



Zoledronic Acid (Reclast®)

Revision: 1

Retired

Policy Number: M-0003

Last Update 3/19/2013

6/30/13

Payment will not be made for any use of these drugs outside of the criteria without prior authorization. The member may not be billed unless the member explicitly agrees in writing to be responsible for the charges in accordance with the contract/provider manual. Prior authorization will only be given if the provider demonstrates the intended use meets Medicare coverage guidelines.

Coverage Guidelines:

FDA:

1. Pagets disease
2. Post-menopausal (Senile) Osteoporosis
3. Osteoporosis in men
4. Glucocorticoid - induced osteoporosis in patients expected to be on glucocorticoids for at least 12 months

Coding Information:

HCPCS Code(s)

J3488	INJECTION, ZOLEDRONIC ACID (RECLAST), 1 MG
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ICD-9 Code(s)

731.0	OSTEITIS DEFORMANS WITHOUT BONE TUMOR
733.00	OSTEOPOROSIS UNSPECIFIED
733.01	SENILE OSTEOPOROSIS
733.09	OTHER OSTEOPOROSIS



Background:

Reclast is a bisphosphonate and acts primarily on bone. It is an inhibitor of osteoclast-mediated bone resorption. The selective action of bisphosphonates on bone is based on their high affinity for mineralized bone. Intravenously administered zoledronic acid rapidly partitions to bone and localizes preferentially at sites of high bone turnover. The main molecular target of zoledronic acid in the osteoclast is the enzyme farnesyl pyrophosphate synthase. The relatively long duration of action of zoledronic acid is attributable to its high binding affinity to bone mineral.

Limitations:

Osteonecrosis of the jaw has been reported rarely in postmenopausal osteoporosis patients treated with bisphosphonates, including zoledronic acid. All patients should have a routine oral exam by the prescriber prior to treatment.

Definitions:

HCCS Code—Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System - A system of letter and number codes assigned to procedures, medications, supplies and equipment used for pricing and billing.

ICD-9 Code—International Classification of Disease, 9th edition. A standardized classification of disease, injuries, and causes of death, by etiology and anatomic localization and codified into a 6-digit number, which allows clinicians, statisticians, politicians, health planners and others to speak a common language, both US and internationally.

References:

1. Reclast [package insert]. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; August 2011. Available at: <http://www.pharma.us.novartis.com/product/pi/pdf/reclast.pdf>. Accessed May 21, 2012.
2. Local Coverage Determination (LCD) for Drugs and Biologicals: Zoledronic Acid (L30035) (Revision 8). Available at: <http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=30035&Contrlid=213&ver=32&ContrVer=1&Date=01%2f01%2f2012&DocID=L30035&bc=iAAAAAgAAAA&>. Accessed May 21, 2012.



Document History:

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For new Medicare policy, please see M-0051 Zoledronic Acid.

For the Archived Policy, please go

to <http://www.vivaprovider.com/Resources/CoveragePolicies.aspx> and click on the Archived Policies Link.

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