

Subject: Xofigo (radium Ra 223 dichloride)

Effective Date: 04/2020

Revision Date:

Review Date:

DESCRIPTION

Radium Ra 223 dichloride, an alpha particle-emitting pharmaceutical, is a radiotherapeutic drug. Xofigo is supplied as a clear, colorless, isotonic, and sterile solution to be administered intravenously. It mimics calcium and forms complexes with the bone mineral hydroxyapatite at areas of increased bone turnover, such as bone metastases. The alpha particle range from radium-223 dichloride results in an anti-tumor effect on bone metastases while limiting damage to the surrounding normal tissue. In a phase II randomized study, compared to placebo there was a difference in favor of Xofigo for all five serum biomarkers for bone turnover studied.

POLICY GUIDELINES

OSU Health Plan (OSUHP) considers Xofigo (radium Ra 223 dichloride) medically necessary for castration-resistant prostate cancer with symptomatic bone metastases and no known visceral metastatic disease or bulky nodal disease (>3-4 cm).

PROCEDURE

When the above criteria are met, OSUHP will approve Xofigo 55 kBq (1.49 microcurie) per kg body weight, given at 4-week intervals for 6 injections.

EXCLUSIONS

Xofigo (radium Ra 223 dichloride) is considered experimental and investigational for the following indications (not an all-inclusive list):

- Osteosarcoma or bone metastases from other solid tumors (such as breast, kidney, lung)
- Presence of visceral metastatic disease or bulky nodal disease (>3-4 cm)
- Dose, frequency or duration outside the FDA approval for Xofigo
- Use of Xofigo in combination with docetaxel or any other chemotherapy

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Prior authorization is required for Xofigo (radium Ra 223 dichloride).

CODES

HCPCS codes covered when criteria are met:	
A9606	Radium RA-223 dichloride, therapeutic, per mCi

REFERENCES

NCCN. Prostate cancer version 1.2020. Retrieved from https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/prostate.pdf
Parker C, Nilsson S, Heinrich D, et al; ALSYMPCA Investigators. Alpha emitter radium-223 and survival in metastatic prostate cancer. N Engl J Med. 2013;369(3):213-223.
Xofigo® (radium Ra 223 dichloride) injection [prescribing information]. Whippany, NJ: Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals Inc.; December 2019.