

## Clinical Policy: Cabazitaxel (Jevtana)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.316

Effective Date: 03.01.17

Last Review Date: 05.25

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)  
[Revision Log](#)

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

### Description

Cabazitaxel (Jevtana<sup>®</sup>) is a microtubule inhibitor.

### FDA Approved Indication(s)

Jevtana is indicated in combination with prednisone for the treatment of patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC) previously treated with a docetaxel-containing treatment regimen.

### 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<sup>®</sup> that Jevtana is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

#### I. Initial Approval Criteria

##### A. Prostate Cancer (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of metastatic CRPC, as evidenced by disease progression despite bilateral orchiectomy or other androgen deprivation therapy (*see Appendix D*);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or urologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
4. Previously treated with a docetaxel-containing treatment regimen, unless one of the following (a or b):
  - a. Member is not a candidate for or is intolerant of docetaxel;
  - b. Member has small cell/neuroendocrine prostate cancer (off-label);
5. At the time of request, member has none of the following contraindications:
  - a. Neutrophil counts of  $\leq$  1,500/mm<sup>3</sup>;
  - b. Severe hepatic impairment (total bilirubin  $>$  3  $\times$  upper limit of normal);
6. Jevtana is prescribed concurrently with corticosteroid (*see Appendix E*);
7. Member will use a gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) analog concurrently or has had a bilateral orchiectomy;
8. Requests meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - a. Dose does not exceed 25 mg/m<sup>2</sup> once every 3 weeks;
  - 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:**

**HIM/Medicaid** – 6 months

**Commercial** – 6 months or to the member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

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

**II. Continued Therapy**

**A. Prostate Cancer** (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Jevtana for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. Jevtana is prescribed concurrently with corticosteroid (*see Appendix E*);
4. Member continues to use a gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) analog concurrently or has had a bilateral orchiectomy;
5. If request is for a dose increase, request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - a. New dose does not exceed 25 mg/m<sup>2</sup> once every 3 weeks;
  - b. New 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:**

**HIM/Medicaid** – 12 months

**Commercial** – 6 months or to the member’s renewal date, whichever is longer

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

**IV. Appendices/General Information**

*Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

CRPC: castration resistant prostate cancer

*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
docetaxel	Androgen-deprivation therapy with docetaxel 75 mg/m <sup>2</sup> for 6 cycles	Varies

*Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name<sup>®</sup> (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name<sup>®</sup>) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.*

*Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings*

- Contraindication(s):
  - Neutrophil counts of  $\leq 1,500/\text{mm}^3$
  - History of severe hypersensitivity reactions to cabazitaxel or to other drugs formulated with polysorbate 80
  - Severe hepatic impairment (total bilirubin  $> 3x$  upper limit of normal)
- Boxed warning(s): neutropenia and hypersensitivity

*Appendix D: General Information*

- CRPC is prostate cancer that progresses clinically, radiographically, or biochemically despite castrate levels of serum testosterone ( $< 50$  ng/dL). Per the NCCN, androgen

deprivation therapy should be continued in the setting of CRPC while additional therapies are applied.

- Examples of androgen deprivation therapy include:
  - Bilateral orchiectomy (surgical castration)
  - Luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) given with or without an anti-androgen:
    - LHRH agonists: Zoladex<sup>®</sup> (goserelin), leuprolide (Lupron Depot<sup>®</sup>, Eligard<sup>®</sup>), and Trelstar<sup>®</sup> (triptorelin)
    - Anti-androgens: bicalutamide (Casodex<sup>®</sup>), flutamide (Eulexin<sup>®</sup>), nilutamide (Nilandron<sup>®</sup>), Xtandi<sup>®</sup> (enzalutamide), Erleada<sup>®</sup> (apalutamide), Nubeqa<sup>®</sup> (darolutamide)
  - LHRH antagonists: Firmagon<sup>®</sup> (degarelix), Orgovyx<sup>™</sup> (relugolix)

*Appendix E: Concurrent Steroid Therapies*

- Dexamethasone on the day of chemotherapy
- Prednisone daily

**V. Dosage and Administration**

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
CRPC	20 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV every 3 weeks	25 mg/m <sup>2</sup> once every 3 weeks

**VI. Product Availability**

Single-dose vial: 60 mg/1.5 mL

**VII. References**

1. Jevtana Prescribing Information. Bridgewater, NJ: Sanofi-Aventis US LLC; July 2023. Available at: <https://www.jevtanapro.com/>. Accessed January 17, 2025.
2. Cabazitaxel Injection Prescribing Information. Princeton, NJ: Sandoz Inc.; January 2023. Available at: [https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda\\_docs/label/2023/208715s000lbl.pdf](https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2023/208715s000lbl.pdf). Accessed January 17, 2025.
3. Cabazitaxel. In: National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at: [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug\\_compendium](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug_compendium). Accessed February 10, 2025.
4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Prostate Cancer. Version 1.2025. Available at: [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/prostate.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/prostate.pdf). Accessed February 10, 2025.

**Coding Implications**

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
J9043	Injection, cabazitaxel, 1 mg

HCPCS Codes	Description
J9064	Injection, cabazitaxel (sandoz), not therapeutically equivalent to J9043, 1 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
2Q 2021 annual review: allowed bypassing prior docetaxel if not a candidate for or are intolerant of docetaxel per NCCN; added that Jevtana continues to be prescribed with steroids; updated reference for HIM off-label use to HIM.PA.154 (replaces HIM.PHAR.21); references reviewed and updated.	02.20.21	05.21
2Q 2022 annual review: added requirement that “member will use a gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) analog concurrently or has had a bilateral orchiectomy” per NCCN and alignment with other prostate cancer clinical policies; removed pregnancy from contraindications per prescribing information; RT4: added new 60 mg/3 mL strength to product availability; references reviewed and updated.	01.25.22	05.22
Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications.	09.21.22	
2Q 2023 annual review: no significant changes; RT4 – added 45 mg/4.5 mL and 60 mg/6 mL concentrations; updated <i>Appendix D</i> examples of androgen deprivation therapy per NCCN; removed 60 mg/3 mL dose form as product was discontinued; references reviewed and updated.	01.06.23	05.23
Added HCPCS code [J9064]	10.26.23	
2Q 2024 annual review: no significant changes; removed 45 mg/4.5 mL strength from Section VI; references reviewed and updated.	01.09.24	05.24
2Q 2025 annual review: added Commercial line of business; added an additional bypass to required prior use of docetaxel-containing treatment regimen for members with small cell/neuroendocrine prostate cancer per NCCN Compendium; references reviewed and updated.	01.17.25	05.25

### **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.

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**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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