

Clinical Policy: Risperidone Long-Acting Injection (Perseris, Risperdal Consta, Rykindo, Uzedy)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.293

Effective Date: 12.01.16

Last Review Date: 08.25

Line of Business: Commercial, HIM, Medicaid

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

Risperidone (Perseris[®], Risperdal Consta[®], Rykindo[®], Uzedy[®]) is an atypical antipsychotic.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Risperdal Consta, Rykindo, and Uzedy are indicated:

- For the treatment of schizophrenia. Rykindo and Uzedy are specifically indicated in adults.
- For the maintenance treatment of bipolar I disorder as monotherapy or as adjunctive therapy to lithium or valproate. Rykindo and Uzedy are specifically indicated in adults.

Perseris is indicated for the treatment of schizophrenia in adults.

Policy/Criteria

Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results, or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation[®] that Perseris, Risperdal Consta, Rykindo, and Uzedy are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Schizophrenia (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of schizophrenia;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a psychiatrist;
3. Age $\geq$ 18 years;
4. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. History of non-adherence to oral antipsychotic therapy (*see Appendix D for examples*) and has established tolerability to oral risperidone;
 - b. Therapy was initiated in an inpatient setting during a recent (within 60 days) hospital admission;
5. If request is for brand Risperdal Consta, member must use generic risperidone long-acting injection, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
6. Dose does not exceed any of the following (a, b, or c):
 - a. Perseris: 120 mg every month;
 - b. Risperdal Consta or Rykindo: 50 mg every 2 weeks;

- c. Uzedy (i or ii):
 - i. 125 mg every month;
 - ii. 250 mg every 2 months.

Approval duration:

Medicaid/HIM – 6 months

Commercial – 6 months or to the member's renewal date, whichever is longer

B. Bipolar Disorder (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of bipolar disorder;
2. Request is for Risperdal Consta, Rykindo, or Uzedy;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a psychiatrist;
4. Age $\geq$ 18 years;
5. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. History of non-adherence to oral antipsychotic therapy (*see Appendix D for examples*) and has established tolerability to oral risperidone;
 - b. Therapy was initiated in an inpatient setting during a recent (within 60 days) hospital admission;
6. If request is for brand Risperdal Consta, member must use generic risperidone long-acting injection, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
7. Dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Risperdal Consta or Rykindo: 50 mg every 2 weeks;
 - b. Uzedy: 100 mg every month.

Approval duration:

Medicaid/HIM – 6 months

Commercial – 6 months or to the member's renewal date, whichever is longer

C. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
 - a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
 - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit, or documentation supports one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Member is currently receiving Perseris, Risperdal Consta, Rykindo, or Uzedy for schizophrenia or bipolar disorder and has received this medication for at least 30 days;
 - b. Therapy was initiated in an inpatient setting, for a covered indication, during a recent (within 60 days) hospital admission;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for brand Risperdal Consta, member must use generic risperidone long-acting injection, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed any of the following (a, b, or c):
 - a. Perseris: 120 mg every month;
 - b. Risperdal Consta or Rykindo: 50 mg every 2 weeks;
 - c. Uzedy (i or ii):
 - i. For schizophrenia, one of the following (1 or 2):
 - 1) 125 mg every month;
 - 2) 250 mg every 2 months;
 - ii. For bipolar disorder: 100 mg every month.

Approval duration:

Medicaid/HIM – 12 months

Commercial – 6 months or to the member's renewal date, whichever is longer

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
 - a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.33 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
 - b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.190 for commercial, HIM.PA.103 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:

- A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off label use policies – CP.CPA.09 for commercial, HIM.PA.154 for health insurance marketplace, and CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid, or evidence of coverage documents;
- B. Dementia-related psychosis.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
risperidone (Risperdal [®])	Schizophrenia Adults: initially, 2 mg/day PO (as a single dose) or 1 mg PO BID; adjust as tolerated to the recommended target dose of 4 to 8 mg/day Effective dose range: 4 to 16 mg/day Bipolar Disorder Adults: initially, 2-3 mg PO QD Effective dose range: 1 to 6 mg/day	Schizophrenia: 16 mg/day Bipolar disorder: 6 mg/day

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name[®] (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name[®]) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.

Appendix C: Contraindications / Boxed warnings

- Contraindication(s): hypersensitivity to risperidone, paliperidone, or to any excipients
- Boxed warning(s): increased mortality in elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis

Appendix D: Examples of Oral Antipsychotics – Generic (Brand)

Typical/First Generation Antipsychotics†	Atypical/Second Generation Antipsychotics
Chlorpromazine (Thorazine [®]) Fluphenazine (Prolixin [®]) Haloperidol (Haldol [®]) Loxapine (Loxitane [®]) Perphenazine (Trilafon [®]) Pimozide (Orap [®]) Thioridazine (Mellaril [®]) Thiothixene (Navane [®]) Trifluoperazine (Stelazine [®])	Aripiprazole (Abilify [®])* Asenapine maleate (Saphris [®]) Brexpiprazole (Rexulti [®]) Cariprazine (Vraylar [®]) Clozapine (Clozaril [®]) Iloperidone (Fanapt [®]) Lumateperone (Caplyta [®]) Lurasidone (Latuda [®]) Olanzapine (Zyprexa [®])*

Typical/First Generation Antipsychotics†	Atypical/Second Generation Antipsychotics
	Olanzapine/Fluoxetine (Symbyax [®]) Paliperidone (Invega [®])* Quetiapine (Seroquel [®]) Risperidone (Risperdal [®])* Ziprasidone (Geodon [®])

†Most typical/first generation antipsychotics are available only as generics in the U.S.

*Long-acting injectable formulation available

V. Dosage and Administration

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Risperidone (Risperdal Consta, Rykindo)	Bipolar disorder, Schizophrenia	25 mg IM every 2 weeks. Some patients not responding to 25 mg may benefit from a higher dose of 37.5 mg or 50 mg	50 mg/2 weeks
Risperidone (Perseris)	Schizophrenia	90 mg or 120 mg SC once monthly	120 mg/month
Risperidone (Uzedy)	Schizophrenia	Uzedy SC once monthly (50 mg, 75 mg, 100 mg, or 125 mg) or once every 2 months (100 mg, 150 mg, 200 mg, or 250 mg) starting the day after the last dose of oral therapy. See Prescribing Information for dosage recommendations for switching from oral risperidone to Uzedy. Neither a loading dose nor supplemental oral risperidone doses are recommended when switching. Patients can switch between doses of Uzedy once monthly and once every 2 months by administering the first dose of the new dosing regimen on the next scheduled date of administration in the original dosing regimen	125 mg/month or 250 mg/2 months
	Bipolar disorder	Uzedy SC once monthly (50 mg, 75 mg, or 100 mg). See Prescribing Information for dosage recommendations for switching to Uzedy from daily	100 mg/month

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
		oral risperidone or from another risperidone long acting intramuscular injectable given once every 2 weeks. Neither a loading dose nor supplemental oral risperidone doses are recommended when initiating Uzedy. Uzedy once every 2 months injection is not recommended for the maintenance treatment of bipolar I disorder	

VI. Product Availability

Drug Name	Availability
Risperidone (Risperdal Consta)	Vial kits: 12.5 mg, 25 mg, 37.5 mg, 50 mg
Risperidone (Perseris)	Extended-release injectable suspension: 90 mg, 120 mg
Risperidone (Rykindo)	Extended-release injectable suspension: 12.5 mg, 25 mg, 37.5 mg, 50 mg
Risperidone (Uzedy)	Extended-release injectable suspension (single-dose prefilled syringes): 50 mg/0.14 mL, 75 mg/0.21 mL, 100 mg/0.28 mL, 125 mg/0.35 mL, 150 mg/0.42 mL, 200 mg/0.56 mL, 250 mg/0.7 mL

VII. References

1. Risperdal Consta Prescribing Information. Titusville, NJ: Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; January 2025. Available at: https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2025/021346s0651bl.pdf. Accessed April 11, 2025.
2. Perseris Prescribing Information. North Chesterfield, VA: Indivior, Inc.; January 2025. Available at: <https://www.perserishcp.com/prescribing-information.pdf>. Accessed April 11, 2025.
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11. ClinicalTrials.gov. Study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of risperidone in situ microparticle (ISM)[®] in patients with acute schizophrenia (PRISMA-3). Available at: <https://classic.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03160521>. Accessed April 22, 2025.

Coding Implications

Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

HCPCS Codes	Description
J2794	Injection, risperidone (risperdal consta), 0.5 mg
J2798	Injection, risperidone, (perseris), 0.5 mg
J2799	Injection, risperidone (uzedy), 1 mg
J2801	Injection, risperidone (rykindo), 0.5 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
3Q 2021 annual review: no significant changes; added HCPCS codes; updated reference for HIM off-label use to HIM.PA.154 (replaces HIM.PHAR.21); references reviewed and updated.	03.22.21	08.21
3Q 2022 annual review: no significant changes; references reviewed and updated.	05.12.22	08.22
Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications and continued therapy section.	09.20.22	
RT4: added newly approved dosage form Rykindo to policy.	02.14.23	
3Q 2023 annual review: separated bipolar disorder criteria; references reviewed and updated.	04.11.23	08.23

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
RT4: added newly approved dosage form Uzedy to policy.		
Added HCPCS code [J2799]	10.26.23	
Added HCPCS code [J2801]	02.20.24	
RT4: added newly approved dosage form Risvan to criteria.	04.15.24	
3Q 2024 annual review: added generic redirection to brand Risperdal Consta requests; revised approval duration for Commercial line of business to 6 months or to the member's renewal date, whichever is longer; added HCPCS code [J3590, C9399] for Risvan; references reviewed and updated.	05.08.24	08.24
3Q 2025 annual review: removed Risvan from criteria due to product discontinuation; references reviewed and updated.	04.11.25	08.25
RT4: added new indication of bipolar 1 disorder for Uzedy.	10.14.25	

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. "Health Plan" means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan's affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions, and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment, or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

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Note:

For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

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