

PROVIDER NOTIFICATION OF POLICY CRITERIA CHANGE

POLICY TITLE	POLICY NUMBER	CRITERIA CHANGE	MATERIAL AMENDMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	LINK TO FULL POLICY
<p>Teclistamab-cqyv (e.g., Tecvayli)</p>	<p>2023015</p>	<p>Coverage criteria updated for FDA labeled and off-label indications.</p> <p>FDA Labeled Indications:</p> <p>INITIAL APPROVAL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual has a diagnosis of relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma (MM) (Tecvayli, 2026; NCCN 2A); AND 2. Individual is 18 years of age or older (Tecvayli, 2026); AND 3. Individual has an ECOG performance status of 0-1* (Moreau, 2022); AND 4. Teclistamab-cqyv (e.g., Tecvayli) will be used in combination with daratumumab hyaluronidase-fihj (Tecvayli, 2026; NCCN 1); AND <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Individual has received at least one prior line of therapy, including a proteasome inhibitor and an immunomodulatory agent; OR 5. Teclistamab-cqyv (e.g., Tecvayli) will be used as monotherapy; AND <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Individual has received at least four prior therapies and must have included ALL of the following (Tecvayli, 2026; NCCN 2A): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. An anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody (such as daratumumab, daratumumab-hyaluronidase, or isatuximab); AND ii. A proteasome inhibitor (such as bortezomib, carfilzomib, or ixazomib); AND iii. An immunomodulatory agent (such as lenalidomide, pomalidomide, or thalidomide); AND 	<p>No</p>	<p>June 15, 2026</p>	<p>https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=2023015</p>

		<p>6. Individual has not been previously treated with prior BCMA-targeting therapy (such as belantamab) (Moreau, 2022); AND</p> <p>7. Individual does NOT have active central nervous system involvement or clinical signs of meningeal involvement of MM (Moreau, 2022); AND</p> <p>CONTINUATION OF THERAPY:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual continues to meet the initial approval criteria; AND 2. Individual has not experienced disease progression during teclistamab-cqyv treatment (Tecvayli, 2022); AND 3. Individual has an ECOG performance status of 0-1* (Moreau, 2022); AND 4. Individual does NOT have active central nervous system involvement or clinical signs of meningeal involvement of MM (Moreau, 2022). <p>Off-label Indications</p> <p>INITIAL APPROVAL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Treatment of multiple myeloma in combination with talquetamab-tgvs in those who have received at least 3 prior lines of therapy (NCCN 2A). <p>CONTINUATION OF THERAPY:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual continues to meet the initial approval criteria; AND 2. Individual has not experienced disease progression during teclistamab-cqyv treatment (Tecvayli, 2022); AND 3. Individual has an ECOG performance status of 0-1* (Moreau, 2022). 			
Nab-Paclitaxel (e.g., Abraxane)	2017012	<p>Coverage criteria updated for off-label indications.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ampullary Adenocarcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR 2. Kaposi Sarcoma (NCCN 2A); OR 3. Melanoma: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Uveal (NCCN 2A); OR 	No	June 15, 2026	https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=2017012

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Cutaneous (NCCN 2A); OR 4. Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR 5. Vaginal Cancer (NCCN 2A); OR 6. Uterine Neoplasms -Endometrial Carcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR 7. Ovarian Cancer/Fallopian Tube Cancer/Primary Peritoneal Cancer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Epithelia Ovarian Cancer/Fallopian Tube Cancer/Primary Peritoneal Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR b. Carcinosarcoma (Malignant Mixed Mullerian Tumors) (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR c. Clear Cell Carcinoma of the Ovary (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR d. Mucinous Neoplasms of the Ovary (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR e. Grade 1 Endometrioid Carcinoma (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR f. Low-Grade Serous Carcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR 8. Biliary Tract Cancers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Gallbladder Cancer (NCCN 2A); OR b. Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR c. Extrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR 9. Cervical Cancer (NCCN 2A); OR 10. Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR 11. Breast Cancer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Invasive Breast Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR b. Inflammatory Breast Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR 12. Small Bowel Adenocarcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR 13. Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A). 			
Irinotecan Liposomal (e.g., Onivyde)	2021018	<p>Coverage criteria updated for off-label indications.</p> <p><u>Off-Label Indications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual has a diagnosis of Ampullary Adenocarcinoma: 	No	June 15, 2026	https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=2021018

		<p>a. First-line therapy for pancreatobiliary and mixed type metastatic disease if good performance status [ECOG (PS 0-1, with good biliary drainage and adequate nutritional intake) as a component of Fluorouracil, leucovorin, liposomal irinotecan, and oxaliplatin (NALIRIFOX) regimen (NCCN 2A); OR</p> <p>b. Therapy for disease progression in individuals with good performance status (ECOG 0-1, with good biliary drainage and adequate nutritional intake) and pancreatobiliary and mixed type in combination with fluorouracil and leucovorin if previously treated with prior (NCCN 2A):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Gemcitabine-based therapy; ORii. Fluoropyrimidine-based therapy if no prior irinotecan; ORiii. Oxaliplatin-based therapy (e.g., capecitabine, 5-fluorouracil) if no prior irinotecan; OR <p>c. Subsequent therapy in combination with fluorouracil and leucovorin (NCCN 1 for metastatic disease if previously treated with gemcitabine-based therapy; 2A for all others):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Less than 6 months from completion of first-line gemcitabine-based therapy; ORii. Less than 6 months from completion of first-line fluoropyrimidine-based therapy if no prior irinotecan; OR			
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- iii. Less than 6 months from completion of first-line therapy as alternate therapy not previously used; **OR**
- iv. Greater than or equal to 6 months from completion of first-line therapy; **OR**

2. Individual has a diagnosis of **Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma**:

- a. First-line therapy, or as induction therapy followed by chemoradiation for locally advanced disease and good performance status (defined as ECOG PS 0-1, with good biliary drainage and adequate nutritional intake) as a component of fluorouracil, leucovorin, liposomal irinotecan, and oxaliplatin (NALIRIFOX) protocol (NCCN 2A); **OR**
- b. First-line therapy for metastatic disease with good performance status (defined as ECOG PS 0-1, with good biliary drainage and adequate nutritional intake) as a component of fluorouracil, leucovorin, liposomal irinotecan, and oxaliplatin (NALIRIFOX) (NCCN 1); **OR**
- c. Subsequent therapy in combination with leucovorin and fluorouracil for metastatic disease with progression if performance status (PS) ECOG 0-2 and previously treated with (NCCN 1 for metastatic disease if previously treated with gemcitabine-based therapy; 2A for all others):

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Fluoropyrimidine-based therapy and no prior irinotecan; OR ii. Gemcitabine-based therapy. 			
Asparagine Specific Enzymes (e.g., Rylaze, Asparlas, Oncaspar)	2022019	<p>Coverage criteria updated for FDA labeled and off-label indications.</p> <p><u>FDA Labeled Indications:</u></p> <p>INITIAL APPROVAL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual has a diagnosis of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) (Rylaze, 2025); OR b. Lymphoblastic Lymphoma (LBL) (Rylaze, 2025); AND 2. Individual is 1 month of age or older(Rylaze, 2025); AND 3. Individual has documentation of an allergic reaction to a long-acting E. coli-derived asparaginase OR have silent inactivation (see policy guidelines) (Rylaze, 2025); AND 4. Individual has no history of the following contraindications(Rylaze, 2025): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Serious pancreatitis during previous asparaginase therapy; OR b. Serious hemorrhagic events during previous asparaginase therapy; OR c. Serious thrombosis during previous asparaginase therapy; OR d. Severe hepatic impairment; AND 5. Individual is using asparaginase erwinia chrysanthemi (e.g., Rylaze) as a component of multi-agent chemotherapy(Rylaze, 2025) <p><u>Off Labeled Indications:</u></p> <p>INITIAL APPROVAL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (NCCN 2A); OR 2. T-Cell Lymphomas - Extranodal NK/T-Cell Lymphomas (NCCN 2A). 	No	June 15, 2026	https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=2022019

<p>Ado-Trastuzumab Emtansine (e.g., Kadcyla (Trastuzumab-DM1) for Treatment of HER-2 Positive Malignancies</p>	<p>2013014</p>	<p>Coverage criteria updated for off-label indications.</p> <p>1. Individual has a diagnosis of CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM CANCERS:</p> <p>a. Limited Brain Metastases (NCCN 2A)</p> <p>i. Used as a single-agent treatment for limited brain metastases in HER2 positive brain cancer:</p> <p>1. May be considered as initial treatment in select cases (e.g., small asymptomatic brain metastases) for newly diagnosed or stable systemic disease or if reasonable systemic treatment options exist; OR</p> <p>2. Recurrent brain metastases; OR</p> <p>b. Extensive Brain Metastases (NCCN 2A)</p> <p>i. Single agent treatment or in combination with neratinib for extensive brain metastases in HER2 positive breast cancer:</p> <p>1. Primary treatment in select cases (e.g., small asymptomatic brain metastases); OR</p> <p>2. As treatment for recurrent disease with stable systemic disease or reasonable systemic treatment options; OR</p> <p>2. Individual has a diagnosis of HEAD AND NECK CANCERS</p> <p>a. Salivary Gland Tumors (NCCN 2A)</p> <p>i. Single-agent systemic therapy for human epidermal growth factor receptor 2</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>June 15, 2026</p>	<p>https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=2013014</p>
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		<p>(HER2)-positive recurrent disease with a:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Distant metastases in individuals with a performance status (PS) of 0-3; OR2. Unresectable locoregional recurrence or second primary disease with prior radiation therapy; OR <p>3. Individual has a diagnosis of NON-SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Subsequent therapy as a single agent for ERBB2 (HER2) mutation positive recurrent, advanced, or metastatic disease (following progression on first-line systemic therapy with a non-ERBB2 (HER2)-targeted regimen; other recommended option following progression on first-line zongertinib or progression on subsequent therapy if not previously given (NCCN 2A); OR <p>4. Individual has a diagnosis of BREAST CANCER:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Invasive Breast Cancer:<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Adjuvant systemic therapy for HER2-positive tumors and locally advanced disease following completion of planned chemotherapy and following mastectomy or breast-conserving surgery with surgical axillary staging if ypT1-4N0 or ypN \geq greater than or equal to 1 (NCCN 1); ORii. Adjuvant systemic therapy for HER2-positive tumors and pT1-3 and pN0 or pN+ disease (NCCN 2A); ORiii. Third line and beyond (or second line in fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan is not			
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		<p>able to be used) single-agent therapy for recurrent unresectable (local or regional) or stage IV (M1) HER2-positive disease that is HR-negative or HR-positive with or without endocrine therapy (NCCN 2A); OR</p> <p>b. Inflammatory Breast Cancer</p> <p>i. Adjuvant systemic therapy in residual disease following preoperative therapy for HER2-positive tumors (NCCN 1); OR</p> <p>ii. Third line and beyond (or second line in fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan is not able to be used) single-agent therapy for recurrent unresectable (local or regional) or stage IV (M1) HER2-positive disease that is HR-negative or HR-positive with or without endocrine therapy (NCCN 2A)</p> <p>iii. Adjuvant systemic therapy for individuals who had a response to preoperative systemic therapy, followed by surgery, and need to complete planned chemotherapy, with human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-positive tumors (NCCN 2A).</p>			
Isatuximab-irfc (e.g., Sarclisa)	2020008	<p>Coverage criteria updated for off-label indications.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary therapy for symptomatic multiple myeloma in combination with bortezomib, lenalidomide and dexamethasone for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Transplant candidates (NCCN 2A); OR b. Non-transplant candidates less than 80 years old who are not frail (NCCN 1); OR 2. Primary therapy for symptomatic multiple myeloma in combination with carfilzomib, 	No	June 15, 2026	https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=2020008

		<p>lenalidomide and dexamethasone for transplant candidates (not covered when used for transplant-deferred or transplant not indicated scenarios) (NCCN 2A); OR</p> <p>3. Primary for symptomatic multiple myeloma in combination with lenalidomide and dexamethasone if transplant-deferred or if transplant not indicated (NCCN 2A); OR</p> <p>4. Therapy for previously treated multiple myeloma for relapse or progressive disease in combination with:</p> <p>a. pomalidomide and dexamethasone for individuals who have received two prior therapies including lenalidomide and a proteasome inhibitor if lenalidomide-or bortezomib-refractory (NCCN 1); OR</p> <p>b. dexamethasone and carfilzomib if lenalidomide-or bortezomib-refractory (NCCN 1).</p>			
Elotuzumab (e.g., Empliciti)	2017013	<p>Coverage criteria updated for off-label indications.</p> <p>1. Therapy for previously treated multiple myeloma for relapse or progressive disease in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone (NCCN 1 for combination with lenalidomide and dexamethasone; NCCN 2A for all others):</p> <p>a. Pomalidomide and dexamethasone after two prior therapies including lenalidomide and a proteasome inhibitor; OR</p> <p>b. Lenalidomide and dexamethasone; OR</p> <p>c. Bortezomib and dexamethasone.</p>	No	June 15, 2026	https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=2017013
Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda)	2019005	<p>Coverage criteria for FDA labeled indications updated.</p> <p><u>MELANOMA</u></p> <p>1. Individual has a diagnosis of melanoma:</p> <p>a. For the treatment of individuals with unresectable or metastatic melanoma (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); OR</p> <p>b. For the adjuvant treatment of adult and pediatric (12 years and older)</p>	No	June 15, 2026	https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=2019005

- individuals with Stage IIB, IIC, or III melanoma following complete resection (Keytruda, 2026); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

NON-SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER (NSCLC)

1. Individual has a diagnosis of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC):
 - a. In combination with pemetrexed and platinum chemotherapy, as first-line treatment of individuals with metastatic nonsquamous NSCLC, with no EGFR or ALK genomic tumor aberrations (Keytruda, 2026); **OR**
 - b. In combination with carboplatin and either paclitaxel or paclitaxel protein-bound, as first-line treatment of individuals with metastatic squamous NSCLC (Keytruda, 2026); **OR**
 - c. As a single agent for the first-line treatment of individuals with NSCLC expressing PD-L1 [Tumor Proportion Score (TPS) greater than or equal to 1%] as determined by an FDA-approved test, with no EGFR or ALK genomic tumor aberrations, and is:
 - i. Stage III where individuals are not candidates for surgical resection or definitive chemoradiation (Keytruda, 2026); **OR**
 - ii. Metastatic (Keytruda, 2026); **OR**
 - d. As a single agent for the treatment of individuals with metastatic NSCLC whose tumors express PD-L1 (TPS greater than or equal to 1%) as determined by an FDA-approved test, with disease progression on or after

platinum-containing chemotherapy. Individuals with EGFR or ALK genomic tumor aberrations should have disease progression on FDA-approved therapy for these aberrations prior to receiving pembrolizumab (Keytruda, 2026); **OR**

- e. For the treatment of individuals with resectable tumors (greater than or equal to 4 cm or node positive) NSCLC in combination with platinum-containing chemotherapy as neoadjuvant treatment, and then continued as a single agent as adjuvant treatment after surgery (Keytruda, 2024); **OR**
- f. As a single agent, for adjuvant treatment following resection and platinum-based chemotherapy for adult individuals with Stage IB (T2a greater than or equal to 4 cm), II, or IIIA NSCLC (Keytruda, 2024); **AND**
- b. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

MALIGNANT PLEURAL MESOTHELIOMA (MPM)

- 1. Individual has a diagnosis of malignant pleural mesothelioma (MPM) (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1):
 - a. In combination with pemetrexed and platinum chemotherapy, as first-line treatment of adult individuals with unresectable advanced or metastatic MPM; **AND**
- 2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

HEAD AND NECK SQUAMOUS CELL CANCER (HNSCC)

1. Individual has a diagnosis of head and neck squamous cell cancer (HNSCC):
 - a. For the treatment of adult individuals with resectable locally advanced HNSCC whose tumors express PD-L1 as determined by an FDA-authorized test, as a single agent as neoadjuvant treatment in combination with radiotherapy with or without cisplatin and then as a single agent (Keytruda, 2026); **OR**
 - b. In combination with platinum and FU for the first-line treatment of individuals with metastatic or with unresectable, recurrent HNSCC (Keytruda, 2026); **OR**
 - c. As a single agent for the first-line treatment of individuals with metastatic or with unresectable, recurrent HNSCCC whose tumors express PD-L1 [Combine Positive Score (CPS) greater than or equal to 1] as determined by an FDA-approved test (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1 and 2A); **OR**
 - d. As a single agent for the treatment of individuals with recurrent or metastatic HNSCC with disease progression on or after platinum-containing chemotherapy (Keytruda, 2026); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

CLASSICAL HODGKIN LYMPHOMA (cHL)

1. Individual has a diagnosis of classical Hodgkin lymphoma (cHL):

- a. For the treatment of adult individuals with relapsed or refractory cHL (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **OR**
 - b. For the treatment of pediatric individuals with refractory cHL, or cHL that has relapsed after 2 or more lines of therapy (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
- a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

PRIMARY MEDIASTINAL LARGE B-CELL LYMPHOMA (PMBCL)

1. Individual has a diagnosis of primary mediastinal large b-cell lymphoma (PMBCL):
- a. For the treatment of adult and pediatric individuals with refractory PMBCL, or who have relapsed after 2 or more prior lines of therapy (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **OR**
- *Limitations of Use:* Pembrolizumab is not recommended for treatment of individuals with PMBCL who require urgent cytoreductive therapy (Keytruda, 2026); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
- a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

UROTHELIAL CANCER

1. Individual has a diagnosis of urothelial cancer:
- a. In combination with enfortumab vedotin, for the treatment of adult individuals with locally advanced or

metastatic urothelial cancer (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1); **OR**

- b. As a single agent for the treatment of individuals with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma who:
 - i. Are not eligible for any platinum-containing chemotherapy(Keytruda, 2024; NCCN 1 and 2A); **OR**
 - ii. Who have disease progression during or following platinum-containing chemotherapy or within 12 months of neoadjuvant or adjuvant treatment with platinum-containing chemotherapy (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **OR**
 - c. In combination with enfortumab vedotin, as neoadjuvant treatment and then continued after cystectomy as adjuvant treatment of adult individuals with muscle invasive bladder cancer (MIBC) who are ineligible for cisplatin-containing chemotherapy (Keytruda, 2026); **OR**
 - d. As a single agent for the treatment of individuals with Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG)-unresponsive, high-risk, non-muscle invasive bladder cancer (NMIBC) with carcinoma in situ (CIS) with or without papillary tumors who are ineligible for or have elected not to undergo cystectomy (Keytruda, 2026); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
- a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

**MICROSATELLITE INSTABILITY-HIGH OR
MISMATCH REPAIR DEFICIENT CANCER**

1. Individual has a diagnosis of microsatellite instability-high or mismatch repair deficient cancer:
 - a. For the treatment of adult and pediatric individuals with unresectable or metastatic microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) or mismatch repair deficient (dMMR) solid tumors, as determined by an FDA-approved test, that have progressed following prior treatment and who have no satisfactory alternative treatment options (Keytruda, 2026); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

MICROSATELLITE INSTABILITY-HIGH OR MISMATCH REPAIR DEFICIENT COLORECTAL CANCER (CRC)

1. Individual has a diagnosis of microsatellite instability-high or mismatch repair deficient colorectal cancer (CRC):
 - a. For the treatment of individuals with unresectable or metastatic MSI-H or dMMR colorectal cancer (CRC) as determined by an FDA-approved test(Keytruda, 2026); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

GASTRIC CANCER

1. Individual has a diagnosis of gastric cancer:
 - a. In combination with trastuzumab, fluoropyrimidine- and platinum-

containing chemotherapy, for the first-line treatment of adults with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic HER2-positive gastric or gastroesophageal junction (GEJ) adenocarcinoma whose tumors express PD-L1 (CPS greater than or equal to 1) as determined by an FDA-approved test (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1); **OR**

- b. In combination with fluoropyrimidine- and platinum-containing chemotherapy, for the first-line treatment of adults with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic HER2-negative gastric or gastroesophageal junction (GEJ) adenocarcinoma (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1 and 2A); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
- a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

ESOPHAGEAL CANCER

- 1. Individual has a diagnosis of esophageal cancer:
 - a. For the treatment of individuals with locally advanced or metastatic esophageal or gastroesophageal junction (GEJ) (tumors with epicenter 1 to 5 centimeters above the GEJ) carcinoma that is not amenable to surgical resection or definitive chemoradiation either:
 - i. In combination with platinum- and fluoropyrimidine-based chemotherapy (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1 and 2A); **OR**

- ii. As a single agent after one or more prior lines of systemic therapy for individuals with tumors of squamous cell histology that express PD-L1 (CPS greater than or equal to 10) as determined by an FDA-approved test (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1 and 2A); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

CERVICAL CANCER

1. Individual has a diagnosis of cervical cancer:
 - a. In combination with chemoradiotherapy, for the treatment of individuals with International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) 2014 Stage III-IVA cervical cancer; **OR**
 - b. In combination with chemotherapy, with or without bevacizumab, for the treatment of individuals with persistent, recurrent, or metastatic cervical cancer whose tumors express PD-L1 (CPS greater than or equal to 1) as determined by an FDA-approved test (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **OR**
 - c. As a single agent for the treatment of individuals with recurrent or metastatic cervical cancer with disease progression on or after chemotherapy whose tumors express PD-L1 (CPS greater than or equal to 1) as determined by an FDA-approved test (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:

- a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
- b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA (HCC)

- 1. Individual has a diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC):
 - a. For the treatment of individuals with HCC secondary to hepatitis B who have received prior systemic therapy other than a PD-1/PD-L1-containing regimen(Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **AND**
- 2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

BILIARY TRACT CANCER (BTC)

- 1. Individual has a diagnosis of biliary tract cancer (BTC):
 - a. In combination with gemcitabine and cisplatin, for the treatment of individuals with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic biliary tract cancer (Keytruda, 2024; NCCN 2A); **AND**
- 2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA (MCC)

1. Individual has a diagnosis of merkel cell carcinoma (MCC):
 - a. For the treatment of adult and pediatric individuals with recurrent locally advanced or metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

RENAL CELL CARCINOMA (RCC)

1. Individual has a diagnosis of renal cell carcinoma (RCC):
 - a. In combination with axitinib, for the first-line treatment of adult individuals with advanced RCC (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1); **OR**
 - b. In combination with Lenvatinib, for the first-line treatment of adult individuals with RCC; **OR**
 - c. For the adjuvant treatment of individuals with RCC at intermediate-high or high risk of recurrence following nephrectomy, or following nephrectomy and resection of metastatic lesions (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

ENDOMETRIAL CARCINOMA

1. Individual has a diagnosis of endometrial carcinoma:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. In combination with carboplatin and paclitaxel, followed by pembrolizumab as a single agent, for the treatment of adult individuals with primary advanced or recurrent endometrial carcinoma; ORb. In combination with Lenvatinib, for the treatment of individuals with advanced endometrial carcinoma that is mismatch repair proficient (pMMR) as determined by an FDA-approved test or not MSI-H, who have disease progression following prior systemic therapy in any setting and are not candidates for curative surgery or radiation (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1); ORc. As a single agent, for the treatment of individuals with advanced endometrial carcinoma that is MSI-H or dMMR, as determined by an FDA-approved test, who have disease progression following prior systemic therapy in any setting and not candidates for curative surgery or radiation (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); AND <p>2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); ORb. In combination with any other drug except as listed above. <p><u>TUMOR MUTATIONAL BURDEN-HIGH (TMB-H) CANCER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Individual has a diagnosis of tumor mutational burden-high (TMB-H) cancer:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. For the treatment of adult and pediatric individuals with unresectable or metastatic tumor mutational burden-high (TMB-H) (greater than or equal to 10 mutations/megabase (mut/Mb) solid tumors that have progressed following prior treatment and who have no			
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satisfactory alternative treatment options (NCCN 2A); **AND**
***Limitations of Use:** The safety and effectiveness of pembrolizumab in pediatric individuals with TMB-H central nervous systems cancers have not been established (Keytruda, 2026).

2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

CUTANEOUS SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA (CSCC)

1. Individual has a diagnosis of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma (CSCC):
 - a. For the treatment of individuals with recurrent or locally advanced cSCC that is not curable by surgery or radiation (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

TRIPLE-NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER (TNBC)

1. Individual has a diagnosis of triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC):
 - a. For the treatment of individuals with high-risk early-stage TNBC in combination with chemotherapy as neoadjuvant treatment, and then continued as a single agent as adjuvant treatment after surgery (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 2A); **OR**
 - b. In combination with chemotherapy, for the treatment of individuals with locally

recurrent unresectable or metastatic TNBC whose tumors express PD-L1 (CPS greater than or equal to 10) as determined by an FDA approved test (Keytruda, 2026; NCCN 1 and 2A); **AND**

2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**
 - b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.

OVARIAN CANCER

1. In combination with paclitaxel, with or without bevacizumab, for the treatment of adult individuals with platinum-resistant epithelial ovarian, fallopian tube, or primary peritoneal carcinoma whose tumors express PD-L1 (CPS greater than or equal to 1) as determined by an FDA authorized test, and who have received one or two prior systemic treatment regimens (Keytruda, 2026); **OR**

ADULT CLASSICAL HODGKIN LYMPHOMA AND ADULT PRIMARY MEDIASTINAL LARGE B-CELL LYMPHOMA

1. Individual has a diagnosis of adult classical Hodgkin lymphoma and adult primary mediastinal large b-cell lymphoma: Additional Dosing Regimen of 400 mg every 6 Weeks:
 - a. For use at an additional recommended dosage of 400 mg every 6 weeks for Classical Hodgkin Lymphoma and Primary Mediastinal Large B-Cell Lymphoma in adults (Keytruda, 2026); **AND**
2. Pembrolizumab (e.g., Keytruda) will not be used:
 - a. For adult individuals who have received another PD-1 agent (i.e., nivolumab); **OR**

		b. In combination with any other drug except as listed above.			
Trastuzumab (e.g., Herceptin) and Biosimilars and Trastuzumab/Hyaluronidase-oysk (e.g., Herceptin Hylecta)	1998158	Coverage criteria updated for off-label indications. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biliary Tract Cancers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Gallbladder Cancer (NCCN 2A); OR b. Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR c. Extrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR 2. Breast Cancer: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Invasive Breast Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR b. Inflammatory Breast Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR 3. Central Nervous System Cancers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Limited Brain Metastases (NCCN1 and 2A); OR b. Extensive Brain Metastases (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR c. Leptomeningeal Metastases (NCCN 2A); OR 4. Colon Cancer (NCCN 2A); OR 5. Esophageal and Esophagogastric Junction Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR 6. Gastric Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR 7. Head and Neck Cancers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Salivary Gland Tumors (NCCN 2A); OR 8. Rectal Cancer (NCCN 2A); OR 9. Uterine Neoplasms: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Endometrial Carcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR 10. Appendiceal Neoplasms and Cancers (NCCN 2A); OR 11. Gastric Cancer (NCCN 1 and 2A); OR 12. Small Bowel Adenocarcinoma (NCCN 2A) 	No	June 15, 2026	https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=1998158
Zenocutuzumab-zbco (e.g., Bizengri)	2025009	Coverage criteria for off-label indications updated. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biliary Tract Cancers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR 	No	June 15, 2026	https://secure.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=2025009

		<p>b. Extrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma (NCCN 2A); OR</p> <p>2. Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NCCN 2A); OR</p> <p>3. Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma (NCCN 2A).</p>			
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