

Crysvita® (Burosumab-Twza)

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Related Commercial Policy

- [Provider Administered Drugs – Site of Care](#)

Community Plan Policy

- [Crysvita® \(Burosumab-Twza\)](#)

Coverage Rationale

[See Benefit Considerations](#)

Crysvita (burosumab) is proven for the treatment of X-linked hypophosphatemia (XLH).¹

Crysvita (burosumab) is medically necessary for the treatment of XLH when the following criteria are met:¹

- For **initial therapy**, all of the following:
 - Diagnosis of XLH, confirmed by **one** of the following:
 - Genetic testing (e.g., confirmed *PHEX* gene mutation in patient or first-degree relative); **or**
 - Elevated Serum fibroblast growth factor 23 (FGF23) level > 30 pg/mL; **or**
 - **All** of the following biochemical findings associated with XLH:
 - Serum phosphate < 3.0 mg/dL (0.97 mmol/L); **and**
 - Serum creatinine (SCr) below age adjusted upper limit of normal (ULN); **and**
 - Serum 25(OH)D ≥ 16 ng/mL
 - and**
 - Patient is age 6 months or greater; **and**
 - **One** of the following:
 - Patient epiphyseal plate has **not** fused; **or**
 - **All** of the following:
 - Patients' epiphyseal plate has fused; **and**
 - Patient is experiencing clinical signs and symptoms of the disease (e.g., limited mobility, musculoskeletal pain, bone fractures); **and**
 - Failure, contraindication, or intolerance to vitamin D analog therapy (e.g., calcitriol, paricalcitol, doxercalciferol) in combination with an oral phosphate agent (e.g., K-Phos®, K-Phos Neutra®) (For Medicare reviews, refer to the [CMS](#) section. ***)
 - and**
 - Prescribed by, or in consultation with, an endocrinologist or specialist experienced in the treatment of metabolic bone disorders; **and**
 - Fasting serum phosphorus is below the normal range for age; **and**
 - Dosing is in accordance with the United States Food and Drug Administration approved labeling; **and**
 - Initial authorization will be for no more than 12 months
- For **continuation of therapy**, all of the following:
 - Patient has previously received treatment with burosumab; **and**

- Prescribed by, or in consultation with, an endocrinologist or specialist experienced in the treatment of metabolic bone disorders; **and**
- Patient has experienced a positive clinical response to burosumab (e.g., enhanced height velocity, improvement in skeletal deformities, reduction of fractures, reduction of generalized bone pain); **and**
- Dosing is in accordance with the United States Food and Drug Administration approved labeling; **and**
- Reauthorization will be for no more than 12 months

Crysvita (burosumab) is proven for the treatment of Fibroblast Growth Factor 23 (FGF23)-related hypophosphatemia in tumor-induced osteomalacia (TIO).¹

Crysvita (burosumab) is medically necessary for the treatment of FGF23-related hypophosphatemia in TIO when the following criteria are met:¹

- For **initial therapy**, all of the following:
 - Diagnosis of FGF23-related hypophosphatemia in TIO associated with phosphaturic mesenchymal tumors; **and**
 - Disease cannot be curatively resected or localized; **and**
 - Patient is age 2 years or greater; **and**
 - Prescribed by, or in consultation with, an oncologist, an endocrinologist, or specialist experienced in the treatment of metabolic bone disorders; **and**
 - History of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to vitamin D analog therapy (e.g., calcitriol, paricalcitol, doxercalciferol) in combination with an oral phosphate agent (e.g., K-Phos[®], K-Phos Neutra[®]) (For Medicare reviews, refer to the [CMS](#) section.***); **and**
 - Fasting serum phosphorus is below the normal range for age; **and**
 - Dosing is in accordance with the United States Food and Drug Administration approved labeling; **and**
 - Initial authorization will be for no more than 12 months
- For **continuation of therapy**, all of the following:
 - Patient has previously received treatment with burosumab; **and**
 - Prescribed by, or in consultation with, an oncologist, an endocrinologist or specialist experienced in the treatment of metabolic bone disorders; **and**
 - Patient has experienced a positive clinical response to burosumab (e.g., enhanced height velocity, improvement in skeletal deformities, reduction of fractures, reduction of generalized bone pain); **and**
 - Dosing is in accordance with the United States Food and Drug Administration approved labeling; **and**
 - Reauthorization will be for no more than 12 months

Applicable Codes

The following list(s) of procedure and/or diagnosis codes is provided for reference purposes only and may not be all inclusive. Listing of a code in this policy does not imply that the service described by the code is a covered or non-covered health service. Benefit coverage for health services is determined by the member specific benefit plan document and applicable laws that may require coverage for a specific service. The inclusion of a code does not imply any right to reimbursement or guarantee claim payment. Other Policies and Guidelines may apply.

HCPSC Code	Description
J0584	Injection, burosumab-twza, 1 mg

Diagnosis Code	Description
E83.31	Familial hypophosphatemia
M83.8	Other adult osteomalacia

Background

XLH is a heritable disorder of renal phosphate transport, which results in abnormal phosphate hemostasis, resulting in hypophosphatemia and abnormal bone mineralization. Elevated serum FGF23 levels are observed in patients with XLH, and believed to be associated with phosphate level abnormalities. Burosumab inhibits excess FGF23 levels, which results in normalization of serum phosphate.¹⁻³ Combining active vitamin D metabolites with a balanced dose of phosphate has been the mainstay of therapy for XLH. Most affected children are candidates for treatment. In adults, the role of treatment has not been well studied; treatment is generally reserved for individuals with symptoms such as skeletal pain, upcoming orthopedic surgery, biochemical evidence of osteomalacia with an elevated serum alkaline phosphatase (ALP) level, or recurrent pseudofractures or stress fractures. The primary goals of treatment in children are to correct or minimize

rickets/osteomalacia, as assessed by radiographic abnormalities and resolution of skeletal abnormalities. In contrast with children, once a patient reaches adult height and the epiphyses have fused, the goal of therapy is simply to manage generalized bone pain and enhance limited mobility, if either occurs, and to cure any non-union fractures.⁶

Tumor-induced osteomalacia (TIO) is a rare acquired paraneoplastic syndrome in which the biochemical and bone mineralization abnormalities closely resemble those in genetic forms of hypophosphatemic rickets. Clinical and experimental studies have documented that tumors produce humoral factor(s) that cause the abnormalities that occur in TIO. The tumors, typically benign, often are small, slow-growing polymorphous neoplasms, most commonly, phosphaturic mesenchymal tumors of the mixed connective tissue type.^{8,9} The mesenchymal tumors associated with TIO ectopically express and secrete fibroblast growth factor 23 (FGF23) and other phosphaturic proteins. Most affected patients have increased circulating FGF23 levels.

Benefit Considerations

Some Certificates of Coverage allow for coverage of experimental/investigational/unproven treatments for life-threatening illnesses when certain conditions are met. The member specific benefit plan document must be consulted to make coverage decisions for this service. Some states mandate benefit coverage for off-label use of medications for some diagnoses or under some circumstances when certain conditions are met. Where such mandates apply, they supersede language in the benefit document or in the medical or drug policy.

Clinical Evidence

A randomized, active-controlled, open-label, multicenter, phase 3 clinical trial (NCT02915705) compared the efficacy and safety of continuing conventional therapy (oral phosphate and active vitamin D), versus switching to burosumab, in pediatric patients with X-linked hypophosphatemia.⁷ Children aged 1 to 12 years were enrolled who had a total Thacher rickets severity score of at least 2.0, fasting serum phosphorus lower than 0.97 mmol/L (3.0 mg/dL), confirmed PHEX mutation or variant of unknown significance in the patient or a family member with appropriate X-linked dominant inheritance, and received conventional therapy for at least 6 consecutive months for children younger than 3 years or at least 12 consecutive months for children older than 3 years. Patients were randomly assigned (1:1) to receive either subcutaneous burosumab, starting at 0.8 mg/kg every 2 weeks or conventional therapy for 64 weeks. The primary endpoint was change in rickets severity at week 40, assessed by the Radiographic Global Impression of Change global score. All patients who received at least one dose of treatment were included in the primary and safety analyses. Only 61 patients were enrolled out of 122 patients who were assessed. Of these, 32 (18 girls, 14 boys) were randomly assigned to continue receiving conventional therapy and 29 (16 girls, 13 boys) to receive burosumab. For the primary endpoint at week 40, patients in the burosumab group had significantly greater improvement in Radiographic Global Impression of Change global score than did patients in the conventional therapy group (least squares mean + 1.9 [SE 0.1] with burosumab vs + 0.8 [0.1] with conventional therapy; difference 1.1, 95% CI 0.8-1.5; $p < 0.0001$). Treatment-emergent adverse events considered possibly, probably, or definitely related to treatment by the investigator occurred more frequently with burosumab (17 [59%] of 29 patients in the burosumab group vs 7 [22%] of 32 patients in the conventional therapy group). The investigators concluded that significantly greater clinical improvements were shown in rickets severity, growth, and biochemistries among children treated with burosumab compared to conventional therapy.

A randomized, open-label study (NCT 02163577) in 52 prepubescent XLH patients compared burosumab administered every 2 weeks versus every 4 weeks. Upon completion of a 16-week dose titration, patients were administered burosumab every 2 weeks for 48-weeks. No study patients discontinued burosumab and completed at least 64 weeks of the study. Patient dosing was individualized to achieve a target fasting serum phosphorus concentration of 3.5 to 5.0 mg/dL based on the fasting phosphorus level the day of dosing. Twenty-six of 52 patients received burosumab every two weeks up to a maximum dose of 2 mg/kg. The average dose was 0.73 mg/kg (range: 0.3, 1.5) at week 16, 0.98 mg/kg (range: 0.4, 2.0) at week 40 and 1.04 mg/kg (range: 0.4, 2.0) at week 60. The other 26 patients received burosumab every four weeks. At the beginning of the study, the mean age of patients was 8.5 years with 46% male. Regarding treatment with oral phosphate and active vitamin D analogs, 96% of study participants had received these for a mean (SD) duration of 7 (2.4) years. In addition, discontinuation of oral phosphate and active vitamin D analogs occurred prior to study enrollment. Radiographic evidence of rickets was observed in 94% of patients at baseline. In this study, patients receiving burosumab experienced a mean (SD) increase in serum phosphorus levels from 2.4 (0.40) at baseline to 3.3 (0.40) and 3.4 (0.45) mg/dL at week 40 and week 64 in the patients who received burosumab every 2 weeks. The 10-point Thacher Rickets Severity Score (RSS) and the 7-point Radiographic Global Impression of Change (RGI-C) were used to evaluate rickets. After 40 weeks of therapy, mean total RSS decreased from 1.9 to 0.8 and the mean RGI-C Global score was + 1.7 in patients receiving burosumab every two weeks. Eighteen out of 26 patients achieved an RGI-C score of $\geq + 2.0$. These findings were maintained at week 64.^{1,4}

A 64-week open-label study (NCT 02750618) was conducted in 13 XLH patients age 1 to 4 years old. Study patients received burosumab at a dose of 0.8 mg/kg every two weeks with titration up to 1.2 mg/kg based on serum phosphorus. No study participants discontinued burosumab. The mean age of patients was 2.9 years at study entry. At baseline, all study participants had radiographic evidence of rickets and had received oral phosphate and active vitamin D analogs for a mean (SD) duration of 16.9 (13.9) months. Discontinuation of oral phosphate and active vitamin D analogs occurred prior to study enrollment. At week 40, patients experienced an increased mean (SD) serum phosphorus levels from 2.5 (0.28) mg/dL at baseline to 3.5 (0.49) mg/d. After 40 weeks of treatment, mean total RSS decreased from 2.9 to 1.2 and the mean (SE) RGI-C Global score was + 2.3 (0.08). All 13 patients achieved an RGI-C global score \geq + 2.0. The mean (SE) lower limb deformity as assessed by RGI-C, using standing long leg radiographs, was + 1.3 (0.14).^{1,5}

A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study (NCT 02526160) in 134 adult XLH patients was completed. Burosumab was administered at a dose of 1 mg/kg every 4 weeks. At study entry, the patient age ranged from 16 to 66 years, with a mean of 40 years. The average age of diagnosis was 9 years and 81% of patients had received conventional therapy before the age of 18, for an average of approximately 12 years. 69% of patients had used phosphate and/or active vitamin D within two years of study baseline. At baseline, all patients had skeletal pain associated with XLH or osteomalacia. The baseline mean (SD) serum phosphorus concentration was below the lower limit of normal at 1.98 (0.31) mg/dL. Oral phosphate and active vitamin D analogs were not allowed during the study with one patient in the burosumab group discontinued treatment. Through week 24, a total of 94% of patients receiving burosumab achieved a serum phosphorus level above the lower limit of normal compared to 8% in the placebo group. Assessment of active fracture/pseudofractures at week 24 demonstrated a higher rate of complete healing in the group receiving burosumab compared to placebo. During the study, a total of six new fractures or pseudofractures appeared in 68 patients receiving burosumab, compared to eight new abnormalities in 66 patients receiving placebo. The FDA conducted its own analysis in order to examine pain medication usage during burosumab treatment. The FDA determined that there is insufficient evidence to support that burosumab decreased use of pain medication during therapy. The FDA stated that it is possible that as longer term data is collected, a significant reduction in pain medication may become evident.^{1,5}

A 48-week, open-label, single-arm study (NCT 02537431) was completed in 14 adult XLH patients to determine the effects of burosumab on improvement of osteomalacia as based on histologic and histomorphometric evaluation of iliac crest bone biopsies. Treatment was 1 mg/kg burosumab every four weeks. At study entry, the mean age of patients was 40 years (range 25 to 52 years) and 43% were male. Oral phosphate and active vitamin D analogs were not allowed during the study. After 48 weeks of treatment, healing of osteomalacia was observed in ten patients as demonstrated by decreases in Osteoid volume/Bone volume from a mean (SD) score of 26% (12.4) at baseline to 11% (6.5), a change of -57%. Osteoid thickness declined in eleven patients. Mineralization lag time) declined in 6 patients from a mean (SD) of 594 (675) days to 156 (77) days, a change of -74%.^{1,5}

The pharmacokinetics, efficacy, and safety profile of burosumab was evaluated in a Phase 3 randomized, double blind, placebo controlled trial. The primary endpoint was the proportion of subjects achieving mean serum phosphate above 2.5 mg/dL at the dose interval mid-points of the dose interval between baseline and week 24. 94.1% of burosumab-treated subjects vs 7.6% of placebo-treated subjects achieved mean serum phosphorus > the lower limit of normal at mid-point of the dose interval, averaged across dose cycles ($p < 0.0001$). At week 24, treatment was associated with healing of active fractures as well as pseudofractures in 44% of patients in the treatment group compared to 18% in the placebo group. The overall safety profile of patients on burosumab was similar to that of placebo.²

Burosumab has been evaluated in two studies enrolling a total of 27 patients with tumor induced osteomalacia (TIO). A single-arm open-label study (NCT 02304237) enrolled 14 adult patients with a confirmed diagnosis of FGF23-related hypophosphatemia produced by an underlying tumor that was not amenable to surgical excision or could not be located. Patients received burosumab every four weeks at a weight based starting dose of 0.3 mg/kg that was titrated to achieve a fasting serum phosphorus level of 2.5 to 4.0 mg/dL. The mean dose was 0.83mg/kg at week 20, 0.87 mg/kg at week 48, 0.77 mg/kg at week 96 and 0.71 mg/kg at week 144. Burosumab increased mean (SD) serum phosphorus levels from 1.60 (0.47) mg/dL at baseline to 2.64 (0.76) mg/dL averaged across the midpoint of dose intervals through week 24 with 50% of patients (7/14) achieving a mean serum phosphorus level above the lower limit of normal (LLN) averaged across the midpoint of dose intervals through week 24. Increase in the mean serum phosphorus concentrations was sustained near or above the LLN through week 144.⁹⁹ Technetium-labelled whole body bone scans were performed at baseline and subsequent timepoints during the study on all 14 patients. At baseline, all patients had areas of tracer uptake with a total of 249 bone abnormalities across 14 patients. The number of areas of tracer uptake decreased from week 48 through week 144, suggesting healing of the bone abnormalities.

A single-arm open-label study (NCT 02722798) assessed burosumab in 13 adult patients with a confirmed diagnosis of TIO received. Patients received burosumab every four weeks at a weight based starting dose of 0.3 mg/kg that was titrated to achieve a fasting serum phosphorus level of 2.5 to 4.0 mg/dL. The mean (SD) dose was 0.91 (0.59) mg/kg at

week 48, and 0.96 (0.70) mg/kg at week 88. Burosumab increased mean (SD) serum phosphorus levels from 1.62 (0.49) mg/dL at baseline to 2.63 (0.87) mg/dL averaged across the midpoint of dose intervals through week 24 with 69% of patients (9/13) achieving a mean serum phosphorus level above the LLN averaged across the midpoint on dose interval through week 24. Mean serum phosphorus concentrations were sustained above LLN through week 88.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

This section is to be used for informational purposes only. FDA approval alone is not a basis for coverage.

Crysvita is a fibroblast growth factor 23 (FGF23) blocking antibody indicated for the treatment of X-linked hypophosphatemia (XLH) in adult and pediatric patients 6 months of age and older and for the treatment of FGF23-related hypophosphatemia in tumor-induced osteomalacia (TIO) associated with phosphaturic mesenchymal tumors that cannot be curatively resected or localized in adult and pediatric patients 2 years of age and older.¹

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Crysvita® (burosumab-twza). Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) do not exist at this time.

In general, Medicare may cover outpatient (Part B) drugs that are furnished "incident to" a physician's service provided that the drugs are not usually self-administered by the patients who take them. Refer to the [Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §50 - Drugs and Biologicals](#). (Accessed March 12, 2025)

***Preferred therapy criteria for Medicare Advantage members, refer to [Medicare-Part-B-Step-Therapy-Programs](#).

References

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Policy History/Revision Information

Date	Summary of Changes
07/01/2025	Template Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">Updated <i>Benefit Considerations</i> section
05/01/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Routine review; no change to coverage guidelinesArchived previous policy version 2024D0071M

Instructions for Use

This Medical Benefit Drug Policy provides assistance in interpreting UnitedHealthcare standard benefit plans. When deciding coverage, the member specific benefit plan document must be referenced as the terms of the member specific benefit plan may differ from the standard plan. In the event of a conflict, the member specific benefit plan document governs. Before using this policy, please check the member specific benefit plan document and any applicable federal or state mandates. UnitedHealthcare reserves the right to modify its Policies and Guidelines as necessary. This Medical Benefit Drug Policy is provided for informational purposes. It does not constitute medical advice.

This Medical Benefit Drug Policy may also be applied to Medicare Advantage plans in certain instances. In the absence of a Medicare National Coverage Determination (NCD), Local Coverage Determination (LCD), or other Medicare coverage guidance, CMS allows a Medicare Advantage Organization (MAO) to create its own coverage determinations, using objective evidence-based rationale relying on authoritative evidence ([Medicare IOM Pub. No. 100-16, Ch. 4, §90.5](#)).

UnitedHealthcare may also use tools developed by third parties, such as the InterQual® criteria, to assist us in administering health benefits. UnitedHealthcare Medical Benefit Drug Policies are intended to be used in connection with the independent professional medical judgment of a qualified health care provider and do not constitute the practice of medicine or medical advice.