

<b>Clinical Policy Title:</b>	leuprolide acetate
<b>Policy Number:</b>	RxA.363
<b>Drug(s) Applied:</b>	Eligard®, Lupaneta Pack®, Lupron Depot®, Lupron Depot-Ped®
<b>Original Policy Date:</b>	03/06/2020
<b>Last Review Date:</b>	09/14/2020
<b>Line of Business Policy Applies to:</b>	All lines of business

## Background

Leuprolide acetate (Eligard®, Lupaneta Pack® [with norethindrone acetate tablets], Lupron Depot®, Lupron Depot-Ped®) is a gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) receptor agonist. Leuprolide acetate is indicated for:

- Palliative treatment of advanced prostate cancer:
  - Leuprolide acetate injection
  - Eligard
  - Lupron Depot (7.5, 22.5, 30, 45)
- Management of endometriosis, including pain relief and reduction of endometriotic lesions:
  - Lupron Depot (3.75, 11.25)
  - Lupaneta Pack (3.75, 11.25)

Limitation(s) of use: Initial treatment course is limited to 6 months and use is not recommended longer than a total of 12 months due to concerns about adverse impact on bone mineral density.

- Preoperative hematologic improvement of patients with anemia caused by uterine leiomyomata (fibroids) administered concomitantly with iron therapy:

- Lupron Depot (3.75, 11.25)

Limitation of use: the recommended treatment is limited to one injection (3 months)

- Treatment of children with central precocious puberty (CPP):

- Leuprolide acetate
- Lupron Depot-Ped (7.5, 11.25, 15, 30)

## Dosing Information

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Leuprolide acetate injection	Prostate cancer	1 mg SC once daily	See regimen
Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot® 7.5, 22.5, 30, 45)	Prostate cancer	IM - 7.5 mg per month; 22.5 mg per 3 months; 30 mg per 4 months; 45 mg per 6 months	See regimen
Leuprolide acetate (Eligard® 7.5, 22.5, 30, 45)	Prostate cancer	SC - 7.5 mg per month; 22.5 mg per 3 months; 30 mg per 4 months; 45 mg per 6 months	See regimen

This clinical policy has been developed to authorize, modify, or determine coverage for individuals with similar conditions. Specific care and treatment may vary depending on individual need and benefits covered by the plan. This policy is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine, nor does it constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. This document may contain prescription brand name drugs that are trademarks of pharmaceutical manufacturers that are not affiliated with RxAdvance.

Dosing Information			
Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot® 3.75, 11.25)	Endometriosis	IM: 3.75 mg per month; 11.25 mg per 3 months	See regimen
Leuprolide acetate (Lupaneta Pack® 3.75, 11.25)			
Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot® 3.75, 11.25)	Uterine fibroids	IM: 3.75 mg per month, 11.25 mg per 3 months	See regimen
Leuprolide acetate injection	CPP	SC: <u>Diagnostic</u> : 20 mcg/kg or as needed; Treatment: Initial: 50 mcg/kg/day; titrate dose upward by 10 mcg/kg/day if down-regulation is not achieved (higher mg/kg doses may be required in younger children).	See regimen
Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot-Ped® 7.5, 11.25, 15 [1 mo]; 11.25, 30 [3 mo])	CPP	IM monthly: weight-based starting dose: 7.5 mg (≤ 25 kg), 11.25 mg (> 25 to 37.5 kg), 15 mg (> 37.5 kg) (increase as needed to 15 mg per month); 3-month administration: 11.25 mg or 30 mg	See regimen
Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot® 3.75)	Breast cancer	3.75 mg IM per month	See regimen
Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot® 3.75, 11.25)	Ovarian cancer	3.75 mg IM per month, 11.25 mg IM per 3 months	See regimen

### Dosage Forms

- Leuprolide acetate injection: Kit: 2.8 mL multi-dose vial (1 mg/0.2 mL)
- Leuprolide acetate (Eligard®): Kit: 7.5 mg (1 month), 22.5 mg (3 month), 30 mg (4 month), 45 mg (6 month)

- Leuprolide acetate and norethindrone tablets (Lupaneta Pack®): Pack: 3.75 mg leuprolide acetate syringe (1 month) with 5 mg norethindrone tablets; Pack: 11.25 mg leuprolide acetate syringe (3 month) with 5 mg norethindrone tablets
- Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot®): Prefilled syringe: 7.5 mg (1 month), 22.5 mg (3 month), 30 mg (4 month), 45 mg (6 month)
- Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot® 3.75): Prefilled syringe: 3.75 mg (1 month)
- Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot® 11.25): Prefilled syringe: 11.25 mg (3 month)
- Leuprolide acetate (Lupron Depot-Ped®): Prefilled syringe: 7.5 mg (1 month), 11.25 mg (1 month), 15 mg (1 month); Prefilled syringe: 11.25 mg (3 month), 30 mg (3 month)

## Clinical Policy

Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.

### I. Initial Approval Criteria

#### A. Prostate Cancer (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of prostate cancer;
2. Request is for leuprolide acetate injection, Eligard, or Lupron Depot (7.5 mg, 22.5 mg, 30 mg, 45 mg);
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist or urologist;
4. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
5. Request meets one of the following (a, b, or c):\*
  - a. Leuprolide acetate injection (SC): Dose does not exceed 1 mg per day;
  - b. Eligard (SC)/Lupron Depot (IM): Dose does not exceed 7.5 mg per month, 22.5 mg per 3 months, 30 mg per 4 months, 45 mg per 6 months;
  - c. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

*\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

#### Approval duration

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months

#### B. Endometriosis (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of endometriosis;
2. Request is for Lupron Depot/Lupaneta Pack (3.75 mg, 11.25 mg);
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gynecologist;
4. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
5. Endometriosis as a cause of pain is one of the following (a or b):
  - a. Surgically confirmed;
  - b. Clinically suspected and member has failed a 3-month trial of one of the following agents within the last year or has a documented intolerance or contraindication to the agent (i, ii or iii):
    - i. A nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug;
    - ii. An oral or injectable depot contraceptive;
    - iii. A progestin;
6. Dose does not exceed 3.75 mg per month or 11.25 mg per 3 months.

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months

**C. Uterine Fibroids (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of anemia secondary to uterine leiomyomata (fibroids) confirmed by ultrasound;
2. Request is for Lupron Depot (3.75 mg, 11.25 mg);
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with gynecologist;
4. Age  $\geq$  18 years;
5. Prescribed preoperatively to reduce fibroid size and improve hematologic control;
6. Dose does not exceed 3.75 mg per month, 11.25 mg per 3 months.

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 6 months

**Medicaid:** 6 months

**HIM:** 6 months

**D. Central Precocious Puberty (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of CPP confirmed by all of the following (a, b, and c):
  - a. Elevated basal luteinizing hormone (LH) level  $>$  0.2 - 0.3 mIU/L (dependent on type of assay used) and/or elevated leuprolide-stimulated LH level  $>$  3.3 - 5 IU/L (dependent on type of assay used);
  - b. Difference between bone age and chronological age was  $>$  1 year (bone age- chronological age);
  - c. Age at onset of secondary sex characteristics is  $<$  8 years if female, or  $<$  9 years if male;
2. Request is for one of the following products (a or b):
  - a. Leuprolide acetate;
  - b. Lupron Depot Ped: 7.5 mg, 11.25 mg, 15 mg, 30 mg;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a pediatric endocrinologist;
4. Member meets one of the following age requirements (a or b):
  - a. Female: 2 - 11 years;
  - b. Male: 2 - 12 years;
5. Dose does not exceed the following (a, b, or c):
  - a. Diagnostic use: Leuprolide acetate: 20 mcg/kg or as needed;
  - b. Therapeutic use: Leuprolide acetate (SC): Initial: 50 mcg/kg per day; titrate dose upward by 10 mcg/kg per day if down-regulation is not achieved (higher mg/kg doses may be required in younger children).
  - c. Therapeutic use: Lupron Depot-Ped (IM): 15 mg per month (1-month formulation) or 30 mg per 3 months (3-month formulation) (dosing is weight- based).

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months for leuprolide acetate and Lupron Depot Ped 1.5 mg, 11.25 (1-month), 15 mg, 30 mg

**E. Breast and Ovarian Cancer (off-label) (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of breast or ovarian cancer (including fallopian tube and primary peritoneal cancer);;
2. Request is for one of the following (a or b):

- a. Breast cancer: Lupron Depot 3.75 mg;
- b. Ovarian cancer: Lupron Depot 3.75 mg or 11.25 mg;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with an oncologist;
4. Age ≥ 18 years;
5. Request meets one of the following (a, b, or c):\*
  - a. Breast or ovarian cancer: Dose does not exceed 3.75 mg per month;
  - b. Ovarian cancer: Dose does not exceed 11.25 mg per 3 months;
  - c. Dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

*\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months

**F. Gender Dysphoria (off-label) (must meet all):**

1. Diagnosis of gender dysphoria;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an endocrinologist and an expert in gender dysphoria and transgender medicine (e.g., mental health professional such as psychologist, psychiatrist);
3. Age and pubertal development - meets (a or b):
  - a. Member has reached or passed through Tanner Stage 2\* and is less than 18 years of age;  
*\*Age ranges approximating Tanner Stage 2 pubertal development extend from 8 to 13 years of age in girls and 9 to 14 years of age in boys.*
  - b. Member is 18 years of age or older and has failed to achieve physiologic hormone levels with gender-affirming hormonal therapy (e.g., estrogen, testosterone) unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
4. Member demonstrates understanding of expected GnRH analogue treatment outcomes and has given consent for such treatment;
5. If member has a psychiatric comorbidity, member is followed by mental health provider;
6. Psychosocial support will be provided during treatment;
7. Request is not for Lupaneta Pack;
8. Dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA-approved indication or is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months

**II. Continued Therapy Approval**

**A. Prostate Cancer (must meet all):**

1. Currently receiving medication that has been authorized by RxAdvance, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving leuprolide acetate injection, Eligard, or Lupron Depot for prostate cancer and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Request is for leuprolide acetate injection, Eligard, or Lupron Depot (7.5 mg, 22.5 mg, 30 mg, 45 mg);
3. Member is responding positively to therapy;
4. If request is for a dose increase, request meets one of the following (a, b, or c):\*

- a. Leuprolide acetate injection (SC): New dose does not exceed 1 mg per day;
- b. Eligard (SC)/Lupron Depot (IM): New dose does not exceed 7.5 mg per month, 22.5 mg per 3 months, 30 mg per 4 months, 45 mg per 6 months;
- c. New dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

*\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months

**B. Endometriosis (must meet all):**

1. Currently receiving medication that has been authorized by RxAdvance or member has previously met initial approval criteria listed in this policy;
2. Request is for Lupron Depot/Lupaneta Pack (3.75 mg, 11.25 mg);
3. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by, including but not limited to, improvement in any of the following parameters: improvement in dysmenorrhea, dyspareunia, pelvic pain/induration/tenderness, or size of endometrial lesions;
4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 3.75 mg per month or 11.25 mg per 3 months.

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months

**C. Uterine Fibroids (must meet all):**

1. Currently receiving medication that has been authorized by RxAdvance or member has previously met initial approval criteria listed in this policy;
2. Request is for Lupron Depot (3.75 mg, 11.25 mg);
3. Member is responding positively to therapy;
4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 3.75 mg per month or 11.25 mg per 3 months.

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 6 months

**Medicaid:** 6 months

**HIM:** 6 months

**D. Central Precocious Puberty (must meet all):**

1. Currently receiving medication that has been authorized by RxAdvance or member has previously met initial approval criteria listed in this policy;
2. Request is for leuprolide acetate or Lupron Depot-Ped;
3. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by, including but not limited to, improvement in any of the following parameters: decreased growth velocity, cessation of menses, softening of breast tissue or testes, arrested pubertal progression;
4. Member meets one of the following age requirements (a or b):
  - a. Female: ≤ 11 years;
  - b. Male: ≤ 12 years;
5. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):

- a. Leuprolide acetate (SC): Initial: 50 mcg/kg per day; titrate dose upward by 10 mcg/kg per day if down-regulation is not achieved (higher mg/kg doses may be required in younger children);
- b. Lupron Depot-Ped (IM): 15 mg per month (1-month formulation) or 30 mg per 3 months (3-month formulation) (dosing is weight-based).

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months for leuprolide acetate and Lupron Depot Ped 1.5 mg, 11.25 (1-month), 15 mg, 30 mg

**E. Breast and Ovarian Cancer (off-label) (must meet all):**

1. Currently receiving medication that has been authorized by RxAdvance, or documentation supports that member is currently receiving Lupron Depot for breast cancer or ovarian cancer and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
2. Request is for one of the following (a or b):
  - a. Breast cancer: Lupron Depot 3.75 mg;
  - b. Ovarian cancer: Lupron Depot 3.75 mg or 11.25 mg;
3. Member is responding positively to therapy;
4. If request is for a dose increase, request meets one of the following (a, b, or c):\*
  - a. Breast or ovarian cancer: New dose does not exceed 3.75 mg per month;
  - b. Ovarian cancer: New dose does not exceed 11.25 mg per 3 months;
  - c. New dose is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

*\*Prescribed regimen must be FDA-approved or recommended by NCCN*

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months

**F. Gender Dysphoria (off-label) (must meet all):**

1. Currently receiving medication that has been authorized by RxAdvance or member has previously met initial approval criteria listed in this policy;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose is within FDA maximum limit for any FDA-approved indication or is supported by practice guidelines or peer-reviewed literature for the relevant off-label use (*prescriber must submit supporting evidence*).

**Approval duration**

**Commercial:** 12 months

**Medicaid:** 12 months

**HIM:** 12 months

**III. Appendices**

**APPENDIX A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key**

CPP: central precocious puberty

DSM-5: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th edition

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

GnRH: gonadotropin-releasing hormone

LH: luteinizing hormone

NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network

**APPENDIX B: Therapeutic Alternatives**

This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
NSAIDs*: ibuprofen, naproxen, fenoprofen, ketoprofen, mefenamic acid, meclofenamate, indomethacin, tolmetin, diclofenac, etodolac, diflunisal, meloxicam, piroxicam	Endometriosis Varies – refer to specific prescribing information	Varies – refer to specific prescribing information
Combined oral estrogen-progesterone contraceptives: ethinyl estradiol + (desogestrel, ethynodiol diacetate, drospirenone, etonogestrel, levonorgestrel, norelgestromin, norethindrone, norgestimate, or norgestrel); estradiol valerate + dienogest; mestranol + norethindrone	Endometriosis 1 tablet PO once daily (may vary per specific prescribing information)	1 tablet per day (may vary per specific prescribing information)
Progestin-only oral contraceptives: norethindrone	Endometriosis 0.35 mg PO once daily	0.35 mg per day
Depot injection progestin contraceptives: medroxyprogesterone acetate	Endometriosis IM: 150 mg per 3 months (every 13 weeks) SC: 104 mg per 3 months (every 12 to 14 weeks)	See regimen

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.

**APPENDIX C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings**

- Contraindication(s):
  - Known hypersensitivity to GnRH, GnRH agonist analogs or any of the components of the individual products (all leuprolide products);
  - Pregnancy (all leuprolide products except Eligard);
  - Lupron 3.75 mg/11.25 mg and Lupaneta Pack:
    - Undiagnosed abnormal vaginal bleeding;
    - Breast-feeding;



- If used with norethindrone acetate:
  - Thrombophlebitis, thromboembolic disorders, cerebral apoplexy, or a past history of these conditions;
  - Markedly impaired liver function or liver disease;
- Boxed warning(s):
  - None reported

**APPNEDIX D: General Information**

- Not applicable

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**Gender Dysphoria**

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Review/Revision History	Review/Revised Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy established.	01/2020	03/06/2020
Policy was reviewed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clinical Policy Title was updated.</li> <li>2. Line of Business Policy Applies to was updated to all lines of business.</li> <li>3. Initial and Continued approval duration was updated to include Medicaid, Commercial &amp; HIM approval duration.</li> <li>4. Continued therapy criteria II.A.1, II.B.1, II.C.1, II.D.1, II.E.1 &amp; II.F.1 was rephrased to “Currently receiving medication that has been authorized by RxAdvance...”.</li> <li>5. References were reviewed and updated.</li> </ol>	07/23/2020	09/14/2020