

# Drug Policy:

## Welireg™ (belzutifan)

<b>POLICY NUMBER</b> UM ONC_1446	<b>SUBJECT</b> Welireg™ (belzutifan)		<b>DEPT/PROGRAM</b> UM Dept	<b>PAGE 1 of 3</b>
<b>DATES COMMITTEE REVIEWED</b> 09/08/21, 11/15/21, 05/11/22, 08/10/22, 06/14/23, 03/13/24	<b>APPROVAL DATE</b> March 13, 2024	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> March 29, 2024	<b>COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATES</b> 09/08/21, 11/15/21, 05/11/22, 08/10/22, 06/14/23, 03/13/24	
<b>PRIMARY BUSINESS OWNER: UM</b>		<b>COMMITTEE/BOARD APPROVAL</b> Utilization Management Committee		
<b>NCQA STANDARDS</b> UM 2		<b>ADDITIONAL AREAS OF IMPACT</b>		
<b>CMS REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>STATE/FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS</b>		<b>APPLICABLE LINES OF BUSINESS</b> Commercial, Exchange, Medicaid	

### I. PURPOSE

To define and describe the accepted indications for Welireg (belzutifan) usage in the treatment of cancer, including FDA approved indications, and off-label indications.

Evolent is responsible for processing all medication requests from network ordering providers. Medications not authorized by Evolent may be deemed as not approvable and therefore not reimbursable.

The use of this drug must be supported by one of the following: FDA approved product labeling, CMS-approved compendia, National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN), American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) clinical guidelines, or peer-reviewed literature that meets the requirements of the CMS Medicare Benefit Policy Manual Chapter 15.

### II. INDICATIONS FOR USE/INCLUSION CRITERIA

#### A. Continuation requests for a not-approvable medication shall be exempt from this Evolent policy provided:

1. The requested medication was used within the last year, **AND**
2. The member has not experienced disease progression and/or no intolerance to the requested medication, **AND**
3. Additional medication(s) are not being added to the continuation request.

#### B. Von-Hippel Lindau (VHL) Associated Renal Cell Carcinoma (RCC) or Solid Tumors of the Brain/Spine or Pancreas

1. Welireg (belzutifan) may be used as monotherapy in a member with VHL associated non-metastatic RCC, central nervous system hemangioblastomas, or pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors (pNET) that do not require immediate surgical intervention.

#### C. Renal Cell Carcinoma (RCC)

1. Welireg (belzutifan) may be used in members with advanced renal cell carcinoma (RCC) following an immune checkpoint inhibitor (i.e. avelumab, pembrolizumab, nivolumab, ipilimumab) and a vascular endothelial growth factor tyrosine kinase inhibitor (VEGF-TKI), i.e. axitinib, pazopanib.

### III. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- A. Disease progression while taking Welireg (belzutifan).
- B. The member has metastatic disease.
- C. Concurrent use with other systemic therapies.
- D. Dosing exceeds single dose limit of Welireg (belzutifan) 120 mg.
- E. Treatment exceeds the maximum limit of 90 (40 mg) tablets/month.
- F. Investigational use of Welireg (belzutifan) with an off-label indication that is not sufficient in evidence or is not generally accepted by the medical community. Sufficient evidence that is not supported by CMS recognized compendia or acceptable peer reviewed literature is defined as any of the following:
  1. Whether the clinical characteristics of the patient and the cancer are adequately represented in the published evidence.
  2. Whether the administered chemotherapy/biologic therapy/immune therapy/targeted therapy/other oncologic therapy regimen is adequately represented in the published evidence.
  3. Whether the reported study outcomes represent clinically meaningful outcomes experienced by patients. Generally, the definitions of Clinically Meaningful outcomes are those recommended by ASCO, e.g., Hazard Ratio of less than 0.80 and the recommended survival benefit for OS and PFS should be at least 3 months.
  4. Whether the experimental design, the drugs and conditions under investigation, is appropriate to address the investigative question. (For example, in some clinical studies, it may be unnecessary or not feasible to use randomization, double blind trials, placebos, or crossover).
  5. That non-randomized clinical trials with a significant number of subjects may be a basis for supportive clinical evidence for determining accepted uses of drugs.
  6. That case reports are generally considered uncontrolled and anecdotal information and do not provide adequate supportive clinical evidence for determining accepted uses of drugs.
  7. That abstracts (including meeting abstracts) without the full article from the approved peer-reviewed journals lack supporting clinical evidence for determining accepted uses of drugs.

### IV. MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

- A. Please refer to the FDA label/package insert for details regarding these topics.

### V. APPROVAL AUTHORITY

- A. Review – Utilization Management Department
- B. Final Approval – Utilization Management Committee

### VI. ATTACHMENTS

- A. None

## VII. REFERENCES

- A. Welireg prescribing information. Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., Whitehouse Station, NJ 2023.
- B. Albiges L, et al. LBA88 Belzutifan versus everolimus in participants (pts) with previously treated advanced clear cell renal cell carcinoma (ccRCC): Randomized open-label phase III LITESPARK-005 study. *Annals of Oncology*. 2023 October; 34 (supp2): S1329-1330.  
DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annonc.2023.10.090>
- C. *Clinical Pharmacology Elsevier Gold Standard* 2023.
- D. Micromedex® Healthcare Series: Micromedex Drugdex Ann Arbor, Michigan 2023.
- E. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. *Cancer Guidelines and Drugs and Biologics Compendium* 2023.
- F. AHFS Drug Information. American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists or Wolters Kluwer Lexi-Drugs Bethesda, MD 2023.
- G. Ellis LM, et al. American Society of Clinical Oncology perspective: Raising the bar for clinical trials by defining clinically meaningful outcomes. *J Clin Oncol*. 2014 Apr 20;32(12):1277-80.
- H. Medicare Benefit Policy Manual Chapter 15 Covered Medical and Other Health Services:  
<https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/bp102c15.pdf>.