

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION POLICY

POLICY: Oncology – Zykadia™ (ceritinib capsules and tablets – Novartis Pharmaceuticals)

DATE REVIEWED: 06/10/2020

OVERVIEW

Zykadia, a kinase inhibitor, is indicated for the treatment of patients with anaplastic lymphoma kinase (*ALK*)-positive metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), as detected by an FDA-approved test.¹ Using biochemical or cellular assays at clinically relevant concentrations, it has been noted that Zykadia inhibits *ALK*, insulin-like growth factor 1 receptor (IGF-1R), insulin receptor (InsR), and c-ros oncogene 1 (ROS1). Among these, Zykadia is most effective against *ALK*.

A multicenter, open-label, Phase II study evaluated the efficacy of Zykadia in patients with ROS1-rearranged NSCLC (n = 32).⁵ All patients, except two, were Xalkori treatment-naïve. Patients received Zykadia at the recommended dose of 750 mg/day. The overall objective response rate (ORR) was 62% (95% CI: 45%, 77%); in Xalkori-naïve patients the ORR was 67%. The median PFS was 9.3 months and the median PFS for Xalkori-naïve patients was 19.3 months (95% CI: 1, 37). The median OS was 24 months (95% CI: 5, 43) with a 6-month OS rate of 84% and a 12-month OS rate of 56%. Only eight patients had brain metastases at baseline. The overall intracranial ORR was 25% (n = 2/8) and the DCR was 63% (n = 5/8). The NCCN NSCLC guidelines recommend Xalkori (preferred) or Zykadia as first-line options for ROS1-positive NSCLC (both category 2A).

GUIDELINES

According to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) NSCLC guidelines (version 5.2020 – May 27, 2020), Alecensa® (alectinib capsules) is the “preferred” first-line therapy for *ALK*-positive NSCLC. Zykadia and Alunbrig® (brigatinib tablets) are “Other Recommended” first-line therapies. Xalkori® (crizotinib capsules) is a category 1 agent under “Useful in Certain Circumstances”. and [2 For progression on Alecensa, Alunbrig, or Zykadia, for multiple systemic lesions, Lorbrena (lorlatinib tablets) is a recommended option or initial systemic therapy options can be considered (both category 2A). Xalkori (preferred) or Zykadia are recommended as first-line therapy for ROS1 rearrangement-positive NSCLC (both category 2A). Lorbrena is recommended for subsequent therapy.

The NCCN guidelines for soft tissue sarcoma (version 2.2019 – February 4, 2019) recommend Zykadia as a single-agent therapy for the treatment of IMT with *ALK* translocation (category 2A recommendation).^{4,5}

POLICY STATEMENT

Prior authorization is recommended for prescription benefit coverage of Zykadia. All approvals are provided for the duration noted below.

Automation: None.

RECOMMENDED AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

Coverage of Zykadia is recommended in those who meet the following criteria:

FDA-Approved Indications

1. **Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC).** Approve for 3 years if the patient has metastatic anaplastic lymphoma kinase (*ALK*)-positive NSCLC as detected by an approved test.

Other Uses with Supportive Evidence

2. **Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) with ROS1 Rearrangement – First-Line Therapy.** Approve for 3 years.
3. **Soft Tissue Sarcoma Inflammatory Myofibroblastic Tumor (IMT) with ALK Translocation.** Approve for 3 years.

CONDITIONS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Zykadia has not been shown to be effective, or there are limited or preliminary data or potential safety concerns that are not supportive of general approval for the following conditions. Rationale for non-coverage for these specific conditions is provided below. (Note: This is not an exhaustive list of Conditions Not Recommended for Approval.)

1. Coverage is not recommended for circumstances not listed in the Recommended Authorization Criteria. Criteria will be updated as new published data are available.

REFERENCES

1. Zykadia™ capsules and tablets [prescribing information]. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals; March 2019.
 2. The NCCN Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (Version 5.2020 – May 27, 2020). © 2020 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed on June 8, 2020.
 3. The NCCN Soft Tissue Sarcoma Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (version 2.2019 – February 4, 2019). ©2019 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed on May 20, 2019.
 4. The NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium. © 2020 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. Available at: <http://www.nccn.org>. Accessed on June 8, 2020. Search terms: ceritinib.
 5. Lim SM, Kim HR, Lee JS, et al. Open-label, multicenter, Phase II study of ceritinib in patients with non-small cell lung cancer harboring ROS1 rearrangement. *J Clin Oncol*. 2017;35:2613-2618.
-