

**Clinical Policy: Pertuzumab/Trastuzumab/Hyaluronidase-zzxf (Phesgo)**

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.501

Effective Date: 09.01.20

Last Review Date: 08.25

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**

Pertuzumab/trastuzumab/hyaluronidase-zzxf (Phesgo<sup>TM</sup>) is a fixed-dose subcutaneous formulation of human epidermal growth factor 2 (HER2)/neu receptor antagonists [Perjeta<sup>®</sup> (pertuzumab) and Herceptin<sup>®</sup> (trastuzumab)] and endoglycosidase (hyaluronidase).

**FDA Approved Indication(s)**

Phesgo is indicated for:

- Use in combination with chemotherapy as:
  - Neoadjuvant treatment of patients with HER2-positive, locally advanced, inflammatory, or early-stage breast cancer (either greater than 2 cm in diameter or node positive) as part of a complete treatment regimen for early breast cancer.
  - Adjuvant treatment of patients with HER2-positive early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence.
- Use in combination with docetaxel for treatment of patients with HER2-positive metastatic breast cancer (MBC) who have not received prior anti-HER2 therapy or chemotherapy for metastatic disease.

**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 Phesgo is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

**I. Initial Approval Criteria****A. Breast Cancer** (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of HER2-positive breast cancer;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
4. Prescribed in combination with chemotherapy (*see Appendix B*);
5. Request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - a. Dose does not exceed an initial dose of 1,200 mg pertuzumab, 600 mg trastuzumab, and 30,000 units hyaluronidase (one single-dose vial), followed by 600 mg pertuzumab, 600 mg trastuzumab, and 20,000 units hyaluronidase (one single-dose vial) every three 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:**

**Medicaid/HIM** – 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. Breast Cancer** (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Phesgo for a covered indication and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for use of Phesgo as neoadjuvant therapy, the member has not already received more than 6 cycles of therapy;
4. If request is for use of Phesgo as adjuvant therapy, the member has not already received more than 18 cycles of therapy;
5. If request is for a dose increase, request meets one of the following (a or b):\*
  - a. New dose does not exceed 600 mg pertuzumab, 600 mg trastuzumab, and 20,000 units hyaluronidase (one single-dose vial) every three 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:\***

**Medicaid/HIM** – 12 months

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

*\*5 months total [6 cycles] if neoadjuvant therapy, 12 months total [18 cycles] if adjuvant therapy*

**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, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid, or evidence of coverage documents.

**IV. Appendices/General Information**

*Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*

FDA: Food and Drug Administration  
 HER2: human epidermal growth factor 2  
 MBC: metastatic breast cancer

NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network

*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/<br>Maximum Dose |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Examples of drugs that may be used with Phesgo for breast cancer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemotherapeutic agents: carboplatin, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin</li> <li>• HER2-targeted agents: docetaxel (Taxotere<sup>®</sup>), paclitaxel</li> <li>• Endocrine therapy: tamoxifen; aromatase inhibitors: anastrozole</li> </ul> | Regimens are dependent on a variety of factors including menopausal status, treatment/progression history, clinical stage, histology, mutational and receptor status, treatment purpose (e.g., adjuvant and neoadjuvant treatment, treatment for metastatic disease). | Varies                      |

| Drug Name                                                                                          | Dosing Regimen | Dose Limit/<br>Maximum Dose |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| (Arimidex <sup>®</sup> ), letrozole (Femara <sup>®</sup> ),<br>exemestane (Aromasin <sup>®</sup> ) |                |                             |

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): known hypersensitivity to pertuzumab, or trastuzumab, or hyaluronidase, or to any of its excipients
- Boxed warning(s): cardiomyopathy, embryo-fetal toxicity, and pulmonary toxicity

### V. Dosage and Administration

| Indication    | Dosing Regimen                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Maximum Dose |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Breast cancer | <p>Initial dose of 1,200 mg pertuzumab, 600 mg trastuzumab, and 30,000 units hyaluronidase administered SC in the thigh, followed by maintenance dose of 600 mg pertuzumab, 600 mg trastuzumab, and 20,000 units hyaluronidase administered SC in the thigh every 3 weeks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>For neoadjuvant:</i> administer by SC injection with chemotherapy by IV infusion preoperatively for 3 to 6 cycles for a total of one year</li> <li>• <i>For adjuvant:</i> administer by SC injection with chemotherapy by IV infusion postoperatively for a total of one year (up to 18 cycles)</li> <li>• <i>For metastatic disease:</i> administer with IV infusion of docetaxel</li> </ul> <p>Must be administered by a healthcare professional.</p> | See regimens |

### VI. Product Availability

Single-dose vials for injection:

- 1,200 mg pertuzumab, 600 mg trastuzumab, and 30,000 units hyaluronidase per 15 mL (80 mg, 40 mg, and 2,000 units/mL)
- 600 mg pertuzumab, 600 mg trastuzumab, and 20,000 units hyaluronidase per 10 mL (60 mg, 60 mg, and 2,000 units/mL)

### VII. References

1. Phesgo Prescribing Information. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc.; November 2024. Available at: <https://www.phesgo.com/hcp.html>. Accessed April 11, 2025.

2. Tan AR, Im SA, Mattar A, et al. Abstract PD4-07: subcutaneous administration of the fixed-dose combination of trastuzumab and pertuzumab in combination with chemotherapy in HER2-positive early breast cancer: primary analysis of the phase III, multicenter, randomized, open-label, two-arm FeDeriCa study. *Cancer Res.* 2020; 80(4): PD4-07; doi: 10.1158/1538-7445.SABCS19-PD4-07.
3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Guidelines. Breast Cancer Version 4.2025. Available at: [www.nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org). Accessed May 19, 2025.
4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at: [http://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug\\_compendium](http://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug_compendium). Accessed May 19, 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                                                           |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| J9316       | Injection, pertuzumab, trastuzumab, and hyaluronidase-zzxf, per 10 mg |

| Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Date     | P&T Approval Date |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| 3Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; added HCPCS code; updated reference for HIM off-label use to HIM.PA.154 (replaces HIM.PHAR.21); references reviewed and updated.                                                                                  | 05.05.21 | 08.21             |
| 3Q 2022 annual review: no significant changes; changed approval duration for commercial line of business to “6 months or to the member’s renewal date, whichever is longer”; references reviewed and updated.                                                    | 04.08.22 | 08.22             |
| Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications.                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 10.03.22 |                   |
| 3Q 2023 annual review: no significant changes; for Continued Therapy added criteria to document whether Phesgo is being used as neoadjuvant or adjuvant therapy in order to determine the appropriate total treatment duration; references reviewed and updated. | 05.22.23 | 08.23             |
| 3Q 2024 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.                                                                                                                                                                                  | 05.23.24 | 08.24             |
| 3Q 2025 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.                                                                                                                                                                                  | 04.11.25 | 08.25             |

### 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.

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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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