

Medical Drug Clinical Criteria

Subject:	Jevtana (cabazitaxel)		
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Overview

This document addresses the use of Jevtana (cabazitaxel). Jevtana is a microtubule inhibitor, which binds to tubulin and promotes its assembly into microtubules. At the same time, cabazitaxel inhibits disassembly of microtubules by stabilizing tubulin.

The FDA approved indications for Jevtana includes use in metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer in combination with prednisone previously treated with a docetaxel-containing treatment regimen.

Jevtana is recommended with a 2A recommendation from NCCN Drugs and Biologics Compendia and the NCCN CPG as useful in certain circumstances in combination with concurrent steroid \pm carboplatin for castration-resistant distant metastatic (M1) disease (for fit patients with aggressive variant prostate cancer (visceral metastases, low prostate-specific antigen and bulky disease, high LDH, high CEA, lytic bone metastases, neuroendocrine prostate cancer histology) or unfavorable genomics (defects in ≥ 2 of the following: PTEN, TP53, and RB1)).

Jevtana has a black box warning for neutropenia and hypersensitivity. Jevtana is contraindicated in patients with neutrophil counts of $\leq 1,500$ cells/mm³. Jevtana is also contraindicated in patients who have a history of severe hypersensitivity reactions to cabazitaxel or to other drugs formulated with polysorbate 80. Jevtana is also contraindicated in patients with severe hepatic impairment (total bilirubin $>3 \times$ ULN).

Definitions and Measures

ECOG or Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group Performance Status: A scale and criteria used by doctors and researchers to assess how an individual's disease is progressing, assess how the disease affects the daily living abilities of the individual, and determine appropriate treatment and prognosis. This scale may also be referred to as the WHO (World Health Organization) or Zubrod score which is based on the following scale:

- 0 = Fully active, able to carry on all pre-disease performance without restriction
- 1 = Restricted in physically strenuous activity but ambulatory and able to carry out work of a light or sedentary nature, for example, light house work, office work
- 2 = Ambulatory and capable of all self-care but unable to carry out any work activities. Up and about more than 50% of waking hours
- 3 = Capable of only limited self-care, confined to bed or chair more than 50% of waking hours
- 4 = Completely disabled. Cannot carry on any self-care. Totally confined to bed or chair
- 5 = Dead

Metastasis: The spread of cancer from one part of the body to another; a metastatic tumor contains cells that are like those in the original (primary) tumor and have spread.

Clinical Criteria

When a drug is being reviewed for coverage under a member's medical benefit plan or is otherwise subject to clinical review (including prior authorization), the following criteria will be used to determine whether the drug meets any applicable medical necessity requirements for the intended/prescribed purpose.

Jevtana (cabazitaxel)

Requests for Jevtana (cabazitaxel) may be approved if the following criteria are met:

- I. Individual has a diagnosis of metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (Label, NCCN 1); **AND**
- II. Individual is using in combination with prednisone; **AND**
- III. Disease has progressed during or after treatment with a docetaxel-containing regimen (or in patients who are not candidates for, or are intolerant of docetaxel) (Label, NCCN 2A); **AND**
- IV. Individual has a current Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status of 0-2;

OR

- V. Individual has a diagnosis of metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (NCCN 2A); **AND**
- VI. Individual is using in combination with carboplatin and concurrent steroid treatment; **AND**
- VII. Individual has a current Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status of 0; **AND**
- VIII. Individual is using for one of the following disease types:
 - A. Small cell/neuroendocrine prostate cancer; **OR**
 - B. Distant metastatic prostate cancer disease; **OR**
 - C. Unfavorable genomics (defects in at least two of the following, PTEN, TP53, and RB1).

Requests for Jevtana (cabazitaxel) may not be approved for the following:

- I. For the treatment of all other solid tumors and uses, including but not limited to appendiceal cancer, bladder cancer, brain tumor, breast cancer, head and neck cancer, lung cancer, melanoma and pancreatic cancer; **OR**
- II. Individual has severe hepatic impairment (total bilirubin >3 X ULN); **OR**
- III. Individual has neutrophil counts of $\leq 1,500/\text{mm}^3$; **OR**
- IV. When the above criteria are not met, and for all other indications.

Coding

The following codes for treatments and procedures applicable to this document are included below for informational purposes. Inclusion or exclusion of a procedure, diagnosis or device code(s) does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement policy. Please refer to the member's contract benefits in effect at the time of service to determine coverage or non-coverage of these services as it applies to an individual member.

HCPCS

J9043	Injection, cabazitaxel, 1 mg [Jevtana]
J9064	Inj, cabazitaxel (Sandoz) , not therapeutically equivalent to J9043, 1 mg

ICD-10 Diagnosis

C61	Malignant neoplasm of prostate
Z19.2	Hormone resistant malignancy status
Z85.46	Personal history of malignant neoplasm of prostate

Document History

Reviewed: 05/16/2025

Document History:

- 05/16/2025 – Annual Review: No Changes. Coding Reviewed: No changes.
- 05/17/2024 – Annual Review: No changes. Wording and formatting. Coding Reviewed: Updated Coding description for HCPCS J9064.
- 05/19/2023 – Annual Review: Update criteria with NCCN 2A recommendation for use with carboplatin in mCRPC. Coding Reviewed: No changes. Effective 10/1/2023 Added HCPCS J9064.
- 05/20/2022 – Annual Review: Update may not be approved criteria. Coding Reviewed: No changes.
- 05/21/2021– Annual Review: Update Jevtana criteria to include contraindications added to the FDA label. Coding Reviewed: No changes.
- 05/15/2020– Annual Review: Update Jevtana criteria to standardize prostate cancer diagnosis language. Coding review: No changes
- 08/16/2019– Annual Review: Update criteria for clarification on use when an individual may be intolerant to or not a candidate for docetaxel. Update may not be approved criteria with contraindications and exclusion criteria from clinical trials. Coding Reviewed: No changes.
- 05/17/2019 – Annual Review: Initial review of Jevtana (cabazitaxel). Minor wording and formatting changes. Coding Reviewed: No changes.

References

1. DailyMed. Package inserts. U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health website. <http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/about.cfm>. Updated periodically
2. DrugPoints® System [electronic version]. Truven Health Analytics, Greenwood Village, CO. Updated periodically.
3. Lexi-Comp ONLINE™ with AHFS™, Hudson, Ohio: Lexi-Comp, Inc.; 2025; Updated periodically.
4. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology™. © 2025 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. For additional information visit the NCCN website: <http://www.nccn.org/index.asp>. Accessed on April 4, 2025.
 - a. Prostate Cancer. V1.2025. Revised December 4, 2024.

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.

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