

# Emgality (galcanezumab)

Override(s)	Approval Duration
Prior Authorization Quantity Limit	Initial request: 3 months Renewal requests: 1 year

Medications	Quantity Limit
Emgality (galcanezumab) 120 mg/ mL prefilled pen, 120 mg/ mL prefilled syringe/autoinjector	1 prefilled pen/syringe/autoinjector per 28 days*
Emgality (galcanezumab) 100 mg/mL prefilled syringe	3 prefilled syringes (1 box of 3 syringes) per 28 days

\*Initiation of therapy for prevention of migraine headaches: May approve one additional 120 mg/mL prefilled pen/syringe/autoinjector in the first month of therapy.

## **APPROVAL CRITERIA**

Initial requests for Emgality (galcanezumab) for the prevention of migraine headaches may be approved when the following criteria are met:

- I. Individual has a diagnosis of one of the following:
  - A. Episodic migraine defined as at least 4 and fewer than 15 migraine days per month and fewer than 15 headache days per month on average during the previous 3 month period; **OR**
  - B. Chronic migraine defined as a headache occurring on 15 or more days per month for more than 3 months, which, on at least 8 days per month, has features of a migraine headache (ICHD-3);

**AND**

- II. Individual is using for migraine prophylaxis ;

**AND**

- III. Individual has had a trial (medication samples/coupons/discount cards are excluded from consideration as a trial) of and inadequate response to a 2 month trial or usual effective dose or intolerance to two agents for migraine prophylaxis\* (at least one agent in any two of the following classes) or has a contraindication to all of the following medications (AAN/AHA 2012/2015, Level A and B evidence; ICSI 2013, high quality evidence, AHS 2021):
  - A. The following antidepressants: amitriptyline, venlafaxine, nortriptyline, duloxetine; **OR**
  - B. One of the following beta blockers: Metoprolol, propranolol, timolol (oral), nadolol, atenolol, nebivolol; **OR**
  - C. The following calcium channel blocker: verapamil; **OR**

- D. One of the following antiepileptic agents: valproate sodium, divalproex sodium, topiramate, gabapentin; **OR**
- E. Botox (for chronic migraine);

\*Agents for migraine prophylaxis – May require Prior Authorization

**AND**

- IV. If individual is also currently using botulinum toxin for prophylaxis and is going to be using Emgality and botulinum toxin together (i.e., not switching from one agent to another), the following must apply:
  - A. Individual has had a reduction in the overall number of migraine days or reduction in number of severe migraine days per month with the initial agent;  
**AND**
  - B. Individual continues to experience a significant number of migraine headache days or severe migraine days per month requiring additional therapy for migraine prevention.

Renewal requests for Emgality (galcanezumab) for the prevention of migraine headaches may be approved when the following criteria are met:

- I. Individual has a reduction in the overall number of migraine days or reduction in number of severe migraine days per month; **AND**
- II. Individual has obtained clinical benefit deemed significant by individual or prescriber including any of the following (AHS 2021):
  - A. 50% reduction in frequency of days with headache or migraine; **OR**
  - B. Significant decrease in attack duration; **OR**
  - C. Significant decrease in attack severity; **OR**
  - D. Improved response to acute treatment; **OR**
  - E. Reduction in migraine-related disability and improvements in functioning in important areas of life; **OR**
  - F. Improvements in health related quality of life and reduction in psychological stress due to migraine;

**AND**

- III. If individual is using concurrently with botulinum toxin for migraine prophylaxis, the following must apply:
  - A. Individual has had further reduction in the overall number of migraine days or reduction in number of severe migraine days per month compared to monotherapy with the initial agent (either botulinum toxin or Emgality).

Requests for Emgality (galcanezumab) for the prevention of migraine headaches may **not** be approved for the following:

- I. Individual is using in combination with another prophylactic CGRP agent (Ajovy, Vyepti, Aimovig, Qulipta, or prophylactic use of Nurtec ODT).

Initial requests for Emgality (galcanezumab) for the treatment of episodic cluster headaches may be approved when the following criteria are met:

- I. Individual has a diagnosis of cluster headaches meeting the following IHS diagnostic criteria (ICHD-3):
  - A. Individual has 5 or more headache attacks; **AND**
  - B. Individual has severe or very severe unilateral orbital, supraorbital and/or temporal pain lasting 15 to 180 minutes if untreated; **AND**
  - C. Individual's headache is accompanied by 1 or both of the following:
    - 1. 1 or more of the following symptoms or signs, ipsilateral to the headache:
      - a. Conjunctival injection and/or lacrimation; **OR**
      - b. Nasal congestion and/or rhinorrhea; **OR**
      - c. Eyelid edema; **OR**
      - d. Forehead and facial sweating; **OR**
      - e. Miosis and/or ptosis; **OR**
    - 2. A sense of restlessness or agitation; **AND**
  - D. Attacks have a frequency from 1 every other day to 8 per day; **AND**
  - E. Individual's headache is not attributed to another headache disorder;

**AND**

- II. Individual's cluster headaches are episodic per the following diagnostic criteria (ICHD-3)
  - A. Individual has cluster headache attacks that occur in bouts (cluster periods); **AND**
  - B. Individual has at least two cluster periods lasting from 7 days to 1 year (when untreated) and separated by pain-free remission periods of greater than or equal to 3 months;

**AND**

- III. Individual has had a trial (medication samples/coupons/discount cards are excluded from consideration as a trial) of and inadequate response or intolerance to one of the following agents for treatment of cluster headaches\* (AHS 2016):
  - A. Sumatriptan (subcutaneous or nasal spray); **OR**
  - B. Zolmitriptan (nasal spray or oral).

\*Agents for cluster headaches – May require Prior Authorization

Renewal requests for Emgality (galcanezumab) for the treatment of episodic cluster headaches may be approved when the following criteria are met:

- I. Individual has a reduction in the overall number of cluster headache periods; **AND**
- II. Individual has obtained clinical benefit deemed significant by individual or prescriber.

**Key References:**

- 1. Clinical Pharmacology [database online]. Tampa, FL: Gold Standard, Inc.: 2022. URL: <http://www.clinicalpharmacology.com>. Updated periodically.

2. DailyMed. Package inserts. U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health website. <http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/about.cfm>. Accessed: April 12, 2022.
3. DrugPoints® System [electronic version]. Truven Health Analytics, Greenwood Village, CO. Updated periodically.
4. Lexi-Comp ONLINE™ with AHFS™, Hudson, Ohio: Lexi-Comp, Inc.; 2022; Updated periodically.
5. Beithon J, Gallenberg M, Johnson K, Kildahl P, Krenik J, Liebow M, Linbo L, Myers C, Peterson S, Schmidt J, Swanson J. Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement. Diagnosis and Treatment of Headache. Available from: [icsi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Headache.pdf](https://www.icsi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Headache.pdf). Updated January 2013.
6. The International Classification of Headache Disorders 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Available from: <https://www.ichd-3.org/>. Accessed April 12, 2022.
7. Loder E, Burch R, Rizzoli P. The 2012 AHS/AAN Guidelines for Prevention of Episodic Migraine: A summary and comparison with other recent clinical practice guidelines. *Headache*. 2018; 52:930-945.
8. Rapoport AM. How to choose a preventative medication for migraine. American Headache Society. Available from: [https://americanheadachesociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Alan\\_Rapoport\\_-\\_Migraine\\_Prevention\\_Medications.pdf](https://americanheadachesociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Alan_Rapoport_-_Migraine_Prevention_Medications.pdf). Accessed April 12, 2022.
9. Silberstein SD, Holland S, Freitag F, Dodick DW, Argoff C, Ashman E. Evidence-based guideline update: Pharmacologic treatment for episodic migraine prevention in adults. Report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology and the American Headache Society. *Neurology*. 2012; 78:1337–1345.
10. [The American Headache Society Consensus statement: Update on integrating new migraine treatments into clinical practice. \*Headache\*. 2021; 61:1021-1039.](#)
11. Stauffer VL, Dodick DW, Zhang Q, et.al. Evaluation of galcanezumab for the prevention of episodic migraine: The EVOLVE-1 randomized clinical trial. *JAMA Neurol*. Epub May 29, 2018. doi: 10.1001/jamaneurol.2018.1212.
12. Skljarevski V, Matharu M, Millen BA et.al. Efficacy and safety of galcanezumab for the prevention of episodic migraine: Results of the EVOLVE-2 phase 3 randomized controlled clinical trial. *Cephalgia*. 2018; 38(8): 1442-1454.
13. Emgality [package insert]. Indianapolis, IN: Eli Lilly and Company; 2018.
14. Tepper S, Ashina M, Reuter U, et.al. Safety and efficacy of erenumab for preventative treatment of chronic migraine: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 2 trial. *Lancet Neurol*. 2017; 16:425-34.
15. Silberstein SD, Dodick DW, Bigal ME, et.al. Fremanezumab for the preventive treatment of chronic migraine. *N Engl J Med*. 2021 Aug 19;385(8):695-706. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2035908. PMID: 34407343. Available at: [https://www.nejm.org/doi/10.1056/NEJMoa2035908?url\\_ver=Z39.88-2003&rft\\_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rft\\_dat=cr\\_pub%20%20pubmed](https://www.nejm.org/doi/10.1056/NEJMoa2035908?url_ver=Z39.88-2003&rft_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rft_dat=cr_pub%20%20pubmed)
16. Detke HC, Goadsby PJ, Wang S, et.al. Galcanezumab in chronic migraine: The randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled REGAIN study. *Neurology*. 2018; 91:e1-e11.
17. Robbins MS, Starling AJ, Pringsheim TM, Becker WJ, Schwedt TJ. Treatment of cluster headache: The American Headache Society evidence-based guidelines. *Headache*. 2016;56:1093-1106.
18. Blumenfeld AM, Frisberg BM, Schim JD, et.al. Real-world evidence for control of chronic migraine patients receiving CGRP monoclonal antibody therapy added to onabotulinumtoxinA: A retrospective chart review. *Pain Ther*. 21 April 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40122-021-00264-x>.
19. Ailani J, Lipton RB, Goadsby PJ, et al; ADVANCE Study Group. Atogepant for the Preventive Treatment of Migraine. *N Engl J Med*. 2021 Aug 19;385(8):695-706. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2035908. PMID: 34407343. Available at: [https://www.nejm.org/doi/10.1056/NEJMoa2035908?url\\_ver=Z39.88-2003&rft\\_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rft\\_dat=cr\\_pub%20%20pubmed](https://www.nejm.org/doi/10.1056/NEJMoa2035908?url_ver=Z39.88-2003&rft_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rft_dat=cr_pub%20%20pubmed)

Federal and state laws or requirements, contract language, and Plan utilization management programs or policies may take precedence over the application of this clinical criteria.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, or otherwise, without permission from the health plan.