



Zoledronic Acid (Zometa®)

Revision: 1

Retired

Policy Number: M-0004

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. Acute Hypercalcemia of malignancy
2. Multiple myeloma
3. Bone metastases from solid tumors in conjunction with standard antineoplastic therapy, including bone metastases from multiple myeloma, breast carcinoma, prostate carcinoma, and other solid tumors. **Note:** Prostate cancer should have progressed after treatment with at least one hormonal therapy
4. Drug-induced osteopenia, secondary to androgen-deprivation therapy in prostate cancer patients (prophylaxis)
5. Cancer treatment-induced bone loss in breast cancer

Coding Information:

HCPCS Code(s)

J3487	INJECTION, ZOLEDRONIC ACID (ZOMETA), 1 MG
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ICD-9 Code(s)

140.0-208.92	MALIGNANT NEOPLASM OF UPPER LIP VERMILION BORDER - UNSPECIFIED LEUKEMIA, IN RELAPSE
209.00-209.36	MALIGNANT CARCINOID TUMOR OF THE SMALL INTESTINE, UNSPECIFIED PORTION - MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA OF OTHER SITES

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209.70-209.75	SECONDARY NEUROENDOCRINE TUMOR, UNSPECIFIED SITE - SECONDARY MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA
209.79	SECONDARY NEUROENDOCRINE TUMOR OF OTHER SITES
275.42	HYPERCALCEMIA
733.09	OTHER OSTEOPOROSIS
733.90	DISORDER OF BONE AND CARTILAGE UNSPECIFIED

Background:

Zometa contains zoledronic acid, a bisphosphonic acid which is an inhibitor of osteoclastic bone resorption. Although the antiresorptive mechanism is not completely understood, several factors are thought to contribute to this action. *In vitro*, zoledronic acid inhibits osteoclastic activity and induces osteoclast apoptosis. Zoledronic acid also blocks the osteoclastic resorption of mineralized bone and cartilage through its binding to bone. Zoledronic acid inhibits the increased osteoclastic activity and skeletal calcium release induced by various stimulatory factors released by tumors.

Limitations:

The safety and efficacy of zoledronic acid in the treatment of hypercalcemia associated with hyperparathyroidism or with other non-tumor-related conditions has not been established.

Definitions:

HCPCS 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. Zomea [package insert]. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; March 2012 . Available at: <http://www.pharma.us.novartis.com/product/pi/pdf/Zometa.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&ContrId=213&ver=32&ContrVer=1&Date=01%2f01%2f2012&DocID=L30035&bc=iAAAAAgAAAA&>. Accessed May 21, 2012.
3. The NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium™ © 2010 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed May 21, 2012.

Document History:

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Retired: 9/30/13

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.