Abecma® (idecabtagene vicleucel)
(Intravenous)

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I. Length of Authorization

- Initial: Prior authorization validity will be provided initially for one treatment course (1 dose).
- Renewal: Prior authorization validity may NOT be renewed.

II. Dosing Limits

1. **Max Units (per dose and over time) [HCPCS Unit]:**
   - 1 billable unit (1 dose of up to 510 million autologous CAR-positive viable T-cells)

III. Initial Approval Criteria [1]

Submission of supporting clinical documentation (including but not limited to medical records, chart notes, lab results, and confirmatory diagnostics) related to the medical necessity criteria is REQUIRED on all requests for authorizations. Records will be reviewed at the time of submission as part of the evaluation of this request. Please provide documentation related to diagnosis, step therapy, and clinical markers (i.e., genetic, and mutational testing) supporting initiation when applicable. Please provide documentation via direct upload through the PA web portal or by fax**.** Failure to submit the medical records may result in the denial of the request due to inability to establish medical necessity in accordance with policy guidelines.

Prior authorization validity is provided in the following conditions:

- Patient is at least 18 years of age; **AND**
- Patient has not received prior chimeric antigen receptor (CAR-T) cell therapy; **AND**
- Patient does not have an active infection or inflammatory disorder; **AND**
- Patient has not received live vaccines within 6 weeks prior to the start of lymphodepleting chemotherapy, and will not receive live vaccines during idecabtagene vicleucel treatment, and until immune recovery following treatment; **AND**

- Patient has been screened for cytomegalovirus (CMV), hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in accordance with clinical guidelines prior to collection of cells (leukapheresis); **AND**
- Prophylaxis for infection will be followed according to standard institutional guidelines; **AND**
- Used as single agent therapy (*not applicable to lymphodepleting or additional chemotherapy while awaiting manufacture*); **AND**
- Patient does not have known central nervous system (CNS) involvement with myeloma or a history or presence of clinically relevant CNS pathology; **AND**
- Patient does not have active or a history of plasma cell leukemia; **AND**
- Patient has an Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status of 0-1; **AND**

Multiple Myeloma † ‡ Φ [1-3,7]

- Patient has relapsed or refractory disease; **AND**
- Patient has received at least two (2) prior lines of therapy, including a proteasome inhibitor (e.g., bortezomib, carfilzomib, ixazomib, etc.), an immunomodulatory agent (e.g., lenalidomide, thalidomide, pomalidomide, etc.) and an anti-CD38 monoclonal antibody (e.g., daratumumab, isatuximab, etc.)

Preferred therapies and recommendations are determined by review of clinical evidence. NCCN category of recommendation is taken into account as a component of this review. Regimens deemed equally efficacious (i.e., those having the same NCCN categorization) are considered to be therapeutically equivalent.

Enhanced Oncology Value (EOV) Program – Redacted indications
Uses not listed above have inadequate data to support efficacy and are excluded from prior authorization validity. Other treatment options including, but are not limited to, the following may be appropriate: radiation therapy, surgery, traditional chemotherapy (e.g., platinum, taxane), compassionate use/expanded access programs, clinical trials, supportive care, integrative and complementary therapies.

† FDA Approved Indication(s); ‡ Compendia Recommended Indication(s); Φ Orphan Drug

IV. Renewal Criteria

Duration of authorization has not been exceeded *(refer to Section I)*

V. Dosage/Administration [1]

Indication	Dose

Multiple Myeloma	**Lymphodepleting chemotherapy**: • Administer cyclophosphamide 300 mg/m^2 and fludarabine 30 mg/m^2 intravenously daily for three days. **Abecma infusion**: • Infuse 2 days after completion of lymphodepleting chemotherapy. Delay the infusion up to 7 days if a patient has unresolved serious adverse events (especially pulmonary events, cardiac events, or hypotension), active infections, or inflammatory disorders. • A single dose of Abecma contains a cell suspension of 300 to 510 x 10^6 chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-positive T cells in one or more infusion bags.

For autologous use only. For intravenous use only.

- Abecma is prepared from the patient's peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs), which are obtained via a standard leukapheresis procedure.
- One treatment course consists of lymphodepleting chemotherapy followed by an infusion of one or more bags of Abecma.
- Confirm Abecma availability prior to starting the lymphodepleting regimen.
- Confirm the patient's identity with the patient identifiers on the shipper and the respective Certificate of Release for Infusion (RFI Certificate) prior to infusion.

Premedication:

- Premedicate with acetaminophen (650mg orally) and diphenhydramine (12.5 mg IV, 25-50 mg orally, or another H1-antihistamine) 30-60 minutes prior to infusion. Avoid prophylactic system corticosteroids which may interfere with Abecma activity.

Monitoring after infusion:

- Monitor patients at least daily for 7 days following infusion for signs and symptoms of cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and neurologic toxicities.
- Instruct patients to remain within proximity of a healthcare facility for at least 2 weeks following infusion.
- Instruct patients to refrain from driving for at least 2 weeks following infusion.

- Store infusion bag in the vapor phase of liquid nitrogen (less than or equal to minus 130°C). Thaw prior to infusion.
- In case of manufacturing failure, a second manufacturing may be attempted.
- Additional chemotherapy (not the lymphodepletion) may be necessary while the patient awaits the product.
- Ensure that a minimum of 2 doses of tocilizumab and emergency equipment are available prior to infusion and during the recovery period.
- Abecma contains human blood cells that are genetically modified with replication-incompetent, self-inactivating lentiviral vector. Follow universal precautions and local biosafety guidelines for handling and disposal to avoid potential transmission of infectious diseases.

VI. Billing Code/Availability Information

HCPCS Code:

- Q2055 – Idecabtagene vicleucel, up to 510 million autologous b-cell maturation antigen (bcma) directed car-positive t cells, including leukapheresis and dose preparation procedures, per therapeutic dose

NDC:

- Abecma suspension for intravenous infusion [A single dose of ABECMA contains a cell suspension of 300 to 510 x 10^6 CAR-positive T cells in one or more infusion bags]:
  - 50 mL, 250 mL and 500 mL infusion bags and metal cassettes: 59572-0515-xx)

VII. References (STANDARD)

1. Abecma [package insert]. Summit, NJ; Celgene Corporation, a Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, September 2025. Accessed November 2025.
2. Referenced with permission from the NCCN Drugs & Biologics Compendium (NCCN Compendium®) idecabtagene vicleucel. National Comprehensive Cancer Network, 2025. The NCCN Compendium® is a derivative work of the NCCN Guidelines®. NATIONAL COMPREHENSIVE CANCER NETWORK®, NCCN®, and NCCN GUIDELINES® are trademarks owned by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. To view the most recent and complete version of the Compendium, go online to NCCN.org. Accessed November 2025.
3. Munshi NC, Anderson LD Jr, Shah N, et al. Idecabtagene Vicleucel in Relapsed and Refractory Multiple Myeloma. N Engl J Med. 2021 Feb 25;384(8):705-716. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2024850.
4. Majzner RG, Mackall CL. Tumor Antigen Escape from CAR T-cell Therapy. *Cancer Discov* 2018;8:1219-1226.
5. Lee DW, Gardner R, Porter DL, et al. Current concepts in the diagnosis and management of cytokine release syndrome. Blood 2014; 124(2): 188-95. Errata in Blood: 2015;126(8):1048. and 2016;128(11):1533.
6. Kumar S, Paiva B, Anderson KC, et al. International Myeloma Working Group consensus criteria for response and minimal residual disease assessment in multiple myeloma. Lancet Oncol 2016; 17(8): e328-46.
7. Rodríguez-Otero P, Ailawadhi S, Arnulf B, et al. B08 IDECABTAGENE VICLEUCEL VERSUS STANDARD REGIMENS IN PATIENTS WITH TRIPLE-CLASS–EXPOSED RELAPSED AND REFRACTORY MULTIPLE MYELOMA: KARMMA-3 A PHASE 3 RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL. Hemasphere. 2023 May 9;7(Suppl):7-8. Doi: 10.1097/01.HS9.0000936124.56965.24. PMCID: PMC10171743.

VIII. References (ENHANCED)

1e. Referenced with permission from the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®) for Multiple Myeloma Version 3.2026 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, 2025. NATIONAL COMPREHENSIVE CANCER NETWORK®, NCCN®, and NCCN GUIDELINES® are trademarks owned by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. To view the most recent and complete version of the Guidelines, go online to NCCN.org. Accessed November 2025.

2e. Chari A, Vogl DT, Gavriatopoulou M, et al. Oral Selinexor-Dexamethasone for Triple-Class Refractory Multiple Myeloma. N Engl J Med. 2019 Aug 22;381(8):727-738. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa1903455.

3e. Berdeja JG, Madduri D, Usmani SZ, et al. Ciltacabtagene autoleucel, a B-cell maturation antigen-directed chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy in patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma (CARTITUDE-1): a phase 1b/2 open-label study. Lancet. 2021 Jul 24;398(10297):314-

324. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(21)00933-8. Epub 2021 Jun 24. Erratum in: Lancet. 2021 Oct 2;398(10307):1216.

4e. Usmani SZ, Martin T, Berdeja JG, et al. MM-181 CARTITUDE-1: Two-Year Post Last Patient in (LPI) Results From the Phase 1b/2 Study of Ciltacabtagene Autoleucel (Cilta-Cel), a B-Cell Maturation Antigen (BCMA)-Directed Chimeric Antigen Receptor T (CAR-T) Cell Therapy, in Patients With Relapsed/Refractory Multiple Myeloma (RRMM). Clin Lymphoma Myeloma Leuk. 2022 Oct;22 Suppl 2:S410-S411.

5e. Moreau P, Garfall AL, van de Donk NWCJ, et al. Teclistamab in Relapsed or Refractory Multiple Myeloma. N Engl J Med. 2022 Aug 11;387(6):495-505. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2203478. Epub 2022 Jun 5.

6e. Lesokhin AM, Tomasson MH, Arnulf B, et al. Elranatamab in relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma: phase 2 MagnetisMM-3 trial results. Nat Med. 2023 Sep;29(9):2259-2267. doi: 10.1038/s41591-023-02528-9.

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9e. Prime Therapeutics Management. Abecma Clinical Literature Review Analysis. Last updated November 2025. Accessed November 2025.

Appendix A – Non-Quantitative Treatment Limitations (NQTL) Factor Checklist

Non-quantitative treatment limitations (NQTLs) refer to the methods, guidelines, standards of evidence, or other conditions that can restrict how long or to what extent benefits are provided under a health plan. These may include things like utilization review or prior authorization. The utilization management NQTL applies comparably, and not more stringently, to mental health/substance use disorder (MH/SUD) Medical Benefit Prescription Drugs and medical/surgical (M/S) Medical Benefit Prescription Drugs. The table below lists the factors that were considered in designing and applying prior authorization to this drug/drug group, and a summary of the conclusions that Prime's assessment led to for each.

Factor	Conclusion
Indication	Yes: Consider for PA
Safety and efficacy	Yes: Consider for PA
Potential for misuse/abuse	No: PA not a priority
Cost of drug	Yes: Consider for PA

Appendix 1 – Covered Diagnosis Codes

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description
C90.00	Multiple myeloma not having achieved remission
C90.02	Multiple myeloma, in relapse
C90.10	Plasma cell leukemia not having achieved remission
C90.12	Plasma cell leukemia in relapse
C90.20	Extramedullary plasmacytoma not having achieved remission
C90.22	Extramedullary plasmacytoma in relapse
C90.30	Solitary plasmacytoma not having achieved remission
C90.32	Solitary plasmacytoma in relapse
Z85.79	Personal history of other malignant neoplasms of lymphoid, hematopoietic and related tissues

Appendix 2 – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

The preceding information is intended for non-Medicare coverage determinations. Medicare coverage for outpatient (Part B) drugs is outlined in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual (Pub. 100-2), Chapter 15, §50 Drugs and Biologicals. In addition, National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) and/or Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) may exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) may also exist for claims payment purposes or to clarify benefit eligibility under Part B for drugs which may be self-administered. The following link may be used to search for NCD, LCD, or LCA documents: https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx. Additional indications, including any preceding information, may be applied at the discretion of the health plan.

Medicare Part B Covered Diagnosis Codes (applicable to existing NCD/LCA/LCD): N/A

Medicare Part B Administrative Contractor (MAC) Jurisdictions		
Jurisdiction	**Applicable State/US Territory**	**Contractor**
E (1)	CA, HI, NV, AS, GU, CNMI	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
F (2 & 3)	AK, WA, OR, ID, ND, SD, MT, WY, UT, AZ	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
5	KS, NE, IA, MO	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
6	MN, WI, IL	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
H (4 & 7)	LA, AR, MS, TX, OK, CO, NM	Novitas Solutions, Inc.
8	MI, IN	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
N (9)	FL, PR, VI	First Coast Service Options, Inc.
J (10)	TN, GA, AL	Palmetto GBA
M (11)	NC, SC, WV, VA (excluding below)	Palmetto GBA
L (12)	DE, MD, PA, NJ, DC (includes Arlington & Fairfax counties and the city of Alexandria in VA)	Novitas Solutions, Inc.

Medicare Part B Administrative Contractor (MAC) Jurisdictions		
Jurisdiction	**Applicable State/US Territory**	**Contractor**
K (13 & 14)	NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, ME, NH	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
15	KY, OH	CGS Administrators, LLC