

Clinical Policy: Non-Formulary and Formulary Contraceptives

Reference Number: HIM.PA.100

Effective Date: 05.01.15

Last Review Date: 05.26

Line of Business: HIM/ICHRA

[Revision Log](#)

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

Description

These are general prior authorization criteria for approval of non-formulary and formulary contraceptives.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Contraceptives are indicated for the prevention of pregnancy.

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[®] that non-formulary and formulary contraceptives are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Contraceptive Therapy

1. One of the following (a or b):
 - a. Requested quantity does not exceed 1 active pill per day, compendium-supported maximum dose, or health plan-approved quantity limit;
 - b. For HIM Washington (i.e., Coordinated Care) requests only: Prior authorization requests received in Washington that exceed the health plan-approved quantity limit should be approved without further medical justification.

Approval duration: Duration of request or 12 months, whichever is less

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: HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace/ICHRA; 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: HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace/ICHRA; 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: HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace/ICHRA.

II. Continued Therapy

A. Contraceptive Therapy (must meet all):

1. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
 - b. Member is currently receiving medication and is enrolled in a state and product with continuity of care regulations (*refer to state specific addendums for CC.PHARM.03A and CC.PHARM.03B*).

Approval duration: 12 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: HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace/ICHRA; 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: HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace/ICHRA; 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: HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace/ICHRA.

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 – HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace/ICHRA or evidence of coverage documents.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

Not applicable

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

Refer to individual prescribing information.

V. Dosage and Administration

Refer to individual prescribing information.

VI. Product Availability

Refer to individual prescribing information.

VII. References

1. United States Department of Labor. Employee Benefits Security Administration: Affordable Care Act Implementation Frequently Asked Questions. Available at: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa/laws-and-regulations/laws/affordable-care-act/for-employers-and-advisers/aca-implementation-faqs>. Accessed February 6, 2026.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
2Q 2022 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	02.22.22	05.22
Added reminder in Section I that once approval has been entered in the system you must enter exception for copay code (drug needs to pay on Tier 0) and exception for subject to deductible code for the requested drug.	06.14.22	
Revised initial approval criteria to “Requested quantity does not exceed 1 active pill per day, compendium-supported maximum dose, or health plan-approved quantity limit,” (removed provider attestation for medical necessity and request is for product placement on Tier 0).	06.21.22	08.22
Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications and continued therapy section.	10.11.22	
2Q 2023 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	01.27.23	05.23
For HIM Washington requests, added exception to quantity limit requirement in compliance with the January 2024 Reproductive Parity Act, RCW 48.43.072.	11.28.23	
Removed reminders for copay code and deductible code exception.	01.23.24	
2Q 2024 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated. Ad hoc: for HIM Washington requests, revised exception to quantity limit to “Prior authorization requests received in Washington that exceed the health plan-approved quantity limit should be approved <u>without</u> further medical justification” (removed medical justification for requests that exceed the quantity limit).	01.31.24	05.24
2Q 2025 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	02.14.25	05.25
2Q 2026 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated. Added ICHRA line of business.	03.31.26	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.

©2015 Centene Corporation. All rights reserved. All materials are exclusively owned by Centene Corporation and are protected by United States copyright law and international copyright law. No part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, modified, distributed, displayed, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means, or otherwise published without the prior written permission of Centene Corporation. You may not alter or remove any trademark, copyright or other notice contained herein. Centene[®] and Centene Corporation[®] are registered trademarks exclusively owned by Centene Corporation.