**Marqibo® (vincristine sulfate liposomal)**

**Last Review Date:** October 28, 2019  
**Number:** MG.MM.PH.49

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**Definitions**

Marqibo (vincristine sulfate liposomal) is a sphingomyelin/cholesterol liposome-encapsulated formulation of vincristine sulfate. Non-liposomal vincristine sulfate binds to tubulin, altering the tubulin polymerization equilibrium, resulting in altered microtubule structure and function. Non-liposomal vincristine sulfate stabilizes the spindle apparatus, preventing chromosome segregation, triggering metaphase arrest and inhibition of mitosis.

Marqibo (vincristine sulfate liposomal) is a vinca alkaloid indicated for the treatment of adult patients with Philadelphia chromosome-negative (Ph-) acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) in second or greater relapse or whose disease has progressed following two or more anti-leukemia therapies. The drug is for intravenous use only. Marqibo is contraindicated for intrathecal administration.

Marqibo (vincristine sulfate liposomal) has different dosage recommendations than vincristine sulfate injection. Drug name and dose must be verified prior to preparation and administration to avoid over dosage.

**Dosing**

Max Units (per dose and over time):

- 40 billable units every 28 days
Guideline

Marqibo (vincristine sulfate liposomal) is considered medically necessary for the following diagnosis when all of the following criteria are met:

Relapsed or progressed Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL)

- Patient is at least 18 years old; **AND**
- Patient’s disease is Philadelphia chromosome-negative (Ph-)
  - Patient’s disease is in second or greater relapse; **OR**
  - Patient’s disease has progressed following two or more anti-leukemia therapies; **AND**
- Patient does not have any pre-existing demyelinating conditions (e.g. Charcot-Marie-Tooth Syndrome); **AND**
- Marqibo is being used as single agent therapy

Coverage for Marqibo (vincristine sulfate liposomal) may be renewed when the following criteria are met:

- Stabilization and/or absence of progression of disease; **AND**
- Absence of unacceptable toxicity from the drug. Examples of unacceptable toxicity include the following: peripheral motor and sensory, central and autonomic neuropathy; myelosuppression; neutropenia; thrombocytopenia; anemia; tumor lysis syndrome; elevated liver function tests (ALT, AST, and bilirubin).

Limitations/Exclusions

- Approval will be granted for six months and may be renewed

Applicable Procedure Codes

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>J9371</td>
<td>Injection, vincristine sulfate liposome, 1 mg; 1 mg = 1 billable unit</td>
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Applicable Diagnosis Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>C91.00</td>
<td>Acute lymphoblastic leukemia, not having achieved remission</td>
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<tr>
<td>C91.01</td>
<td>Acute lymphoblastic leukemia, in remission</td>
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<tr>
<td>C91.02</td>
<td>Acute lymphoblastic leukemia, in relapse</td>
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References

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