colon Cancer Version 1.2022. Available at: [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/colon.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/colon.pdf). Accessed August 9, 2022.

**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.

| HCPCS Codes | Description                   |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| J9303       | Injection, panitumumab, 10 mg |

| Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals  | Date     | P&T Approval Date |
|--|----------|-------------------|
| 4Q 2018 annual review: no significant changes; added Commercial and HIM lines of business; summarized NCCN and FDA-approved uses for improved clarity; added specialist involvement in care; references reviewed and updated.  | 07.24.18 | 11.18             |
| 4Q 2019 annual review: added HIM-Medical Benefit line of business; references reviewed and updated.  | 08.13.19 | 11.19             |
| 4Q 2020 annual review: modified HIM-Medical Benefit to HIM line of business; added BRAF disease wild-type and for treatment in combination with Braftovi if BRAF V600E mutation positive to colorectal indication as per NCCN 2A off label indication; references reviewed and updated.  | 08.03.20 | 11.20             |
| 4Q 2021 annual review: added that combination treatment with Vectibix and Braftovi is for advanced or metastatic disease per NCCN Compendium; for Vectibix prescribed as a single agent or in combination with irinotecan, added the option of previous oxaliplatin-based therapy without irinotecan or irinotecan-based therapy without oxaliplatin per NCCN Compendium; references for HIM line of business off-label use revised from HIM.PHAR.21 to HIM.PA.154; references reviewed and updated.   | 08.09.21 | 11.21             |
| 4Q 2022 annual review: added qualifiers that CRC is advanced, recurrent, or metastatic per NCCN; added BRAF V600E mutation positive criterion option to wild-type options as this mutation also allows for Vectibix administration per NCCN category 2A rating; simplified requirements for prior and combination therapy to align more closely with New Century Health criteria and other oncology policies for CRC; updated combination regimens per NCCN; references reviewed and updated. Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications. | 08.09.22 | 11.22             |

**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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**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.

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