

UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy  
Clinical Pharmacy Programs

Program Number	2025 P 2240-6
Program	Prior Authorization/Medical Necessity
Medications	Lupkynis® (voclosporin)
P&T Approval Date	6/2021, 6/2022, 9/2022, 9/2023, 6/2024, 6/2025
Effective Date	9/1/2025

**1. Background:**

Lupkynis is a calcineurin-inhibitor immunosuppressant indicated in combination with a background immunosuppressive therapy regimen for the treatment of adult patients with active lupus nephritis (LN).

Limitation of use:

Safety and efficacy of Lupkynis have not been established in combination with cyclophosphamide. Use of Lupkynis is not recommended in this situation.

**2. Coverage Criteria<sup>a</sup>:****A. Initial Authorization**

1. **Lupkynis** will be approved based on **ALL** of the following criteria:

a. Diagnosis of active lupus nephritis

**-AND-**

b. Provider attestation to **one** of the following:

(1) Diagnosis is biopsy proven

**-OR-**

(2) Biopsy is contraindicated in the patient

**-AND-**

c. Prescribed in combination with a background immunosuppressive therapy regimen (e.g., mycophenolate mofetil and corticosteroids)

**-AND-**

d. Patient is not receiving Lupkynis in combination with **either** of the following:

(1) Cyclophosphamide

(2) Benlysta (belimumab)

-AND-

e. Prescribed by one of the following:

- (1) Nephrologist
- (2) Rheumatologist

**Authorization will be issued for 12 months.**

**B. Reauthorization**

1. **Lupkynis** will be approved based on the following criteria:

a. Documentation of positive clinical response to Lupkynis therapy

-AND-

b. Prescribed in combination with a background immunosuppressive therapy regimen (e.g., mycophenolate mofetil and corticosteroids)

-AND-

c. Patient is not receiving Lupkynis in combination with either of the following:

- (1) Cyclophosphamide
- (2) Benlysta (belimumab)

-AND-

d. Prescribed by one of the following:

- (1) Nephrologist
- (2) Rheumatologist

**Authorization will be issued for 12 months.**

<sup>a</sup> State mandates may apply. Any federal regulatory requirements and the member specific benefit plan coverage may also impact coverage criteria. Other policies and utilization management programs may apply.

**3. Additional Clinical Programs:**

- Notwithstanding Coverage Criteria, UnitedHealthcare may approve initial and re-authorization based solely on previous claim/medication history, diagnosis codes (ICD-10) and/or claim logic. Use of automated approval and re-approval processes varies by program.
- Supply limitations may be in place.

**4. References:**

1. Lupkynis [package insert]. Rockville, MD: Aurinia Pharma U.S., Inc.; April 2024.

2. Weening JJ, D'Agati VD, Schwartz MM, et al. The classification of glomerulonephritis in systemic lupus erythematosus revisited [published correction appears in *Kidney Int.* 2004 Mar;65(3):1132]. *Kidney Int.* 2004;65(2):521-530.
3. Bomback AS, Appel GB; Lupus nephritis: Diagnosis and classification. In: UpToDate, Waltham, MA. (Accessed on March 31, 2025)
4. Hahn BH, McMahon MA, Wilkinson A, et al. American College of Rheumatology guidelines for screening, treatment, and management of lupus nephritis. *Arthritis care & research.* 2012;64(6):797-808.
5. Wilhelmus S, Bajema IM, Bertsias GK, et al. Lupus nephritis management guidelines compared. *Nephrology, dialysis, transplantation : official publication of the European Dialysis and Transplant Association - European Renal Association.* 2016;31(6):904-913.
6. Rovin BH, Caster DJ, Cattran DC, et al. Management and treatment of glomerular diseases (part 2): conclusions from a Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Controversies Conference. *Kidney international.* 2019;95(2):281-295.
7. Rovin BH, Adler SG, Barratt J, et al. Executive summary of the KDIGO 2021 Guideline for the Management of Glomerular Diseases. *Kidney Int.* 2021;100(4):753-779.

Program	Prior Authorization/Medical Necessity - Lupkynis (voclosporin)
<b>Change Control</b>	
6/2021	New program.
6/2022	Annual review with no change to clinical criteria. Updated reference. Added state mandate footnote.
9/2022	Removed criteria requiring progression or response failure to immunosuppressive induction therapy. Removed state mandate trial footnote.
9/2023	Annual review with no change to clinical criteria.
6/2024	Annual review. Updated authorization lengths to 12 months.
6/2025	Annual review. Removed 12 month attestation from reauthorization criteria. Updated reference.