

# UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy Clinical Pharmacy Programs

Program Number	2025 P 2150-9
Program	Prior Authorization/Medical Necessity
Medication	Palynziq <sup>™</sup> (pegvaliase-pqpz)
P&T Approval Date	9/2018, 7/2019, 7/2020, 6/2021, 7/2021, 7/2022, 7/2023, 7/2024, 7/2025
Effective Date	10/1/2025

# 1. Background:

Palynziq is a phenylalanine-metabolizing enzyme indicated to reduce blood phenylalanine concentrations in adult patients with phenylketonuria who have uncontrolled blood phenylalanine concentrations greater than 600 micromol/L on existing management.

# 2. Coverage Criteria<sup>a</sup>:

## A. Initial Authorization

- 1. **Palynziq** will be approved based on <u>all</u> of the following criteria:
  - a. Diagnosis of phenylketonuria (PKU)

### -AND-

b. Patient is actively on a phenylalanine-restricted diet

#### -AND-

- c. One of the following:
  - (1) Patient has a contraindication to saptropterin (list reason)

## -OR-

(2) History of failure or intolerance to sapropterin therapy (document date of trial and list reason for therapeutic failure or intolerance) as determined by a one- to four-week trial of sapropterin

## -AND-

d. Physician attestation that the patient will not be receiving Palynziq in combination with sapropterin dihydrochloride

#### -AND-

e. Submission of medical records (e.g., chart notes, laboratory values) documenting that the patient has a blood phenylalanine concentration greater than 600 micromol/L

# Authorization will be issued for 12 months.



## **B.** Reauthorization

- 1. **Palynziq** will be approved based on <u>all</u> of the following criteria:
  - a. Patient is actively on a phenylalanine-restricted diet

#### -AND-

- b. **One** of the following:
  - (1) Submission of medical records (e.g., chart notes, laboratory values) documenting that the patient has a blood phenylalanine concentration less than 600 micromol/L

### -OR-

(2) Submission of medical records (e.g., chart notes, laboratory values) documenting that the patient has achieved a 20% reduction in blood phenylalanine concentration from pre-treatment baseline

#### -OR-

(3) Patient is in initial titration/maintenance phase of dosing regimen and dose is being titrated based on blood phenylalanine concentration response up to maximum labeled dosage of 60 mg once daily

#### -AND-

c. Submission of medical records (e.g., chart notes, laboratory values) documenting that the patient is not receiving Palynziq in combination with sapropterin dihydrochloride [Prescription claim history that does not show any concomitant sapropterin dihydrochloride claim within 60 days of reauthorization request may be used as documentation.]

## 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 Rules:

- 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 and/or therapeutic class.
- Supply limits may also be in place.



## 4. References:

- 1. Palynziq [package insert], Novato, CA: BioMarin Pharmaceutical Inc.; November 2020.
- 2. Thomas J, Levy H, Amato S, et al. Pegvaliase for the treatment of phenylketonuria: Results of a long-term phase 3 clinical trial program (PRISM). Mol Genet Metab. 2018;124(1):27-38.
- 3. Vockley et al. Phenylalanine hydroxylase deficiency: diagnosis and management guideline. American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics Practice Guidelines. Genetics in Medicine 2014;16 (2):188-200.

Program	Prior Authorization/Medical Necessity - Palynziq (pegvaliase-pqpz)
Change Control	
9/2018	New program
7/2019	Annual review with no change to coverage criteria.
7/2020	Annual review with no change to coverage criteria.
6/2021	Added history of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to sapropterin
	dihydrochloride to criteria. Updated titration criteria in re-authorization.
	Updated reference.
7/2021	Updated contraindication, failure, intolerance criteria.
7/2022	Annual review with no change to coverage criteria.
7/2023	Annual review with no change to coverage criteria.
7/2024	Annual review. Updated authorization durations to 12 months. Updated
	references.
7/2025	Annual review with no change to coverage criteria. Updated references.