



Original Effective Date: 08/01/2018  
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 Next Review Due By: 10/2024  
 Policy Number: C15418-A

## Penicillamine (Depen, Cuprimine), Trientine (Cuvrior, Syprine)

### PRODUCTS AFFECTED

Cuprimine (penicillamine), Cuvrior (trientine), Depen Titratabs (penicillamine), Syprine (trientine), trientine

### COVERAGE POLICY

*Coverage for services, procedures, medical devices, and drugs are dependent upon benefit eligibility as outlined in the member's specific benefit plan. This Coverage Guideline must be read in its entirety to determine coverage eligibility, if any. This Coverage Guideline provides information related to coverage determinations only and does not imply that a service or treatment is clinically appropriate or inappropriate. The provider and the member are responsible for all decisions regarding the appropriateness of care. Providers should provide Molina Healthcare complete medical rationale when requesting any exceptions to these guidelines.*

#### **Documentation Requirements:**

*Molina Healthcare reserves the right to require that additional documentation be made available as part of its coverage determination; quality improvement; and fraud; waste and abuse prevention processes. Documentation required may include, but is not limited to, patient records, test results and credentials of the provider ordering or performing a drug or service. Molina Healthcare may deny reimbursement or take additional appropriate action if the documentation provided does not support the initial determination that the drugs or services were medically necessary, not investigational, or experimental, and otherwise within the scope of benefits afforded to the member, and/or the documentation demonstrates a pattern of billing or other practice that is inappropriate or excessive.*

#### **DIAGNOSIS:**

Wilson's disease, Cystinuria, Rheumatoid arthritis

#### **REQUIRED MEDICAL INFORMATION:**

This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. If a drug within this policy receives an updated FDA label within the last 180 days, medical necessity for the member will be reviewed using the updated FDA label information along with state and federal requirements, benefit being administered and formulary preferencing. Coverage will be determined on a case-by-case basis until the criteria can be updated through Molina Healthcare, Inc. clinical governance. Additional information may be required on a case-by-case basis to allow for adequate review. When the requested drug product for coverage is dosed by weight, body surface area or other member specific measurement, this data element is required as part of the medical necessity review. The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee has determined that the drug benefit shall be a mandatory generic and that generic drugs will be dispensed whenever available.

#### **A. WILSON'S DISEASE:**

1. Documented diagnosis of Wilson's disease  
AND
2. (a) Documentation diagnosis confirmed by genetic testing confirming biallelic pathogenic ATP7B mutations (in either symptomatic or asymptomatic members) [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]

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OR

(b) Documentation of THREE of the following diagnostic features: Presence of Kayser-Fleisher rings, Serum ceruloplasmin (CPN) less than 20 mg/dL, 24-hour urine Copper greater than 40 mcg, Liver biopsy with copper dry weight greater than 250 mcg/g [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]

AND

3. FOR TRIENTINE REQUESTS: Documented treatment failure, serious side effects or clinical contraindication to ALL of the following: generic penicillamine tablets AND generic penicillamine capsules

AND

FOR BRAND CUVRIOR AND SYPRINE REQUESTS: Documented treatment failure, serious side effects or clinical contraindication to ALL of the following: generic penicillamine tablets AND generic penicillamine capsules AND generic trientine

AND

4. Documentation of prescriber baseline disease activity evaluation and goals for treatment to be used to evaluate efficacy of therapy at renewal (e.g., urinary copper excretion) [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]

### B. CYSTINURIA (PENICILLAMINE ONLY):

1. Documented diagnosis of Cystinuria  
AND
2. Documented treatment failure, serious side effects or clinical contraindication to a trial (30 days) of urinary alkalization therapy with potassium citrate  
AND
3. Documentation of prescriber baseline disease activity evaluation and goals for treatment to be used to evaluate efficacy of therapy at renewal (e.g., cystine concentration, urine pH, cystine crystal visualization by urinalysis) [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]

### C. RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS (PENICILLAMINE ONLY):

1. Documented diagnosis of severe active rheumatoid arthritis  
AND
2. Documentation of treatment failure, serious side effects or clinical contraindication to a 3-month trial of at least TWO of the following DMARDs: Hydroxychloroquine, Leflunomide, Methotrexate, Sulfasalazine  
AND
3. Prescriber attests member does not have history or evidence of renal insufficiency  
AND
4. Females of child-bearing age: Documentation of a negative pregnancy test prior to initiation of treatment  
AND
5. Documentation of prescriber baseline disease activity evaluation and goals for treatment to be used to evaluate efficacy of therapy at renewal (e.g., joint involvement and quality) [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]

## CONTINUATION OF THERAPY:

### A. FOR ALL INDICATIONS:

1. Adherence to therapy at least 85% of the treatment period verified by the prescriber or medication fill history  
AND
2. Prescriber attests to or clinical reviewer has found no evidence of intolerable adverse effects or drug toxicity  
AND
3. Documentation of disease stabilization, improvement in clinical signs and symptoms, improvement in functionality, and/or improvement compared to baseline activity (For Wilson's disease treatment goals should include, but not limited to an increase in urinary copper excretion from baseline (should be in the range of 200 to 500 mcg). For Cystinuria, goals should be to lower the cystine concentration to below 243mg/L and raise urine pH to above7 in a 24-hour urine or a decrease in

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persistence of cystine crystals visualized by urinalysis. For rheumatoid arthritis, decrease in swollen, tender joints.)

### **DURATION OF APPROVAL:**

Initial authorization: 6 months, Continuation of therapy: 12 months

### **PRESCRIBER REQUIREMENTS:**

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS: Prescribed by or in consultation with a board-certified rheumatologist.

WILSON'S DISEASE: Prescribed by or in consultation with a board-certified gastroenterologist, hepatologist or liver transplant specialist.

CYSTINURIA: Prescribed by or in consultation with a board-certified nephrologist

[If prescribed in consultation, consultation notes must be submitted with initial request and reauthorization requests]

### **AGE RESTRICTIONS:**

Wilson's Disease: Cuvrior – 18 years of age and older; Other agents: No restriction

Cystinuria: No restriction

Rheumatoid Arthritis: 18 years of age and older

### **QUANTITY:**

WILSON'S DISEASE: Penicillamine: maximum dose: 2,000 mg/day, Syprine, Trientine: maximum dose: 2,000 mg/day; Cuvrior: maximum dose: 3,000 mg/day

CYSTINURIA: maximum dose: 4,000 mg/day

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS: 1,500 mg/day

### **PLACE OF ADMINISTRATION:**

The recommendation is that oral medications in this policy will be for pharmacy benefit coverage and patient self-administered.

## DRUG INFORMATION

### **ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION:**

Oral

### **DRUG CLASS:**

Chelating Agents

### **FDA-APPROVED USES:**

Cuprimine, Depen (penicillamine): indicated in the treatment of Wilson's disease, cystinuria, and in patients with severe, active rheumatoid arthritis who have failed to respond to an adequate trial of conventional therapy.

*Available evidence suggests that Cuprimine/Depen is not of value in ankylosing spondylitis*

Syprine (trientine hydrochloride): indicated in the treatment of patients with Wilson's disease who are intolerant of penicillamine.

Cuvrior (trientine tetrahydrochloride): indicated for the treatment of adult patients with stable Wilson's disease who are de-coppered and tolerant to penicillamine

### **COMPENDIAL APPROVED OFF-LABELED USES:**

None

## APPENDIX

### **APPENDIX:**

None

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**BACKGROUND AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS****BACKGROUND:**

None

**CONTRAINDICATIONS/EXCLUSIONS/DISCONTINUATION:**

All other uses of penicillamine and trientine are considered experimental/investigational and therefore, will follow Molina's Off-Label policy. Contraindications to penicillamine include: Women who are pregnant or breastfeeding (except Wilsons Disease), Patients with a history of penicillamine-related aplastic anemia or agranulocytosis should not be restarted on penicillamine, and Penicillamine should not be administered to patients with a history or other evidence of renal insufficiency. Contraindications to trientine include: hypersensitivity to the product.

**OTHER SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

None

**CODING/BILLING INFORMATION**

*Note: 1) This list of codes may not be all-inclusive. 2) Deleted codes and codes which are not effective at the time the service is rendered may not be eligible for reimbursement*

<b>HCPCS CODE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
N/A	N/A

**AVAILABLE DOSAGE FORMS:**

Clovique CAPS 250MG  
 Cuprimine CAPS 250MG  
 Cuvrior TABS 300MG  
 Depen Titratabs TABS 250MG  
 D-Penammine TABS 125MG  
 penicillAMINE CAPS 250MG  
 penicillAMINE TABS 250MG  
 Syprine CAPS 250MG  
 Trientine HCl CAPS 250MG

**REFERENCES**

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2. Cuprimine (penicillamine) capsule [prescribing information]. Telangana India: Suven Pharmaceuticals Limited; October 2020.
3. Syprine (trientine) capsule [prescribing information]. Steinbach, Canada: Bausch Health Companies; September 2020.
4. Cuvrior (trientine tetrahydrochloride) tablets [prescribing information]. Chicago, IL: Orphalan; April 2022.
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## Drug and Biologic Coverage Criteria

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SUMMARY OF REVIEW/REVISIONS	DATE
REVISION- Notable revisions: Products Affected Diagnosis Required Medical Information Age Restrictions Quantity FDA-Approved Uses Available Dosage Forms References	Q4 2023
REVISION- Notable revisions: Products Affected Required Medical Information Continuation of Therapy Prescriber Requirements Contraindications/Exclusions/Discontinuation Available Dosage Forms References	Q4 2022
Q2 2022 Established tracking in new format	Historical changes on file