Mircera® (methoxy polyethylene glycol-epoetin beta)
(Intravenous/Subcutaneous)

NON-DIALYSIS

Document Number: IC-0244

Last Review Date: 05/04/2023
Date of Origin: 01/06/2015
Dates Reviewed: 01/2014, 03/2015, 05/2015, 08/2015, 11/2015, 02/2016, 05/2016, 08/2016, 11/2016, 02/2017, 05/2017, 08/2017, 11/2017, 02/2018, 05/2018, 04/2019, 04/2020, 09/2020, 05/2021, 05/2022, 5/2023

I. Length of Authorization

- Coverage will be provided for 45 days and may be renewed.

II. Dosing Limits

A. Quantity Limit (max daily dose) [NDC Unit]:

- Mircera 30 mcg prefilled syringe: 1 syringe every 14 days
- Mircera 50 mcg prefilled syringe: 1 syringe every 14 days
- Mircera 75 mcg prefilled syringe: 1 syringe every 14 days
- Mircera 100 mcg prefilled syringe: 1 syringe every 14 days
- Mircera 120 mcg prefilled syringe: 1 syringe every 14 days
- Mircera 150 mcg prefilled syringe: 1 syringe every 14 days
- Mircera 200 mcg prefilled syringe: 1 syringe every 28 days
- Mircera 250 mcg prefilled syringe: 1 syringe every 28 days
- Mircera 360 mcg prefilled syringe: 1 syringe every 28 days

B. Max Units (per dose and over time) [HCPCS Unit]:

- 360 billable units every 28 days

III. Initial Approval Criteria [1]

Coverage is provided in the following condition(s):

- Patient is at least 18 years of age; **AND**

Universal Criteria [1-6]

- Lab values are obtained within 30 days of the date of administration (unless otherwise indicated); **AND**

Publication of this policy on this website is an authorized use of proprietary and copyrighted information created in collaboration with Magellan Rx Management. This policy may not be reproduced or distributed without the express written permission of Magellan Rx Management.
© 2023 Magellan Rx Management

- Patient has adequate iron stores as demonstrated by serum ferritin ≥ 100 ng/mL (mcg/L) and transferrin saturation (TSAT) ≥ 20% (measured within the previous 3 months for renewal)*; **AND**
- Other causes of anemia (e.g. hemolysis, bleeding, vitamin deficiency, etc.) have been ruled out; **AND**
- Patient does not have uncontrolled hypertension; **AND**

Anemia Due to Chronic Kidney Disease (Non-Dialysis Patients) † [1-6]

- Initiation of therapy Hemoglobin (Hb) < 10 g/dL and/or Hematocrit (Hct) < 30%

† FDA Approved Indications; ‡ Compendia Recommended Indication(s); Φ Orphan Drug

IV. Renewal Criteria [1,5]

Coverage can be renewed based upon the following criteria:

- Patient continues to meet the universal and other indication-specific relevant criteria identified in section III; **AND**
- Previous dose was administered within the past 60 days; **AND**
- Disease response with treatment as defined by improvement in anemia compared to pretreatment baseline; **AND**
- Absence of unacceptable toxicity from the drug. Examples of unacceptable toxicity include: pure red cell aplasia, severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis, angioedema, bronchospasm, etc.), severe cutaneous reactions (erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson Syndrome [SJS]/Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis [TEN], etc.), severe cardiovascular events (stroke, myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, thromboembolism, etc.), uncontrolled hypertension, seizures, etc.; **AND**
- Hemoglobin (Hb) <11 g/dL and/or Hematocrit (Hct) <33%

* *Intravenous iron supplementation may be considered when evaluating iron status*
• Functional iron deficiency (i.e., adequate iron stores with an insufficient supply of available iron) may occur in patients with chronic diseases, cancer, and/or in those currently receiving ESAs. • Iron is not generally recommended in anemic patients with a Ferritin >500 ng/mL. • Anemic patients with a Ferritin ≤500 ng/mL AND TSAT <50% may derive benefit from IV iron therapy in conjunction with ESA.

V. Dosage/Administration [1]

Indication	Dose
Anemia due to Chronic Kidney Disease – Non-dialysis	**Initial Dose in patients who are not currently receiving treatment with an ESA:** Administer 1.2 mcg/kg subcutaneously once every 28 days. Alternatively, a starting dose of 0.6 mcg/kg body weight once every two weeks as a single intravenous or subcutaneous injection. **Initial Dose for patients converting from another ESA:**

Proprietary Information. Restricted Access – Do not disseminate or copy without approval.
©2023, Magellan Rx Management

	Previous Weekly Epoetin alfa Dose (units/week)	**Previous Weekly Darbepoetin alfa Dose (mcg/week)**	**Mircera Dose**	
			Once Monthly (mcg/month)	Once Every 2 Weeks (mcg/every 2 weeks)
	less than 8000	less than 40	120	60
	8000 to 16000	40 to 80	200	100
	more than 16000	more than 80	360	180
	<u>Maintenance Dose</u>: Once Hb has stabilized, administer once monthly using a dose that is twice that of the every-two-week dose and subsequently titrate as necessary. Most commonly the dose ranges from 120 to 360 mcg every 28 days.			
– Dose increases of 25% can be considered if after 4 weeks of initial therapy the hemoglobin has increased less than 1 g/dL and the current hemoglobin level is less than the indication specific level noted above. – Dose decreases of 25% or more can be considered if the hemoglobin rises rapidly by more than 1 g/dL in any 2-week period. – Dose and frequency requested are the minimum necessary for the patient to avoid RBC transfusions. – Avoid frequent dose adjustments. Do not increase the dose more frequently than once every 4 weeks; decreases can occur more frequently. – If patients fail to respond over a 12-week dose escalation period, further dose increases are unlikely to improve response and discontinuation of therapy should be considered.				

VI. Billing Code/Availability Information

<u>HCPCS Code</u>:

- J0888 – Injection, epoetin beta, 1 microgram, (for non-ESRD use); 1 billable unit = 1 mcg

<u>NDC</u>:

- Mircera 30 mcg/0.3 mL single-dose prefilled syringe: 59353-0400-xx
- Mircera 50 mcg/0.3 mL single-dose prefilled syringe: 59353-0401-xx
- Mircera 75 mcg/0.3 mL single-dose prefilled syringe: 59353-0402-xx
- Mircera 100 mcg/0.3 mL single-dose prefilled syringe: 59353-0403-xx
- Mircera 120 mcg/0.3 mL single-dose prefilled syringe: 59353-0407-xx
- Mircera 150 mcg/0.3 mL single-dose prefilled syringe: 59353-0404-xx
- Mircera 200 mcg/0.3 mL single-dose prefilled syringe: 59353-0405-xx
- Mircera 250 mcg/0.3 mL single-dose prefilled syringe: 59353-0406-xx
- Mircera 360 mcg/0.6 mL single-dose prefilled syringe: 59353-0408-xx

VII. References

1. Mircera [package insert]. St. Gallen, Switzerland; Vifor (International) Inc. March 2023. Accessed April 2023.

Proprietary Information. Restricted Access – Do not disseminate or copy without approval.
©2023, Magellan Rx Management

2. Levin NW, Fishbane S, Cañedo FV, et al. MAXIMA study investigators. Intravenous methoxy polyethylene glycol-epoetin beta for haemoglobin control in patients with chronic kidney disease who are on dialysis: A randomised non-inferiority trial (MAXIMA). Lancet 370: 1415–1421, 2007.
3. Sulowicz W, Locatelli F, Ryckelynck JP, et al. PROTOS Study Investigators. Once-monthly subcutaneous C.E.R.A. maintains stable hemoglobin control in patients with chronic kidney disease on dialysis and converted directly from epoetin one to three times weekly. Clin J Am Soc Nephrol 2: 637–646, 2007.
4. Fischbach M, Wühl E, Reigner SCM, et al. Efficacy and Long-Term Safety of C.E.R.A. Maintenance in Pediatric Hemodialysis Patients with Anemia of CKD [published correction appears in Clin J Am Soc Nephrol. 2019;14(6):907] Clin J Am Soc Nephrol. 2018;13(1):81-90.
5. Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Anemia Work Group. KDIGO clinical practice guideline for anemia in chronic kidney disease. Kidney Int Suppl. 2012;2(suppl):279-335. https://kdigo.org/guidelines/anemia-in-ckd/. Published August 2012.
6. Mikhail, A., Brown, C., Williams, J.A. et al. Renal association clinical practice guideline on Anaemia of Chronic Kidney Disease. *BMC Nephrol* 18**,** 345 (2017).Upd 2020. https://doi.org/10.1186/s12882-017-0688-1.
7. Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corporation. Local Coverage Determination (LCD): Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents (ESAs) (L34633). Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Inc. Updated on 06/22/2021 with effective dates 07/01/2021. Accessed March 2023.
8. CGS Administrators, LLC. Local Coverage Determination (LCD): Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents (ESA) (L34356). Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Updated on 02/23/2023 with effective dates 03/02/2023. Accessed March 2023.
9. CGS Administrators, LLC. Local Coverage Article (LCA): Billing and Coding: Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents (ESA) (A56462). Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Updated on 02/28/2023 with effective dates 03/09/2023. Accessed March 2023.
10. Pamletto GBA. Local Coverage Article (LCA): Billing and Coding: Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents (ESA) (A58982). Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Updated on 08/18/2022 with effective dates 10/01/2022. Accessed March 2023.
11. Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corporation. Local Coverage Article (LCA): Billing and Coding: Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents (ESA) (A56795). Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Updated on 10/18/2022 with effective dates 10/01/2022. Accessed March 2023.

Appendix 1 – Covered Diagnosis Codes

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description
D63.1	Anemia in chronic kidney disease
I12.9	Hypertensive chronic kidney disease with stage 1 through stage 4 chronic kidney disease, or unspecified chronic kidney disease

Proprietary Information. Restricted Access – Do not disseminate or copy without approval.
©2023, Magellan Rx Management

I13.0	Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease with heart failure and stage 1 through stage 4 chronic kidney disease, or unspecified chronic kidney disease
I13.10	Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease without heart failure, with stage 1 through stage 4 chronic kidney disease, or unspecified chronic kidney disease
N18.30	Chronic kidney disease, stage 3 (moderate), unspecified
N18.31	Chronic kidney disease, stage 3a
N18.32	Chronic kidney disease, stage 3b
N18.4	Chronic kidney disease, stage 4 (severe)
N18.9	Chronic kidney disease, unspecified

Dual coding requirements:

- Anemia due to CKD (not on dialysis): must bill D63.1 AND I12.9, I13.0, I13.10, N18.30, N18.31, N18.32, N18.4, or N18.9

Appendix 2 – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Medicare coverage for outpatient (Part B) drugs is outlined in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual (Pub. 100-2), Chapter 15, §50 Drugs and Biologicals. In addition, National Coverage Determination (NCD), Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs), and Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) may exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. They can be found at: https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx. Additional indications may be covered at the discretion of the health plan.

Medicare Part B Covered Diagnosis Codes (applicable to existing NCD/LCD/LCA):

Jurisdiction(s): 5, 8	**NCD/LCD/LCA Document (s):** L34633
https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/new-search/search-results.aspx?keyword=l34633&areaId=all&docType=NCA%2CCAL%2CNCD%2CMEDCAC%2CTA%2CMCD%2C6%2C3%2C5%2C1%2CF%2CP	

Jurisdiction(s): 15	**NCD/LCD/LCA Document (s):** L34356
https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/new-search/search-results.aspx?keyword=l34356&areaId=all&docType=NCA%2CCAL%2CNCD%2CMEDCAC%2CTA%2CMCD%2C6%2C3%2C5%2C1%2CF%2CP	

Jurisdiction(s): 15	**NCD/LCD/LCA Document (s):** A56462
https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/new-search/search-results.aspx?keyword=a56462&areaId=all&docType=NCA%2CCAL%2CNCD%2CMEDCAC%2CTA%2CMCD%2C6%2C3%2C5%2C1%2CF%2CP	

Jurisdiction(s): J, M	**NCD/LCD/LCA Document (s):** A58982

Proprietary Information. Restricted Access – Do not disseminate or copy without approval.
©2023, Magellan Rx Management

https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search-results.aspx?keyword=A58982&keywordType=starts&areaId=all&docType=NCA,CAL,NCD,MEDCAC,TA,MCD,6,3,5,1,F,P&contractOption=all&sortBy=relevance.

Jurisdiction(s): 5, 8	**NCD/LCD/LCA Document (s):** A56795
https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search-results.aspx?keyword=A56795&keywordType=starts&areaId=all&docType=NCA,CAL,NCD,MEDCAC,TA,MCD,6,3,5,1,F,P&contractOption=all&sortBy=relevance.	

Medicare Part B Administrative Contractor (MAC) Jurisdictions		
Jurisdiction	**Applicable State/US Territory**	**Contractor**
E (1)	CA, HI, NV, AS, GU, CNMI	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
F (2 & 3)	AK, WA, OR, ID, ND, SD, MT, WY, UT, AZ	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
5	KS, NE, IA, MO	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
6	MN, WI, IL	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
H (4 & 7)	LA, AR, MS, TX, OK, CO, NM	Novitas Solutions, Inc.
8	MI, IN	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
N (9)	FL, PR, VI	First Coast Service Options, Inc.
J (10)	TN, GA, AL	Palmetto GBA, LLC
M (11)	NC, SC, WV, VA (excluding below)	Palmetto GBA, LLC
L (12)	DE, MD, PA, NJ, DC (includes Arlington & Fairfax counties and the city of Alexandria in VA)	Novitas Solutions, Inc.
K (13 & 14)	NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, ME, NH	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
15	KY, OH	CGS Administrators, LLC

Proprietary Information. Restricted Access – Do not disseminate or copy without approval.
©2023, Magellan Rx Management

Nondiscrimination & Language Access Policy

Discrimination is Against the Law. Aspirus Health Plan, Inc. complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, (including sex characteristics, including intersex traits; pregnancy or related conditions; sexual orientation, gender identity and sex stereotypes), consistent with the scope of sex discrimination described at 45 CFR § 92.101(a)(2). Aspirus Health Plan, Inc. does not exclude people or treat them less favorably because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Aspirus Health Plan, Inc.:
Provides people with disabilities reasonable modifications and free appropriate auxiliary aids and services to communicate effectively with us, such as:

- Qualified sign language interpreters.
- Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats).

Provides free language assistance services to people whose primary language is not English, which may include:

- Qualified interpreters.
- Information written in other languages.

If *you* need reasonable modifications, appropriate auxiliary aids and services, or language assistance services, contact the Nondiscrimination Grievance Coordinator at the address, phone number, fax number, or email address below.

If *you* believe that Aspirus Health Plan, Inc. has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, *you* can file a *grievance* with:

Nondiscrimination Grievance Coordinator
Aspirus Health Plan, Inc.
PO Box 1890
Southampton, PA 18966-9998
Phone: 1-866-631-5404 (TTY: 711)
Fax: 763-847-4010
Email: customerservice@aspirushealthplan.com

You can file a *grievance* in person or by mail, fax, or email. If *you* need help filing a *grievance*, the Nondiscrimination Grievance Coordinator is available to help *you*.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 509F, HHH Building
Washington, D.C. 20201
1.800.368.1019, 800.537.7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html. This notice is available at Aspirus Health Plan, Inc.'s website: https://aspirushealthplan.com/webdocs/70021-AHP-NonDiscrim_Lang-Assist-Notice.pdf.

Language Assistance Services

Albanian: KUJDES: Nëse flitni shqip, për ju ka në dispozicion shërbime të asistencës gjuhësore, pa pagesë.Telefononi në 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

Arabic تنبيه: إذا كنت تتحدث اللغة العربية، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية متاحة لك مجاناً. اتصل بن اعلى رقم الهاتف1-800-332-6501(رقم هاتف الصم والبك : 711)

French: ATTENTION: Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1-800-332-6501 (ATS: 711).

German: ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zurVerfügung. Rufnummer: 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

Hindi: _यान द_: य_द आप ि हंदी बोलते ह_ तो आपके ि लए मु_त म_ भाषा सहायता सेवाएं उपल_ध ह_।1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711) पर कॉल कर_।

Hmong: LUS CEEV: Yog tias koj hais lus Hmoob, cov kev pab txog lus, muaj kev pab dawb rau koj. Hu rau 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

Korean: 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다.1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711)번으로 전화해 주십시오.

Polish: UWAGA: Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

Russian: ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода.Звоните 1-800-332-6501 (телетайп: 711).

Spanish: ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

Tagalog: PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nangwalang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

Traditional Chinese: 注意：如果您使用繁體中文， 您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請 致電 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711)

Vietnamese: CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

Pennsylvania Dutch: Wann du Deitsch (Pennsylvania German / Dutch) schwetzscht, kannscht du mitaus Koschte ebbergricke, ass dihr helft mit die englisch Schprooch. Ruf selli Nummer uff: Call 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

Lao: ໂປດຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ,ໂດຍບໍ່ເສັງຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທຣ 1-800-332-6501 (TTY: 711).

70021 07-24 ©2024 Aspirus Health Plan, Inc. All rights reserved.