

5.01.072

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<b>Section:</b>	Prescription Drugs	<b>Effective Date:</b>	July 1, 2024
<b>Subsection:</b>	Anti-Infective Agents	<b>Original Policy Date:</b>	December 24, 2021
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**Last Review Date:** June 13, 2024

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## Brexafemme

### Description

#### Brexafemme (ibrexafungerp)

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#### Background

Brexafemme (ibrexafungerp) is a triterpenoid antifungal drug indicated for the treatment of vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC) or the reduction in the incidence of recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis (RVVC). VVC is a common condition characterized by vulvovaginal inflammation in the presence of yeast (primarily *Candida* species). Brexafemme targets glucan synthase, an essential enzyme responsible for the formation of the fungal cell wall and exhibits fungicidal activity (1).

#### Regulatory Status

FDA-approved indications: Brexafemme is a triterpenoid antifungal indicated in adult and post-menarchal pediatric females for: (1)

- Treatment of vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC).
- Reduction in the incidence of recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis (RVVC).

Brexafemme contains a boxed warning for the risk of embryo-fetal toxicity. Brexafemme is contraindicated in pregnant females. For females of reproductive potential, it should be verified that the patient is not pregnant prior to initiating Brexafemme treatment. Pregnancy status should be reassessed prior to each dose when Brexafemme is used monthly for 6 months for reduction in the incidence of RVVC. Females of reproductive potential should be advised to use effective contraception during treatment with Brexafemme and for 4 days after the last dose (1).

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The most common adverse events of Brexafemme include diarrhea, nausea, abdominal pain, dizziness, and vomiting (1).

The safety and effectiveness of Brexafemme in pre-menarchal pediatric patients have not been established (1).

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## Related policies

### Policy

*This policy statement applies to clinical review performed for pre-service (Prior Approval, Precertification, Advanced Benefit Determination, etc.) and/or post-service claims.*

Brexafemme may be considered **medically necessary** if the conditions indicated below are met.

Brexafemme may be considered **investigational** for all other indications.

## Prior-Approval Requirements

***Patients who have filled at least a 1-day supply of fluconazole in the last 30 days are exempt from these Prior Authorization (PA) requirements.***

**Age** 18 years of age or older **OR** post onset of menses

### Diagnoses

Patient must have **ONE** of the following:

1. Vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC)
2. Recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis (RVVC)
  - a. Used to reduce the incidence of RVVC

**AND ALL** of the following:

1. Inadequate treatment response, intolerance, or contraindication to fluconazole
2. **NOT** being used in a footbath

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3. Females of reproductive potential **only**: patient will be advised to use effective contraception during treatment with Brexafemme and for 4 days after the last dose

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## Prior-Approval *Renewal* Requirements

*Each prior authorization (PA) request for Vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC) is considered initiation of therapy due to the acute nature of the infection*

**Age** 18 years of age or older **OR** post onset of menses

### Diagnosis

Patient must have the following:

1. Recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis (RVVC)
  - a. Used to reduce the incidence of RVVC

**AND ALL** of the following:

1. Prescriber has determined that the patient will benefit from an additional 6 months of therapy for prevention of RVVC
2. **NOT** being used in a footbath
3. Females of reproductive potential **only**: patient will be advised to use effective contraception during treatment with Brexafemme and for 4 days after the last dose

### Policy Guidelines

***Patients who have filled at least a 1-day supply of fluconazole in the last 30 days are exempt from these Prior Authorization (PA) requirements.***

### Pre-PA Allowance

None

### Prior-Approval Limits

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Indication	Quantity	Duration
Vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC)	4 tablets	7 days
Recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis (RVVC)	12 tablets per 90 days	6 months

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## Prior-Approval *Renewal* Limits

*Each prior authorization (PA) request for Vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC) is considered initiation of therapy due to the acute nature of the infection*

Indication	Quantity	Duration
Recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis (RVVC)	12 tablets per 90 days	6 months ( <b>ONE</b> renewal only)

## Rationale

### Summary

Brexafemme (ibrexafungerp) is an antifungal medication indicated for the treatment of vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC) or the reduction in the incidence of recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis (RVVC). VVC is a common fungal infection that results in irritation, burning, redness and excoriation in the presence of yeast. Brexafemme is fungicidal via inhibition of an enzyme, glucan synthase, which is essential to fungal cell wall synthesis. The safety and effectiveness of Brexafemme in pre-menarchal pediatric patients have not been established (1).

Prior approval is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate, and cost-effective use of Brexafemme while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

### References

1. Brexafemme [package insert]. Jersey City, NJ: Scynexis, Inc.; November 2022.

## Policy History

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Date	Action
December 2021	Addition to PA
March 2022	Annual review
December 2022	Annual review and reference update. Changed policy number to 5.01.072. Per PI update, added indication of recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis and added contraception requirement
March 2023	Annual review
June 2023	Annual review
March 2024	Annual review
June 2024	Annual review

## Keywords

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**This policy was approved by the FEP® Pharmacy and Medical Policy Committee on June 13, 2024 and is effective on July 1, 2024.**