Reference number(s)
4726-A

Standard Medicare Part B Management Zepzelca

Products Referenced by this Document

Drugs that are listed in the following table include both brand and generic and all dosage forms and strengths unless otherwise stated. Over the counter (OTC) products are not included unless otherwise stated.

Brand Name	Generic Name
Zepzelca	lurbinectedin

Indications

The indications below including FDA-approved indications and compendial uses are considered a covered benefit provided that all the approval criteria are met and the member has no exclusions to the prescribed therapy.

FDA-approved Indications[1]

Zepzelca is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with metastatic small cell lung cancer (SCLC) with disease progression on or after platinum-based chemotherapy.

Compendial Uses[2]

- Relapsed small cell lung cancer
- Primary progressive small cell lung cancer
- Ewing sarcoma

All other indications will be assessed on an individual basis. Submissions for indications other than those listed in this criteria should be accompanied by supporting evidence from Medicare approved compendia.

© 2025 CVS Caremark. All rights reserved.

This document contains confidential and proprietary information of CVS Caremark and cannot be reproduced, distributed or printed without written permission from CVS Caremark. This document contains prescription brand name drugs that are trademarks or registered trademarks of pharmaceutical manufacturers that are not affiliated with CVS Caremark.

Reference number(s)
4726-A

Coverage Criteria

Small Cell Lung Cancer[1,2]

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for subsequent treatment of small cell lung cancer as a single agent in any of the following settings:

- Relapse following complete or partial response or stable disease with initial treatment
- Primary progressive disease
- Metastatic disease following disease progression on or after platinum-based chemotherapy

Ewing Sarcoma[2]

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for subsequent treatment of Ewing sarcoma as a single agent for relapsed, progressive, or metastatic disease.

Continuation of Therapy

All members (including new members) requesting authorization for continuation of therapy must be currently receiving therapy with the requested agent.

Authorization for 12 months may be granted when all of the following criteria are met:

- The member is currently receiving therapy with the requested medication.
- The requested medication is being used to treat an indication listed in the coverage criteria section.
- The member is receiving benefit from therapy. Benefit is defined as:
    - No evidence of unacceptable toxicity while on current regimen AND
    - No evidence of disease progression while on current regimen

Summary of Evidence

The contents of this policy were created after examining the following resources:

- The prescribing information for Zepzelca.
- The available compendium
    - National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Drugs and Biologics Compendium
    - Micromedex DrugDex
    - American Hospital Formulary Service- Drug Information (AHFS-DI)
    - Lexi-Drugs
    - Clinical Pharmacology
- NCCN Guideline: Small cell lung cancer

© 2025 CVS Caremark. All rights reserved.

This document contains confidential and proprietary information of CVS Caremark and cannot be reproduced, distributed or printed without written permission from CVS Caremark. This document contains prescription brand name drugs that are trademarks or registered trademarks of pharmaceutical manufacturers that are not affiliated with CVS Caremark.

- NCCN Guideline: Bone cancer

After reviewing the information in the above resources, the FDA-approved indications listed in the prescribing information for Zepzelca are covered in addition to the following:

- Relapsed small cell lung cancer
- Primary progressive small cell lung cancer
- Ewing sarcoma

Explanation of Rationale

Support for FDA-approved indications can be found in the manufacturer's prescribing information.

Support for using Zepzelca to treat small cell lung cancer and Ewing sarcoma can be found in the NCCN Drugs and Biologics Compendium. Use of information in the NCCN Drugs and Biologics Compendium for off-label use of drugs and biologicals in an anti-cancer chemotherapeutic regimen is supported by the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, section 50.4.5 (Off-Label Use of Drugs and Biologicals in an Anti-Cancer Chemotherapeutic Regimen). Zepzelca is recommended as subsequent systemic therapy for patients with performance status 0-2 as a single agent for relapse following complete or partial response or stable disease with primary treatment or primary progressive disease.

References

1. Zepzelca [package insert]. Palo Alto, CA: Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; July 2025.
2. The NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium® © 2025 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. Available at: https://www.nccn.org. Accessed July 15, 2025.

© 2025 CVS Caremark. All rights reserved.

This document contains confidential and proprietary information of CVS Caremark and cannot be reproduced, distributed or printed without written permission from CVS Caremark. This document contains prescription brand name drugs that are trademarks or registered trademarks of pharmaceutical manufacturers that are not affiliated with CVS Caremark.