

Resolution

of the Federal Joint Committee on an Amendment of the
Pharmaceuticals Directive:

Annex XII – Benefit Assessment of Medicinal Products with
New Active Ingredients according to Section 35a (SGB V) and
Annex XIIa – Combinations of Medicinal Products with New
Active Ingredients according to Section 35a SGB V
Cannabidiol (reassessment of an orphan drug after exceeding
the EUR 30 million turnover limit: Lennox-Gastaut syndrome,
≥ 2 years, combination with clobazam)

of 16 May 2024

At its session on 16 May 2024, the Federal Joint Committee (G-BA) resolved to amend the
Pharmaceuticals Directive (AM-RL) in the version dated 18 December 2008 / 22 January 2009
(Federal Gazette, BAnz. No. 49a of 31 March 2009), as last amended by the publication of the
resolution of D Month YYYY (Federal Gazette, BAnz AT DD.MM.YYYY BX), as follows:

I. Annex XII is amended as follows:

The information on Cannabidiol (Lennox-Gastaut syndrome, ≥ 2 years, combination with clobazam) in the version of the resolutions of 15 April 2021 (BAnz AT 18.05.2021 B1) and of 5 October 2023 (BAnz AT 22.01.2024 B) is adopted as follows and added after No. 5 to the information on the benefit assessment of cannabidiol in the version of the resolution of 16 May 2024 on the therapeutic indication "Dravet syndrome, ≥ 2 years, combination with clobazam":

Cannabidiol

Resolution of: 16 May 2024

Entry into force on: 16 May 2024

Federal Gazette, BAnz AT DD. MM YYYY Bx

Therapeutic indication (according to the marketing authorisation of 19 September 2019):

Epidyolex is indicated for use as adjunctive therapy of seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome (LGS) or Dravet syndrome (DS), in conjunction with clobazam, for patients 2 years of age and older.

Therapeutic indication of the resolution (resolution of 16 May 2024):

Epidyolex is indicated for use as adjunctive therapy of seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome (LGS), in conjunction with clobazam, for patients 2 years of age and older.

1. Additional benefit of the medicinal product in relation to the appropriate comparator therapy

Patients 2 years of age and older with seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome

Appropriate comparator therapy for cannabidiol in combination with clobazam as adjunctive therapy:

- Patient-individual therapy, taking into account the types of seizures occurring, the basic and previous therapy/ therapies and any associated side effects, with selection of
Brivaracetam, bromide, carbamazepine, cenobamate, clobazam, clonazepam, eslicarbazepine, ethosuximide, felbamate, fenfluramine, gabapentin, lacosamide, lamotrigine, levetiracetam, mesuximide, oxcarbazepine, perampanel, phenobarbital, phenytoin, pregabalin, primidone, rufinamide, topiramate, valproic acid, vigabatrin, zonisamide

Extent and probability of the additional benefit of cannabidiol in combination with clobazam compared to the appropriate comparator therapy:

An additional benefit is not proven.

Study results according to endpoints:

Patients 2 years of age and older with seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome

There are no assessable data.

Summary of results for relevant clinical endpoints

Endpoint category	Direction of effect/ risk of bias	Summary
Mortality	n.a.	There are no assessable data.
Morbidity	n.a.	There are no assessable data.
Health-related quality of life	n.a.	There are no assessable data.
Side effects	n.a.	There are no assessable data.
Explanations: ↑: statistically significant and relevant positive effect with low/unclear reliability of data ↓: statistically significant and relevant negative effect with low/unclear reliability of data ↑↑: statistically significant and relevant positive effect with high reliability of data ↓↓: statistically significant and relevant negative effect with high reliability of data ↔: no statistically significant or relevant difference ∅: No data available. n.a.: not assessable		

2. Number of patients or demarcation of patient groups eligible for treatment

Patients 2 years of age and older with seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome

approx. 1,700 – 22,700 patients

3. Requirements for a quality-assured application

The requirements in the product information are to be taken into account. The European Medicines Agency (EMA) provides the contents of the product information (summary of product characteristics, SmPC) for Epidyolex (active ingredient: cannabidiol) at the following publicly accessible link (last access: 15 April 2024):

https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/product-information/epidyolex-epar-product-information_en.pdf

Treatment with cannabidiol should only be initiated and monitored by doctors experienced in treating patients with epilepsy.

A combination of cannabidiol with other anti-epileptic medicines can lead to pharmacokinetic interactions that can lead to an increase in adverse drug reactions. The patient should be closely monitored for adverse drug reactions. If somnolence or sedation occurs in combination with clobazam, a reduction in the clobazam dosage should be considered.

4. Treatment costs

Annual treatment costs:

Patients 2 years of age and older with seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome

Designation of the therapy	Annual treatment costs/ patient
Medicinal product to be assessed:	
Cannabidiol	€ 6,563.98 - € 68,265.37
Clobazam	€ 940.32 - € 1,005.65
Total	€ 7,504.29 - € 69,271.01
Appropriate comparator therapy:	
Brivaracetam	€ 161.77 - € 1,082.66
Carbamazepine	€ 38.07 - € 266.89 ¹
Cenobamate	€ 1,385.57 - € 2,771.13
Clobazam	€ 940.32 - € 1,005.65
Clonazepam	€ 165.26 - € 1,057.77
Eslicarbazepine	€ 616.94 - € 1,965.36
Ethosuximide	€ 184.53 - € 661.93
Felbamate	€ 2,327.88 - € 9,235.61
Fenfluramine	€ 7,696.55 - € 34,722.21
Additionally required SHI services	€ 36.64
Gabapentin	€ 230.83 - € 993.38
Potassium bromide	€ 3,723.85 - € 16,757.33
Lacosamide	€ 245.81 - € 472.91 ²
Lamotrigine	€ 138.55 - € 344.80 ³
Levetiracetam	€ 308.30 - € 353.83
Mesuximide	€ 225.50 - € 1,259.10
Oxcarbazepine	€ 428.50 - € 978.20
Perampanel	€ 338.46 - € 1,240.48 ⁴

¹ The lowest annual treatment costs result for the minimum maintenance dose in solid dosage form in 2-year-olds. The highest annual treatment costs result for the minimum maintenance dose in liquid dosage form in 2-year-olds. The annual treatment costs of € 184.29 for the maximum maintenance dose in adults are within the range.

² The lowest annual treatment costs result for the maximum maintenance dose in adults. The highest annual treatment costs result for the minimum maintenance dose in solid dosage form in 2-year-olds.

³ The lowest annual treatment costs result for the minimum maintenance dose in solid dosage form in 2-year-olds. The highest annual treatment costs result for the minimum maintenance dose in liquid dosage form in 2-year-olds. The annual treatment costs of € 262.65 for the maximum maintenance dose in adults are within the range.

⁴ The lowest annual treatment costs result for the minimum maintenance dose in liquid dosage form in 4-year-olds. The highest annual treatment costs result for the minimum maintenance dose in solid dosage form in 4-year-olds. The annual treatment costs of 1,228.49 for the maximum maintenance dose in adults are within the range.

Designation of the therapy	Annual treatment costs/ patient
Phenobarbital	€ 332.88 - € 475.01
Phenytoin	Not calculable
Pregabalin	€ 218.05 - € 470.19
Primidone	€ 55.59 - € 333.54
Rufinamide	€ 1,178.95 - € 8,483.33
Topiramate	€ 244.79 - € 896.22
Valproic acid	€ 73.62 - € 301.93
Vigabatrin	€ 408.45 - € 2,450.72
Additionally required SHI services	Not calculable
Zonisamide	€ 954.03 - € 1,721.59

Costs after deduction of statutory rebates (LAUER-TAXE®) as last revised: 15 April 2024

5. Designation of medicinal products with new active ingredients according to Section 35a, paragraph 3, sentence 4 SGB V that can be used in a combination therapy with the assessed medicinal product

In the context of the designation of medicinal products with new active ingredients pursuant to Section 35a, paragraph 3, sentence 4 SGB V, the following findings are made:

Patients 2 years of age and older with seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome

The following medicinal products with new active ingredients that can be used in a combination therapy with cannabidiol in the therapeutic indication of the resolution on the basis of the marketing authorisation under Medicinal Products Act are named (active ingredients and invented names) in accordance with Section 35a, paragraph 3, sentence 4 SGB V:

Brivaracetam (Briviact) [indication: only in children aged 2 to < 4 years]

- Period of validity of the designation: 5 October 2023 until 15 May 2024

Brivaracetam (Briviact), cenobamate (Ontozry), vigabatrin (Kigabeq)

- Period of validity since 16 May 2024

The following medicinal products with new active ingredients that can be used in a combination therapy with the assessed medicinal product in the therapeutic indication of the present resolution on the basis of the marketing authorisation under Medicinal Products Act are excluded from the designation, as the G-BA has identified at least considerable additional benefit for the combination with the assessed medicinal product in the resolution on the benefit assessment of fenfluramine of 03.08.2023 (Federal Gazette, BAnz AT 24.08.2023 B1):

Fenfluramine (Fintempla)

The designation of combinations exclusively serves the implementation of the combination discount according to Section 130e SGB V between health insurance funds and pharmaceutical companies. The findings made neither restrict the scope of treatment required to fulfil the medical treatment mandate, nor do they make statements about expediency or economic feasibility.

II. In Annex XIIa of the Pharmaceuticals Directive, the information on cannabidiol (resolution pursuant to Section 35a paragraph 3 SGB V of 15 April 2021) in the therapeutic indication "Epidyolex is indicated for use as adjunctive therapy of seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome (LGS), in conjunction with clobazam, for patients 2 years of age and older" is adopted as follows:

"Active ingredient of the assessed medicinal product

Cannabidiol

Resolution according to Section 35a paragraph 3 SGB V from

15.04.2021 and 16.05.2024

Therapeutic indication of the resolution

Epidyolex is indicated for use as adjunctive therapy of seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome (LGS) [...], in conjunction with clobazam, for patients 2 years of age and older.

Patient group

Patients 2 years of age and older with seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome

Naming of medicinal products with new active ingredients according to Section 35a, paragraph 3, sentence 4 SGB V (active ingredients and invented names²)

Brivaracetam (Briviact) [indication: only in children aged 2 to < 4 years]

Period of validity of the designation (since... or from... to)

5 October 2023 until 15 May 2024

Naming of medicinal products with new active ingredients according to Section 35a, paragraph 3, sentence 4 SGB V (active ingredients and invented names²)

Brivaracetam (Briviact), cenobamate (Ontozry), vigabatrin (Kigabeq)

Period of validity of the designation (since... or from... to)

Since 16 May 2024

The designation of combinations exclusively serves the implementation of the combination discount according to Section 130e SGB V between health insurance funds and pharmaceutical companies. The findings made neither restrict the scope of treatment required to fulfil the medical treatment mandate, nor do they make statements about expediency or economic feasibility.

III. The resolution will enter into force on the day of its publication on the website of the G-BA on 16 May 2024.

The justification to this resolution will be published on the website of the G-BA at www.g-ba.de.

Berlin, 16 May 2024

Federal Joint Committee (G-BA)
in accordance with Section 91 SGB V
The Chair

Prof. Hecken