Clinical Policy: Daptomycin (Cubicin, Cubicin RF)
Reference Number: CP.PHAR.351
Effective Date: 11.01.17
Last Review Date: 08.20
Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

See Important Reminder at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description
Daptomycin for injection (Cubicin®, Cubicin® RF) is a lipopeptide antibacterial.

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Cubicin/Cubicin RF is indicated for the treatment of:

- Adult and pediatric patients (1 to 17 years of age) with complicated skin and skin structure infections caused by susceptible isolates of the following gram-positive bacteria:
  - *Staphylococcus aureus* (including methicillin-resistant isolates),
  - *Streptococcus pyogenes*,
  - *Streptococcus agalactiae*,
  - *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subspecies *equisimilis*, and
  - *Enterococcus faecalis* (vancomycin-susceptible isolates only).
- Adult patients with *Staphylococcus aureus* bloodstream infections (bacteremia), including adult patients with right-sided infective endocarditis, caused by methicillin-susceptible and methicillin-resistant isolates.
- Pediatric patients (1 to 17 years of age) with *Staphylococcus aureus* bloodstream infections (bacteremia).

Limitation(s) of use:
- Cubicin/Cubicin RF is not indicated for:
  - The treatment of pneumonia.
  - The treatment of left-sided infective endocarditis due to *Staphylococcus aureus*. The clinical trial of Cubicin/Cubicin RF in adult patients with *Staphylococcus aureus* bloodstream infections included limited data from patients with left-sided infective endocarditis; outcomes in these patients were poor. Cubicin/Cubicin RF has not been studied in patients with prosthetic valve endocarditis.
- Cubicin/Cubicin RF is not recommended in pediatric patients younger than 1 year of age due to the risk of potential effects on muscular, neuromuscular, and/or nervous systems (either peripheral and/or central) observed in neonatal dogs.
- To reduce the development of drug-resistant bacteria and maintain the effectiveness of Cubicin/Cubicin RF and other antibacterial drugs, Cubicin/Cubicin RF should be used to treat infections that are proven or strongly suspected to be caused by bacteria. When culture and susceptibility information is available, it should be considered in selecting or modifying antibacterial therapy. In the absence of such data, local epidemiology and susceptibility patterns may contribute to the empiric selection of therapy. Empiric therapy may be initiated while awaiting test results.
Policy/Criteria

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

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation® that Cubicin and Cubicin RF are medically necessary when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Skin and Skin Structure Infection (must meet all):
   1. Diagnosis of complicated skin and skin structure infection caused by susceptible isolates of any of the following gram-positive bacteria:
      a. Staphylococcus aureus;
      b. Streptococcus pyogenes;
      c. Streptococcus agalactiae;
      d. Streptococcus dysgalactiae subsp. equisimilis;
      e. Enterococcus faecalis (vancomycin-susceptible isolates only);
   2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an infectious disease specialist;
   3. Age ≥ 1 year;
   4. Failure of vancomycin, unless contraindicated, clinically significant adverse effects are experienced, or culture and sensitivity report indicates that the relevant pathogen is not susceptible to vancomycin;
   5. Dose does not exceed any of the following:
      a. Age 1 to < 2 years: 10 mg per kg per day;
      b. Age 2 to 6 years: 9 mg per kg per day;
      c. Age 7 to 11 years: 7 mg per kg per day;
      d. Age 12 to 17 years: 5 mg per kg per day;
      e. Age ≥ 18 years: 4 mg per kg per day.

Approval duration: Up to 14 days

B. Bloodstream Infection and Right-sided Infective Endocarditis (must meet all):
   1. Diagnosis of bloodstream infection (bacteremia) [including right-sided infective endocarditis] caused by Staphylococcus aureus;
   2. Prescribed by or in consultation with an infectious disease specialist;
   3. Age ≥ 1 year;
   4. If concurrent infective endocarditis (right-sided; native valve), age ≥ 18 years;
   5. Dose does not exceed any of the following:
      a. Age 1 to 6 years: 12 mg per kg per day;
      b. Age 7 to 11 years: 9 mg per kg per day;
      c. Age 12 to 17 years: 7 mg per kg per day;
      d. Age ≥ 18 years: 6 mg per kg per day.

Approval duration: Up to 42 days

C. Other diagnoses/indications
   1. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is
NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy
A. **Skin and Skin Structure Infection** (must meet all):
   1. Currently receiving medication;
   2. Member has not yet received 14 days of therapy;
   3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed any of the following:
      a. Age 1 to < 2 years: 10 mg per kg per day;
      b. Age 2 to 6 years: 9 mg per kg per day;
      c. Age 7 to 11 years: 7 mg per kg per day;
      d. Age 12 to 17 years: 5 mg per kg per day;
      e. Age ≥ 18 years: 4 mg per kg per day.
   Approval duration: Up to 14 days

B. **Bloodstream Infection and Right-sided Infective Endocarditis** (must meet all):
   1. Currently receiving medication;
   2. Member has not yet received 42 days of therapy;
   3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed any of the following:
      a. Age 1 to 6 years: 12 mg per kg per day;
      b. Age 7 to 11 years: 9 mg per kg per day;
      c. Age 12 to 17 years: 7 mg per kg per day;
      d. Age ≥ 18 years: 6 mg per kg per day.
   Approval duration: Up to 42 days

C. Other diagnoses/indications (1 or 2):
   1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit and documentation supports positive response to therapy.
      Approval duration: Duration of request or 6 months (whichever is less); or
   2. Refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized): CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:
   A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off label use policy – CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PHAR.21 for health insurance marketplace and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid, or evidence of coverage documents;
   B. Treatment of pneumonia;
   C. Treatment of left-sided infective endocarditis due to *Staphylococcus aureus*.

IV. Appendices/General Information
   *Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key*
   FDA: Food and Drug Administration
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug Name</th>
<th>Dosing Regimen</th>
<th>Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>vancomycin (Vancocin®)</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>Varies</td>
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</table>

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 daptomycin
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

V. Dosage and Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indication</th>
<th>Dosing Regimen</th>
<th>Maximum Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complicated skin and skin structure infections</td>
<td>Pediatrics: 1 to &lt; 2 years: 10 mg/kg/day</td>
<td>10 mg/kg/day for up to 14 days</td>
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<td>2 to 6 years: 9 mg/kg/day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 to 11 years: 7 mg/kg/day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 to 17 years: 5 mg/kg/day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adults: ≥ 18 years: 4 mg/kg/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duration of therapy: Up to 14 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloodstream infection</td>
<td>Pediatrics: 1 to 6 years: 12 mg/kg/day</td>
<td>12 mg/kg/day for up to 42 days</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 to 11 years: 9 mg/kg/day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 to 17 years: 7 mg/kg/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adults: ≥ 18 years: 6 mg/kg/day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duration of therapy: Up to 42 days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right-sided infective endocarditis</td>
<td>Adults: ≥ 18 years: 6 mg/kg/day</td>
<td>6 mg/kg/day for up to 42 days</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duration of therapy: Up to 42 days</td>
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VI. Product Availability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daptomycin for injection (Cubicin)</td>
<td>Lyophilized cake in a single-dose 10 mL vial containing 500 mg of daptomycin.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reconstituted with 0.9% sodium chloride.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daptomycin for injection (Cubicin RF)</td>
<td>Lyophilized powder in a single-dose 10 mL vial containing 500 mg of daptomycin.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reconstituted with Sterile Water for Injection or Bacteriostatic Water for Injection.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

VII. References
2. Cubicin RF Prescribing Information. Whitehouse Station, NJ: Merck and Co., Inc. December 2018. Available at:


**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.

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<td>J0878</td>
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<td>10.31.17</td>
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<td>08.18</td>
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**Important Reminder**

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.
The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

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**Note: For Medicaid members,** when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

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