Clinical Policy: Temsirolimus (Torisel)

Reference Number: PA.CP.PHAR.324
Effective Date: 01/2018
Last Review Date: 10/2024

Description
Temsirolimus for injection (Torisel®) is a kinase inhibitor.

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Torisel is indicated for the treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma (RCC).

Policy/Criteria
It is the policy of PA Health & Wellness ® that Torisel is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Renal Cell Carcinoma (must meet all):
1. Diagnosis of advanced RCC (i.e., relapsed, metastatic or stage IV disease);
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Prescribed as a single agent;
5. Member has at least 3 prognostic risk factors (*Appendix D*);
6. For brand Torisel requests, member must use generic temsirolimus injection, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
7. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Dose does not exceed 25 mg per week (*50 mg per week if member is on concomitant strong CYP3A4 inducer such as dexamethasone, phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampin, rifabutin, rifampicin, phenobarbital*);
   b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use *(prescriber must submit supporting evidence).*

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Uterine Neoplasms (off-label) (must meet all)**:**
1. Diagnosis of one of the following (a or b):
   a. Endometrial carcinoma;
   b. Uterine Sarcoma;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Prescribed as a single agent;
5. For brand Torisel requests, member must use generic temsirolimus injection, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
6. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Dose does not exceed 25 mg per week (*50 mg per week if member is on concomitant strong CYP3A4 inducer such as dexamethasone, phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampin, rifabutin, rifampicin, phenobarbital*);

b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use *(prescriber must submit supporting evidence).*

Approval duration: 6 months

C. Soft Tissue Sarcoma (off-label) (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of one of the following soft tissue sarcomas (a, b, c, or d):
   a. Locally advanced, unresectable, or metastatic malignant perivascular epithelioid cell tumor (PEComa);
   b. Recurrent angiomyolipoma;
   c. Lymphangioleiomyomatosis;
   d. Non-pleomorphic rhabdomyosarcoma;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Prescribed in one of the following ways (a or b):
   a. For non-pleomorphic rhabdomyosarcoma: In combination with cyclophosphamide and vinorelbine;
   b. For all other indications: As a single agent;
5. For brand Torisel requests, member must use generic temsirolimus injection, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
6. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Dose does not exceed 25 mg per week (*50 mg per week if member is on concomitant strong CYP3A4 inducer such as dexamethasone, phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampin, rifabutin, rifampicin, phenobarbital*);
   b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use *(prescriber must submit supporting evidence).*

Approval duration: 6 months

D. Other diagnoses/indications: Refer to PA.CP.PMN.53

II. Continued Approval

A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all)**:**

1. Currently receiving medication via PA Health & Wellness benefit or member has previously met all initial approval criteria; or the Continuity of Care policy (PA. PHARM.01) applies;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. For brand Torisel requests, member must use generic temsirolimus injection, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
4. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Dose does not exceed 25 mg per week (*50 mg per week if member is on concomitant strong CYP3A4 inducer such as dexamethasone, phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampin, rifabutin, rifampicin, phenobarbital*);
   b. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use *(prescriber must submit supporting evidence).*

Approval duration: 12 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2)**:**

1. Currently receiving medication via PA Health & Wellness benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy; or the Continuity of Care policy (PA. PHARM.01) applies; or
2. Refer to PA.CP.PMN.53

III. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

FDA: Food and Drug Administration
NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network
PEComa: perivascular epithelioid cell tumor
RCC: renal cell carcinoma

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

Not applicable

Appendix C: Contraindications/Black Box Warnings

- Contraindication(s): bilirubin >1.5 times the upper limit of normal
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

Appendix D: General Information

- At least 3 of the following 6 prognostic risk factors (based on the inclusion criteria in the Torisel pivotal trial):
  - Interval of less than 1 year from time of RCC diagnosis to start of systemic therapy
  - Karnofsky performance status score of 60 or 70
  - Hemoglobin level below normal (e.g., men < 13.5g/dL, women <12g/dL)
  - Corrected serum calcium level > 10 mg/dL (2.5 mmol per liter)
  - Serum lactate dehydrogenase level > 1.5 times the upper limit of normal
  - More than one metastatic organ site

IV. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
RCC	25 mg administered as an IV infusion over a 30-60 minute period once a week. Consider 50 mg once a week if concomitant strong CYP3A4 inducer (e.g., dexamethasone, phenytoin, carbamazepine, rifampin, rifabutin, rifampicin, phenobarbital).	50 mg/week

V. Product Availability

Kit: single-use vial 25 mg/mL temsirolimus; diluent vial 1.8 mL

VI. References

1. Torisel Prescribing Information. Philadelphia, PA: Pfizer, Inc.; April 2023. Available at http:// www.pfizermedicalinformation.com/en-us/torisl. Accessed July 15, 2024.
2. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Available at: http://www.nccn.org/professionals/drug_compendium. Accessed August 22, 2024.

3. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Kidney Cancer Version 1.2025. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/kidney.pdf. Accessed August 22, 2024.
4. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Soft Tissue Sarcoma Version 2.2024. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/sarcoma.pdf. Accessed August 22, 2024.
5. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Uterine Neoplasms Version 2.2024. Available at: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/uterine.pdf. Accessed August 22, 2024.
6. Hudes G, Carducci M, Tomczak P, et al. Temsirolimus, interferon alfa, or both for advanced renal-cell carcinoma. N Eng J Med 2007; 356:2271-2281.

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
J9330	Injection, temsirolimus, 1 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date
4Q 2018 annual review: no significant changes; specialist involvement in care and continuation of care added; references reviewed and updated.	08/2018
4Q 2019 annual review: No changes per Statewide PDL implementation 01-01-2020	10/2019
4Q 2020 annual review: Added age limit; updated appendices; references reviewed and updated.	8/2020
4Q 2021 annual review: Use as single agent added to Endometrial Carcinoma section; references reviewed and updated.	10/2021
4Q 2022 annual review: per NCCN, added disease qualifiers for PEComa and added non-pleomorphic rhabdomyosarcoma as a coverable off-label diagnosis; added redirection to generic product; references reviewed and updated.	10/2022
4Q 2023 annual review: per NCCN, added “uterine sarcoma” under Uterine Neoplasms criteria; references reviewed and updated.	10/2023
4Q 2024 annual review: updated “Endometrial Carcinoma” indication to “Uterine Neoplasms” per NCCN compendium as Uterine Neoplasms include both endometrial carcinoma and uterine sarcoma; references reviewed and updated.	10/2024