Oncology Issues



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Reimbursement Hotlines

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Reimbursement Hotlines

Oncology Issues publishes a yearly listing of reimbursement assistance programs for oncology-related services. The following companies have developed programs for physicians, their office staff, and, in some cases, patients.

PHARMACEUTICALS & BIOLOGICALS

ALZA Pharmaceuticals

Ethyol® (amifostine) Reimbursement Assistance Program

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., CST (800) 609-1083

ALZA Pharmaceuticals, in cooperation with U.S. Bioscience, has established the Ethyol® (amifostine)
Reimbursement Assistance Program to provide coverage, coding, and payment information to health care professionals for Ethyol®. Ethyol® is indicated to reduce the cumulative renal toxicity associated with repeated administration of cisplatin in patients with advanced ovarian cancer or non-small cell lung cancer. Program specialists will also provide assistance with claim denials and payer advocacy upon request.

Amgen Inc.

Amgen Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 272-9376.

The Amgen Reimbursement Hotline is a free information resource available to those who use or administer NEU-POGEN® (filgrastim), also known as granulocyte colony stimulating factor. The hotline provides information on reimbursement policies, billing procedures and codes, and claims appeals for medically appropriate uses of NEU-POGEN®. Reimbursement specialists maintain a database of insurer billing information and provide information on NEUPOGEN® reimbursement. The hotline provides information about Amgen's Safety Net® Program, which provides NEUPOGEN® free of charge to sponsors of medically indigent patients who are under-or uninsured and have limited financial resources. The hotline refers indigent patients to appropriate available state or countybased funding.

Berlex Inc.

FLUDARA® (fludarabine phosphate) FOR INJECTION Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., EST (800) 473-5832

FLUDARA® FOR INJECTION is an IV drug indicated for the treatment of B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia. The FLUDARA® FOR INJECTION Reimbursement Hotline assists health care professionals with drug reimbursement information, billing guidelines, and claims assistance. The hotline may be used for troubleshooting claims and is provided free of charge. Berlex also established the FLUDARA® FOR INJECTION Patient Assistance Program to provide FLUDARA® FOR INJECTION to indigent patients.

Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology/Immunology

Reimbursement Assistance Program (RAPTM)

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 872-8718

The service is designed to assist callers from the medical community with reimbursement issues surrounding all Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology and Immunology products. The hotline is staffed by trained reimbursement specialists who will provide information on third-party coverage guidelines, claim requirements of individual third-party payers, limitations of specific policies, drug and procedures coding, and names and addresses of third-party payers. The hotline offers assistance in providing details on claim form submission, identifying reasons for claim rejection, providing guidelines and literature for claim appeals, facilitating prior authorization requests, and contacting insurers when appropriate in the process of claim submission. Use of the RAP hotline is free of charge and there is no limit to the number of times a provider may use the program. The hotline is designed for providers in the United States.

Chiron Therapeutics

Proleukin® Reimbursement Hotline Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., PST

or leave a message after hours at (800) 775-7533.

Proleukin® (aldesleukin for injection), a recombinant interleukin-2 (rIL-2), is approved for metastatic renal cell carcinoma and metastatic melanoma. The Proleukin® Reimbursement Hotline helps to minimize claims-processing delays. Reimbursement specialists provide information about coding, prior authorization procedures, patient coverage status, and reimbursement amounts and limitations. They can also determine the status of and reasons for

denied claims and assist with filing appeals for denied claims.

Cytogen Corporation

Cytogen Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 282-5656

Reimbursement specialists are available to assist physicians and institutions with billing, coding, and reimbursement questions pertaining to public payers and private insurers. OncoScint® CR/OV is a monoclonal antibodybased imaging agent used to detect extrahepatic malignant disease in patients with known colorectal or ovarian cancer. ProstaScint® is a monoclonal antibody-based diagnostic imaging agent for use in newly diagnosed patients with biopsy proven prostate cancer thought to be clinically localized after standard diagnostic evaluation and who are at high risk for pelvic lymph node metastases and post-prostatectomy patients with a rising prostate-specific antigen (PSA) and a negative or equivocal standard metastatic evaluation in whom there is a high clinical suspicion of occult metastatic disease.

Genentech, Inc.

Genentech Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., PST (800) 530-3083

Reimbursement specialists provide information, counseling, and even hands-on assistance for problems with reimbursement for Genentech products: Actimmune® (interferon gamma-1b), Activase® (alteplase, recombinant), Nutropin® (somatropin [rDNA origin] for injection), Protropin® (somatrem for injection), and Pulmozyme® (dornase alfa).

Information regarding Genentech programs, established to provide medically indicated products to patients who are uninsured and have limited financial resources, is also provided.

Single Point of Contact (SPOC)

9 a.m.-8 p.m. EST

(888) 249-4918; Fax (888) 249-4919

Genentech® BioOncology's SPOC provides timely, one-step reimbursement assistance. Oncology nurse case managers will assist callers by: investigating benefits for new patients and those changing insurance or facing open enrollment; assisting with prior authorizations and medical reviews; helping with appeals and coverage denials; searching for alternative coverage for

patients whose payers do not adequately cover Genentech® BioOncology products; answering questions related to product reimbursement; and consulting on coding/billing issues. Financial services include uninsured patient programs and office finance programs provided by an independent organization.

Glaxo Wellcome

Oncology Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 745-2967

The hotline serves clinicians, office staff, and patients and answers questions related to coverage and reimbursement of all Glaxo Wellcome Oncology products. Reimbursement specialists assist with claims submissions, appeals, and prior authorizations for any of the following products: Navelbine® (vinorelbine tartrate), Alkeran® (melphalan), Leukeran® (chlorambucil), Myleran® (busulfan), Purinethol® (mercaptopurine), Tabloid® (thioguanine), and Wellcovorin® (leucovorin calcium).

Patient Assistance Program for Oncology Products

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., EST (800) 722-9294

The Glaxo Wellcome Patient
Assistance Program for Oncology
Products is designed to provide financially disadvantaged individuals rapid access to any Glaxo Wellcome prescription medicine at no cost. Potential candidates are those patients who cannot afford therapy and are uninsured, and who do not qualify for publicly funded medication assistance programs or are in the process of applying for such programs.

Drug Information Services (800) 334-0089

Searches for federal, state, or local reimbursement agencies to help patients with payment. When patients call, a reimbursement specialist will ask about insurance prescription coverage, monthly household income earned or unearned, monthly medical expenses, and disability status. Based on this information, we will determine if patients qualify for federal, state, or local assistance. We will also provide them with the addresses and telephone numbers of these programs so that they can apply.

Zofran® (ondansetron) Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 745-2967

The Zofran® Reimbursement Hotline was established to assist providers with billing for Zofran®, a breakthrough antiemetic for chemotherapy patients. The hotline provides physicians and hospitals with information on coverage, coding, and reimbursement for Zofran ®. Assistance with problem claims is also available.

Hoechst Marion Roussel

ANZEMET® (dolasetron mesylate injection/tablets) Reimbursement & Patient Assistance Programs

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., CST (888) 895-2219

Hoechst Marion Roussel has established the toll-free Anzemet ® Hotline as a resource to providers to access reimbursement and patient assistance information. Program specialists are available to help with coverage status and benefit verification, claim submission and coding guidelines, payment policies, and assistance with any rejected or denied claims. They can also identify alternative sources of coverage and provide applications for the Anzemet ® Patient Assistance Program.

IMMUNEX® Corporation

Immunex Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., EST (800) 321-4669

The Immunex Reimbursement Hotline offers third-party billing information for LEUKINE® (sargramostim), NOVANTRONE®, (mitoxantrone HCL), and THIOPLEX® (thiotepa for injection) and also for LEUCOVORIN CALCIUM and METHOTREXATE SODIUM Parenteral. Reimbursement specialists provide reimbursement assistance to identify informational requirements of individual insurers, to facilitate prior authorization requests, and to assist in appeals of denied claims. The hotline provides one-on-one help with claims filing guidelines, including CPT-4 and HCPCS coding. A dedicated fax machine is available 24 hours at (800) 944-3184. These services are available free of charge to health care professionals.

Lilly Oncology

Gemzar ® (gemcitabine HCL) Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. CST 888-4-GEMZAR (888-443-6927)

The Reimbursement Hotline is a service provided free of charge by Eli Lilly and Company and the Eli Lilly and Company Foundation. Program reimbursement specialists are available to provide insurer coverage guidelines, offer coding information and claims requirements, clarify insurer payment methodologies, assist with prior authorization and claims denials, and supply medical literature and information to support claims. Information for the Patient Assistance Program, designed to provide access to Gemzar therapy for financially disadvantaged patients, is also available.

MGI PHARMA, INC.

Salagen® Tablets/Dry Mouth Information Helpline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 644-4811

The Salagen® Tablets (pilocarpine hydrochloride)/Dry Mouth Information Helpline meets the needs of health care providers and their patients with dry mouth caused by Sjogren's syndrome or radiation to the head and neck. Registered pharmacists are available to provide educational materials and services to help manage problems associated with dry mouth. The helpline also provides product information on the use of Salagen Tablets.

Nexstar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

DaunoXome® Reimbursement Hotline Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 226-2056

The DaunoXome Reimbursement Hotline is an information service staffed by representatives trained to answer questions concerning coverage and reimbursement for DaunoXome. The DaunoXome Patient Assistance Program is designed to provide DaunoXome to patients who: do not have health insurance, do not qualify for government assistance programs, are unable to pay for the drug themselves, and meet the program's medical and financial criteria. The program offers a range of reimbursement services including: contacting insurance companies to determine a patient's benefits for DaunoXome; information about insurers' coverage policies; educating thirdparty payers about DaunoXome; prior authorization procedures and other ways to expedite reimbursement; information on billing codes and claims submission for DaunoXome; help in resolving denied claims for DaunoXome and assisting with appeals; screening and enrollment for eligible patients in the DaunoXome Patient Assistance Program. Providers may contact hotline reimbursement specialists for details.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp. AREDIA Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 282-7630.

AREDIA (pamidronate disodium for injection) is indicated for moderate or severe hypercalcemia of malignancy, Paget's disease, osteolytic bone metastases of breast cancer in conjunction with appropriate antineoplastic therapy and osteolytic lesions of multiple myeloma in conjunction with appropriate antineoplastic therapy. The AREDIA Reimbursement Hotline has been created to inform patients and healthcare professionals about individual insurance coverage for AREDIA and to facilitate the claim process for all

concerned. The hotline is staffed by reimbursement specialists who will provide expert assistance in submitting claims and in resolving reimbursement issues. This service is free of charge.

FEMARA Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (888) 508-8087

FEMARA (letrozole tablets) is indicated for treatment of advanced breast cancer in postmenopausal women with disease progression following antiestrogen therapy. The FEMARA Reimbursement Support Line is a free information resouce available to patients, health care professionals, and anyone who has questions about insurance coverage or payment for FEMARA tablets.

SANDOSTATIN Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 772-7556.

SANDOSTATIN (octreotide acetate) is indicated for the symptomatic treatment of patients with metastatic carcinoid tumor where it suppresses or inhibits the severe diarrhea and flushing episodes associated with the disease. It is also indicated for the treatment of the profuse watery diarrhea associated with VIP-secreting tumors and to reduce the blood levels of growth hormone and IGF-I in acromegaly patients who have had inadequate response to or cannot be treated with surgical resection, pituitary irradiation, and bromocriptine mesylate at maximally tolerated doses. The SAN-DOSTATIN Reimbursement Hotline can provide specific information about SANDOSTATIN coverage criteria, insurer codes, reimbursement levels, and strategies to appeal denied claims for each indication. In addition, SAN-DOSTATIN billing and reimbursement guides are available from the hotline. The hotline provides the required prescreening and referral to indigent programs if appropriate.

Nycomed/Amersham Healthcare Metastron® Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 204-5678

Medi-Physics, Inc., a division of Amersham Healthcare, has established a reimbursement hotline to assist health care providers and their patients with information on coverage and reimbursement of Metastron® by third-party payers. Hotline representatives help patients with claims processing questions and give information on insurer coverage and reimbursement policies, reimbursement amounts and limitations, status of submitted claims, how to appeal denied claims, and prior

authorization requirements that may apply.

OMNI SM Reimbursement Information Program

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., EST (800) 767-6664

The OMNISM Reimbursement Information Program ensures maximum reimbursement for Omnipaque® (iohexol), OmniscanTM (gadodiamide), and Visipaque® (iodixanol) injection, and associated products and procedures. Callers may obtain coverage, coding, and reimbursement information by calling (800) 767-6664.

Ortho Biotech Inc.

Comprehensive Reimbursement, Customer Service, and Clinical Support PROCRITline™ *

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., EST (800) 553-3851

The hotline provides third-party billing information to facilitate reimbursement for PROCRIT® (Epoetin alfa) and LEUSTATIN® (cladribine) injection. One toll-free number streamlines access to all reimbursement services.

Patient Services. The hotline connects qualified patients to reimbursement options; may provide free PROCRIT® or LEUSTATIN® to patients, based on financial need; may help reduce patients' expense for PROCRIT® or LEUSTATIN®; enables patients who qualify for financial support to fill PROCRIT® or LEUSTATIN® prescriptions at local pharmacies; gives patients the option to enroll themselves in the patient assistance program.

Provider Services. The hotline offers comprehensive billing assistance for PROCRIT® or LEUSTATIN®; answers coding and billing questions; verifies insurance coverage; provides advocacy and adjudication throughout the claims process; and provides insurance guidelines for private, federal, and state programs and plans for PROCRIT® or LEUSTATIN®.

Comprehensive Medical/ Technical Support

Ortho Biotech Customer Service or Clinical Affairs provides customer and medical/scientific information. (800) 325-7504

*Program available to medical professionals and their nondialysis patients.
Ortho Biotech Inc. reserves the right to modify or discontinue the program at any time.

Pharmacia & Upjohn Company

Pharmacia & Upjohn Oncology Reimbursement Assistance Program

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 808-9111; FAX (703) 706-5925

Reimbursement assistance is available for all of Pharmacia & Upjohn's oncology products, which include Camptosar M (irinotecan HCI injection), Emcyt® (estramustine phosphate sodium), Zinecard® (dexrazoxane for injection), and many other products.

Trained analysts answer reimbursement and billing questions free of charge for patients, physicians, and physicians' office staff. Services include assisting with insurance coding, facilitating preauthorization, follow-up with billing questions, appeals for denied claims, and determining patient qualification for available state or federal assistance programs for uninsured patients.

Rhône-Poulenc Rorer Oncology's PACT HOTLINE

Providing Access to Chemotherapy Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m., EST (800) 996-6626; FAX (800) 996-6627

The reimbursement hotline is available at no cost to health care professionals, patients and family members, and payers. All callers receive personalized assistance from reimbursement specialists, specially trained to address coverage and reimbursement issues for RPR oncology products, including Taxotere® (docetaxel), Oncaspar® (pegaspargase), and GLIADEL (polifeprosan 20 with carmustine implant).

Roche Laboratories

Oncolin

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 443-6676

Reimbursement support program, biomedical literature searches, and access to databases of the National Cancer Institute.

Cost Assistance Program

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 443-6676

The Cost Assistance Program (CAP) reimburses patient and third-party payer costs for purchase or reimbursement of Roferon®-A (interferon alpha-2a) over an annual total amount of 983 million units. Eligible parties must provide accurate records and documentation of expenditures.

Schering Sales Corporation Schering's Commitment to CareSM Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., EST (800) 521-7157

Reimbursement Service

Reimbursement search and financial assistance program for Intron® A (interferon alfa 2b, recombinant) for injection, Eulexin® capsules and Fareston®. Reimbursement specialists assist patients and health care professionals to access more reimbursement options, provide educational materials,

and enroll uninsured patients into drug assistance programs based on financial status. Additional services include coverage verification/preauthorizations, answers to billing and coding questions, and assistance with appeals for claim denials.

Drug Information Service Schering's Drug Information Service, a central, computerized service available free of charge to health professionals, provides medical information about interferons and flutamide. This specialized service collects data from international and national sources, including published literature, symposia, meeting abstracts, scientific reviews, editorials, and protocols, and compiles that information into a customized report for health care professionals. The service provides access to literature searches, information on indicated uses for drugs, and information about new medical uses of biologic therapy.

Sequus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

SEQUUS (DOXIL®) Reimbursement Programs

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. CST (800) 375-1658

The Reimbursement Assistance Program offers health care professionals reimbursement information for DOXIL® (doxorubicin HCI liposome injection). DOXIL is indicated for the treatment of AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma in patients with disease that has progressed on prior combination chemotherapy or in patients who are intolerant to such therapy. Program representatives provide coverage verification, billing guidelines, coding references, payment methodologies, and assistance in resolving claim denials.

SmithKline Beecham Oncology Reimbursement HELPline

Monday-Friday, 6 a.m.-5 p.m., PST; 9 a.m.-8 p.m., EST (800) 699-3806

The SmithKline Beecham Oncology Reimbursement HELPline has been established for Hycamtin® and Kytril® products. The HELPline provides third-party payer information. Reimbursement specialists assist callers with SmithKline Beecham Oncology Product information related to reimbursement questions, coverage status, specific coding, payer billing requirements, and payment policies. The HELPline also assists with prior authorization/precertification of claims. The SmithKline Beecham Oncology Reimbursement HELPline also manages the Access to Care™ program for Hycamtin® and Kytril®. The program ensures that these products are made available to all persons who meet

specific medical criteria and lack the financial resources and third-party insurance necessary to obtain treatment.

TAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., CST (800) 453-8438

A reimbursement information line for Lupron Depot is available to both health care professionals and patients. Designed to speed Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, the hotline provides information on CPT codes, national and local carrier HCPCS codes, payment policies, proper filing of insurance claims, and assistance with reimbursement problems.

U.S. Bioscience

Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., CST (800) 887-2467

HEXALEN® (altretamine) is an oral antineoplastic agent that is indicated for use as a single agent in the treatment of patients with recurrent or persistent ovarian cancer following first-line therapy with a cisplatin and/or alkylating agent-based combination. NEUTREXIN® (trimetrexate glucuronate for injection) with concurrent leucovorin administration (leucovorin protection) is indicated as an alternative therapy for the treatment of moderate-to-severe Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP) in immunocompromised patients who are intolerant of, or are refractory to, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole therapy or for whom trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole is contraindicated.

The U.S. BIOSCIENCE Reimbursement Hotline is a toll-free service that provides assistance to health care providers with coding and coverage verification, claim submissions, and appeals for HEXALEN® and NEUTREXIN®. In addition, U.S. Bioscience, in cooperation with ALZA Pharmaceuticals, offers the ETHYOL® (amifostine) Reimbursement Assistance Program which can be accessed by calling (800) 609-1083.

Zeneca Pharmaceuticals

ZOLADEX® Reimbursement Hotline

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., EST (800) 400-4140, Option 1, Option 3

This hotline provides coverage and reimbursement assistance for ZOLADEX 3.6 mg (goserelin acetate implant) and ZOLADEX 10.8 mg. Reimbursement specialists assist callers with coverage and reimbursement issues relating to Medicare, Medicaid, private third-party payers, and managed care organizations. Callers may obtain coding recommendations (HCPCS, CPT, ICD-9), assistance with denied or under-reimbursed claims, general coverage and

reimbursement information, and package inserts for both products.

Casodex Support Program

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., EST (800) 400-4140, Option 2, Option 1

The Casodex® Support Program offers an alternative resource listing for patients searching for assistance for Casodex (bicalutamide) and other health care-related services. In addition to a national listing, callers will be sent an alternative resource listing for the state in which they reside. Hotline staff are also available to verify insurance benefits, assist with denied or under-reimbursed pharmacy claims, and provide general coverage and reimbursement information related to Casodex.

INFUSION PUMPS

McKinley Medical LLP

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., MT (800) 578-0555

Please contact McKinley Customer Support with any issues or inquiries pertaining to McKinley Medical, LLP products, including WalkMed® ambulatory infusion pumps, the Outbound® disposable syringe infuser, and associated disposables.

Medtronic, Inc.

Comprehensive Reimbursement Assistance

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., CST (800) 328-0810

Full-service reimbursement assistance is provided, such as prior-authorization assistance to physicians related to Medtronic implantable therapies and CPT coding/billing assistance. Other services include support with challenging claim denials; liaison with insurers regarding reimbursement issues; on-site education and cost effectiveness; and materials and seminars to case managers, CFOs, and third-party payers. Service is available to health care professionals and patients.