

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION POLICY

- POLICY:** Hepatitis C – Viekira Pak Prior Authorization Policy
- Viekira Pak™ (ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir tablets; dasabuvir tablets [co-packaged] – AbbVie)

REVIEW DATE: 09/13/2023

OVERVIEW

Viekira Pak contains ombitasvir, a hepatitis C virus (HCV) NS5A inhibitor, paritaprevir, an HCV NS3/4A protease inhibitor, ritonavir, a cytochrome P450 (CYP)3A inhibitor and dasabuvir, an HCV non-nucleoside NS5B palm polymerase inhibitor.¹

Viekira Pak is indicated for the treatment of patients with **genotype 1 chronic HCV** infection.¹ Viekira Pak is indicated in patients with:

- Genotype 1b without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis; or
- Genotype 1a without cirrhosis or with compensated cirrhosis for use in combination with ribavirin.

The recommended dose of Viekira Pak is two co-formulated ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir tablets once daily (in the morning) and one dasabuvir tablet twice daily (morning and evening). When administered with Viekira Pak, the recommended dose of ribavirin is weight-based. For patients with HCV/human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-1 co-infection the recommendations are the same as for those without co-infection. Of note, product labeling notes that some patients with genotype 1a with cirrhosis may be treated for 12 weeks with Viekira Pak + weight-based ribavirin based on data from the TURQUOISE-II trial. In liver transplant recipients with normal hepatic function and mild fibrosis (Metavir fibrosis score ≤ 2), the recommended duration of therapy with Viekira Pak is 24 weeks, irrespective of HCV genotype 1 subtype.

Table 1. FDA-Approved Regimens and Treatment Duration for Viekira Pak.¹

*Note: Follow the genotype 1a dosing recommendations in patients with an unknown genotype 1 subtype or with mixed genotype 1 infection; WBR – Weight-based ribavirin; ** A 12 week treatment duration may be considered for some patients based on prior treatment .

Guidelines

Viekira Pak is not addressed in the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) Guidelines recommended (or alternative) regimens.² It has been supplanted by other direct-acting antivirals.

POLICY STATEMENT

Prior Authorization is recommended for prescription benefit coverage of Viekira Pak. All approvals are provided for the duration noted below. Because of the specialized skills required for evaluation and diagnosis of patients treated with Viekira Pak as well as the monitoring required for adverse events and efficacy, approval requires Viekira Pak to be prescribed by or in consultation with a physician who specializes in the condition being treated.

Automation: None.

RECOMMENDED AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

Coverage of Viekira Pak is recommended in those who meet one of the following criteria:

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FDA-Approved Indications

- 1. Chronic Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), Genotype 1a.** Approve for the duration noted if the patient meets the following (A, B, C, and D):
 - A) Patient is ≥ 18 years of age; AND
 - B) Patient meets ONE of the following (i or ii):
 - i. Patient does not have cirrhosis: Approve for 12 weeks; OR
 - ii. Patient has cirrhosis: Approve for 24 weeks; AND
 - C) The medication is prescribed in combination with ribavirin; AND
 - D) The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist, hepatologist, infectious diseases physician, or a liver transplant physician.
- 2. Chronic Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), Genotype 1b.** Approve for 12 weeks if the patient meets the following (A and B):
 - A) Patient is ≥ 18 years of age; AND
 - B) The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist, hepatologist, infectious diseases physician, or a liver transplant physician.
- 3. Recurrent Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Post-Liver Transplantation, Genotype 1.** Approve for 24 weeks if the patient meets the following (A, B, and C):
 - A) Patient is ≥ 18 years of age; AND
 - B) The medication is prescribed in combination with ribavirin; AND
 - C) The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with one of the following prescribers who is affiliated with a transplant center: a gastroenterologist, hepatologist, infectious diseases physician, or a liver transplant physician.
- 4. Patient Has Been Started on Viekira Pak.** Approve Viekira Pak for an indication or condition addressed as an approval in the Recommended Authorization Criteria section (FDA-Approved Indications). Approve the duration described above to complete a course of therapy (e.g., a patient who should receive 12 weeks, and has received 3 weeks should be approved for 9 weeks to complete their 12-week course).

CONDITIONS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Coverage of Viekira Pak is not recommended in the following situations:

- 1. Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), Child-Pugh Class B or Child-Pugh Class C Liver Disease (Moderate or Severe Hepatic Impairment).** Viekira Pak is contraindicated in patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment (Child-Pugh Class B or C).¹ The AASLD recommend *against* the use of Viekira Pak in patients with chronic HCV with decompensated cirrhosis (Child-Pugh Class B or C).
- 2. Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) [Any Genotype], Combination with Any Other Direct-Acting Antivirals (DAAs) Not Including Ribavirin.** Viekira Pak provides a complete antiviral regimen for patients with genotype 1 HCV. Viekira Pak is indicated with ribavirin for some patients. In the opinion of a specialist physician reviewing the data we have adopted this criterion.
- 3. Life Expectancy Less Than 12 Months Due to Non-Liver Related Comorbidities.** Patients with limited life expectancy for whom HCV therapy would not improve symptoms or prognosis do not require treatment.² According to AASLD guidance, the panel continues to recommend treatment for

all patients with chronic HCV infection, *except* those with short life expectancies that cannot be remediated by treating HCV, by transplantation, or by other directed therapy. For these patients, the benefits of HCV treatment are unlikely to be realized, and palliative care strategies should take precedence.

5. **Pediatric Patients (Age < 18 Years).** The safety and efficacy of Viekira Pak have not been established in pediatric patients < 18 years of age.¹
6. **Retreatment with Viekira Pak in Patients Who Have Previously Received Viekira Pak, Viekira XR, or Technivie** (e.g., retreatment in prior null responders, prior partial responders, prior relapse patients, patients who have not completed a course of therapy due to an adverse reaction or for other reasons). Technivie, Viekira Pak, and Viekira XR contain the same active ingredients; Viekira Pak and Viekira XR additionally contain dasabuvir.
7. Coverage is not recommended for circumstances not listed in the Recommended Authorization Criteria. Criteria will be updated as new published data are available.

REFERENCES

1. Viekira Pak™ tablets [prescribing information]. North Chicago, IL: AbbVie; December 2019.
2. American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases and the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Testing, managing, and treating hepatitis C. Available at: <http://www.hcvguidelines.org>. Updated October 24, 2022. Accessed on August 17, 2023.