Axicabtagene ciloleucel (new therapeutic indication: follicular lymphoma, after ≥ 3 prior therapies)

Resolution of: 21 December 2023/6 June 2024 valid until: unlimited
Entry into force on: 21 December 2023/6 June 2024
Federal Gazette, BAnz AT 24 04 2024 B1/ BAnz AT 05 07 2024 B4

New therapeutic indication (according to the marketing authorisation of 21 June 2022):

Yescarta is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory (r/r) follicular lymphoma (FL) after three or more lines of systemic therapy.

Therapeutic indication of the resolution (resolution of 21 December 2023):

See new therapeutic indication according to marketing authorisation.

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

Adults with relapsed or refractory (r/r) follicular lymphoma after three or more lines of systemic therapy

Appropriate comparator therapy:

Patient-individual therapy with selection of:

- Bendamustine + obinutuzumab followed by obinutuzumab maintenance treatment in accordance with the marketing authorisation,
- Lenalidomide + rituximab,
- Rituximab monotherapy,
- Mosunetuzumab,
- Tisagenlecleucel

taking into account prior therapy, course of the disease and general condition.

Extent and probability of the additional benefit of axicabtagene ciloleucel compared to the appropriate comparator therapy:

An additional benefit is not proven.

Study results according to endpoints:[1]

Adults with relapsed or refractory (r/r) follicular lymphoma after three or more lines of systemic therapy

No adequate data are available to allow an assessment of the additional benefit.

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

Adults with relapsed or refractory (r/r) follicular lymphoma after three or more lines of systemic therapy

approx. 60 - 270 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 Yescarta (active ingredient: axicabtagene ciloleucel) at the following publicly accessible link (last access: 20 September 2023):

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

In accordance with the EMA requirements regarding additional risk minimisation measures, the pharmaceutical company must provide training material and a patient emergency card. Training material for all healthcare professionals who will prescribe, dispense, and administer axicabtagene ciloleucel includes instructions for identifying, treating, and monitoring cytokine release syndrome and neurological side effects. It also includes instructions on the cell

1 Data from the dossier assessment of the Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG) (A23-63) unless otherwise indicated.

thawing process, availability of 1 dose of tocilizumab at the point of treatment, provision of relevant information to patients, and full and appropriate reporting of side effects.

The patient training programme should explain the risks of cytokine release syndrome and serious neurologic side effects, the need to report symptoms immediately to the treating physician, to remain close to the treatment facility for at least 4 weeks after infusion of axicabtagene ciloleucel and to carry the patient emergency card at all times.

Axicabtagene ciloleucel must be used in a qualified treatment facility. For the infusion of axicabtagene ciloleucel in the present therapeutic indication, the quality assurance measures for the use of CAR-T cells in B-cell neoplasms apply (ATMP Quality Assurance Guideline, Annex 1).

Patients with grade 3b follicular lymphoma were not investigated in the ZUMA-5 study. Grade 3b follicular lymphoma is treated in accordance with the generally accepted state of medical knowledge, analogous to diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL). Axicabtagene ciloleucel has a separate marketing authorisation for the treatment of patients with relapsed or refractory (r/r) diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) after two or more lines of systemic therapy.

4. Treatment costs

Annual treatment costs:

The costs for the first year of treatment are shown for the cost representation in the resolution.

Adults with relapsed or refractory (r/r) follicular lymphoma after three or more lines of systemic therapy

Designation of the therapy	Annual treatment costs/ patient
Medicinal product to be assessed:	
Axicabtagene ciloleucel	€ 272,000.00
Additionally required SHI costs	*€ 762.04*
Appropriate comparator therapy:	
Bendamustine + obinutuzumab	
Bendamustine	€ 6,023.10
Obinutuzumab	€ 26,328.72
Total	€ 32,351.82
Additionally required SHI costs	€ 11.40
Lenalidomide + rituximab	
Lenalidomide	€ 427.76
Rituximab	€ 21,261.68
Total	€ 21,689.44
Additionally required SHI costs	*€ 78.84 - € 79.17*
Rituximab monotherapy	
Rituximab	€ 10,630.84

Designation of the therapy	Annual treatment costs/ patient
Additionally required SHI costs	*€ 46.46 - € 46.79*
CAR-T cell therapy	
Tisagenlecleucel	€ 239,000.00
Additionally required SHI costs	*€ 410.41*
Mosunetuzumab monotherapy	
Mosunetuzumab	€ 70,709.78 - € 133,676.93
Additionally required SHI costs	*€ 64.02 - € 64.35*

Costs after deduction of statutory rebates (LAUER-TAXE®) as last revised: 1 December 2023

Costs for additionally required SHI services: not applicable

Other SHI services:

Designation of the therapy	Type of service	Costs/ unit	Number/ cycle	Number/ patient/ year	Cost/ patient/ year
Medicinal product to be assessed					
Axicabtagene ciloleucel - Lymphocyte depletion					
Cyclophosphamide	Surcharge for production of a parenteral solution containing cytostatic agents	€ 100	3	3.0	€ 300
Fludarabine	Surcharge for production of a parenteral solution containing cytostatic agents	€ 100	3	3.0	€ 300
Appropriate comparator therapy					
Bendamustine + obinutuzumab					
Bendamustine	Surcharge for production of a parenteral solution containing cytostatic agents	€ 100	2	6	€ 1,200
Obinutuzumab	Surcharge for the preparation of a parenteral solution containing monoclonal antibodies	€ 100	Cycle 1: 3 Cycle 2 - 9: 1	11	€ 1,100
Tisagenlecleucel - Lymphocyte depletion					

Designation of the therapy	Type of service	Costs/ unit	Number/ cycle	Number/ patient/ year	Cost/ patient/ year
Cyclophosphamide	Surcharge for production of a parenteral solution containing cytostatic agents	€ 100	3	3.0	€ 300
Fludarabine	Surcharge for production of a parenteral solution containing cytostatic agents	€ 100	3	3.0	€ 300
Lenalidomide + rituximab					
Rituximab	Surcharge for the preparation of a parenteral solution containing monoclonal antibodies	€ 100	Induction therapy: 4 Maintenance treatment: 1	Induction therapy: 1 Maintenance treatment: 4	€ 800
Rituximab monotherapy					
Rituximab	Surcharge for the preparation of a parenteral solution containing monoclonal antibodies	€ 100	1	4	€ 400
Mosunetuzumab monotherapy					
Mosunetuzumab	Surcharge for the preparation of a parenteral solution containing monoclonal antibodies	€ 100	Cycle 1: 3 From cycle 2 onwards: 1	10 - 19	€ 1,000 - € 1,900

5. 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:

Adults with relapsed or refractory (r/r) follicular lymphoma after three or more lines of systemic therapy

– No medicinal product with new active ingredients that can be used in a combination therapy and fulfils the requirements of Section 35a, paragraph 3, sentence 4 SGB V.

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.