



## Dose Rounding Overview

### Background:

As part of an effort to work with our providers to reduce waste, minimize healthcare worker exposure, ensure treatment accuracy, and reduce the total cost of cancer care, Optum's Cancer Guidance Program is implementing dose rounding on select cancer drugs (see Definitions for full list of drugs).

The Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA) position statement supports rounding of biologic and cytotoxic agents within 10% of the ordered dose as routine clinical care.<sup>11</sup> The HOPA position statement has been reviewed and endorsed by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) and published by the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO).

In line with this guidance, Optum's Cancer Guidance Program will round a select set of cancer drugs down to the nearest vial size in cases where rounding would result in fewer vials used per treatment without reducing treatment efficacy (i.e., rounding down less than 10%).

### How Dose Rounding Works:

When a provider, or operations user, submits a prior authorization request through MBMNow, Optum's Cancer Guidance Program automatically determines cases where dose rounding would apply and calculate the per treatment dosage based on the patient's height and/or weight, and the NCCN-recommended dosage for that regimen.

A rounded dose is recommended in cases where rounding down (less than 10%) the NCCN-recommended per treatment results in the use of fewer vial(s) and less waste. If rounding down will not result in the use of fewer vial(s) per treatment, dose rounding is not applied.

- If the rounded dose is accepted by the provider (when offered in MBMNow), the request may be able to be automatically approved. The authorization will include the total approved billable units of the course of the treatment based on the rounded dose and the approved cycles.
  - If the patient's weight changes significantly ( $\geq 10\%$ ) during the course of therapy, a new authorization will need to be submitted to ensure the total authorized dose is not exceeded.
- If the rounded dose is not accepted, the request will require a custom review and a Cancer Guidance Program Nurse may reach out for more information.

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<sup>1</sup> Dose Rounding of Biologic and Cytotoxic Anticancer Agents. A Position Statement of the Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association. Available at [www.hoparx.org](http://www.hoparx.org). Accessed July 7, 2020.



**Acceptance of rounded dose is voluntary and is not required to receive a prior authorization for cancer treatment. Clinicians must use independent medical judgment in the context of individual clinical circumstances to determine any patient's care or treatment. Care decisions are between the physician and patient.**

Code	Drug
J0894	Decitabine (Dacogen®)
J9000	Doxorubicin (Adriamycin®)
J9025	Azacitidine (Vidaza®)
J9033	Bendamustine (Treanda®)
J9034	Bendamustine Hcl (Bendeka®)
J9035	Bevacizumab (Avastin®)
J9036	Bendamustine Hydrochloride (Belrapzo®)
J9041	Bortezomib (Velcade®)
J9042	Brentuximab (Adcetris®)
J9043	Cabazitaxel (Jevtana®)
J9047	Carfilzomib (Kyprolis®)
J9055	Cetuximab (Erbix®)
J9145	Daratumumab (Darzalex®)
J9176	Elotuzumab (Empliciti®)
J9179	Eribulin Mesylate (Halaven®)
J9207	Ixabepoline (Ixempra®)
J9228	Ipilimumab (Yervoy®)
J9303	Panitumumab (Vectibix®)
J9305	Pemetrexed (Alimta®)
J9312	Rituximab (Rituxan®)
J9352	Trabectedin (Yondelis®)
J9354	Ado-trastuzumab emtansine (Kadcyla®)
Q2050	Doxorubicin Hydrochloride (Doxil®)
Q5107	Bevacizumab (Mvasi™)
Q5115	Rituximab-abbs, biosimilar (Truxima®)
Q5118	Bevacizumab (Zirabev®)
Q5119	Rituximab-pvvr, biosimilar (Ruxience®)