

Preemptive policy: This is a P&T approved policy and can be used after the drug is FDA approved until it is superseded by an updated policy



Clinical Policy: Vusolimogene Oderparepvec (RP1)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.774

Effective Date: **FDA Approval Date**

Last Review Date: 05.26

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM/ICHRA, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

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

Description

Vusolimogene oderparepvec (RP1) is a herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) oncolytic immunotherapy.

FDA Approved Indication(s) **[Pending]**

RP1 is indicated for use in combination with nivolumab for the treatment of patients with unresectable Stage IIIb-IV cutaneous melanoma whose disease progressed on a programmed death receptor-1 (PD-1) blocking antibody.

Limitation(s) of use: [XXX]

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.

All requests reviewed under this policy **require Precision Drug Action Committee (PDAC) Utilization Management Review**. Refer to CC.PHAR.21 for process details.

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation[®] that RP1 is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria*

**Criteria will mirror the clinical information from the prescribing information once FDA-approved*

A. Cutaneous Melanoma (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of unresectable Stage IIIb-IV cutaneous melanoma;*
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;*
4. Disease has progressed following treatment with an anti-PD-1-containing regimen (e.g., Keytruda[®], Opdivo[®]);
5. RP1 is prescribed in combination with nivolumab*;*
**Prior authorization may be required for nivolumab*
6. Documentation that member has at least one measurable and injectable lesion comprising \geq 1 cm in the longest diameter;*
7. Member has not been previously treated with Imlygic[®];*
8. Request meets one of the following (a or b):*
 - a. Dose does not exceed both of the following (i and ii):*

- i. Initial dose of 1×10^6 plaque-forming unit (PFU) per mL followed by 1×10^7 PFU per mL every 2 weeks for a maximum of 8 cycles;
- ii. Each dose ≤ 10 mL;
- 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: 6 months

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/ICHRA) 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/ICHRA, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
 - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace/ICHRA) 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/ICHRA, 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/ICHRA, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy*

**Criteria will mirror the clinical information from the prescribing information once FDA-approved*

A. Cutaneous Melanoma (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving RP1 for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. Maximum duration of therapy does not exceed 8 cycles;
4. Request meets one of the following (a or b):*
 - a. New dose does not exceed both of the following (i and ii):*
 - i. 1×10^7 PFU per mL every 2 weeks for a maximum of 8 cycles;
 - ii. Each dose ≤ 10 mL;
 - 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: 6 months

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/ICHRA) 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/ICHRA, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
 - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace/ICHRA) 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/ICHRA, 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/ICHRA, 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 policies – CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace/ICHRA, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

CTLA-4: cytotoxic T-lymphocyte antigen 4

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

HSV-1: herpes simplex virus type 1

PD-1: programmed death receptor-1

PFU: plaque-forming units

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
Anti-PD-1 combination therapy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opdivo[®] + anti-CTLA-4 therapy (Yervoy[®]) • Opdualag[®] 	Varies	Varies
Anti-PD-1 therapy as monotherapy (Opdivo [®] , Keytruda [®])	Varies	Varies

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name[®] (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name[®]) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings [Pending]

- Contraindication(s): **pending**
- Boxed warning(s): **pending**

V. Dosage and Administration [Pending]

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Cutaneous melanoma*	1 x 10 ⁶ PFU/mL intratumorally, followed by up to seven additional doses at 1 x 10 ⁷ PFU/mL intratumorally every 2 weeks for up to 8 cycles; each dose ≤ 10 mL*	Pending

VI. Product Availability [Pending]

Pending

VII. References

1. Clinicaltrials.gov. Study of RP1 monotherapy and RP1 in Combination with nivolumab (IGNYTE) (IGNYTE). Available at: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT03767348>. Accessed January 1, 2026.
2. Wong MK, Milhem MM, Sacco JJ, et al. RP1 combined with nivolumab in advanced anti-PD-1-failed melanoma (IGNYTE). J Clin Oncol. 2025 Nov 20;43(33):3589-3599.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Melanoma: Cutaneous Version 2.2025. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/cutaneous_melanoma.pdf. Accessed January 27, 2026.

Coding Implications [Pending]

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
Pending	Pending

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy created pre-emptively. Revised criterion to disease has progressed following treatment with an anti-PD-1-containing regimen to align with the IGNYTE inclusion criteria; added ICHRA line of business.	04.01.26	05.26

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.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

This clinical policy is the property of the Health Plan. Unauthorized copying, use, and distribution of this clinical policy or any information contained herein are strictly prohibited. Providers, members, and their representatives are bound to the terms and conditions expressed herein through the terms of their contracts. Where no such contract exists, providers, members and their representatives agree to be bound by such terms and conditions by providing services to members and/or submitting claims for payment for such services.

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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