

# Composing a Letter of Medical Necessity

The following information is presented for informational purposes only and is not intended to provide reimbursement or legal advice. Laws, regulations, and policies concerning reimbursement are complex and are updated frequently. While we have made an effort to be current as of the issue date of this document, the information may not be as current or comprehensive when you view it. Providers are encouraged to contact third-party payers for specific information on their coverage policies. For more information, please call The Emgality Answers Center at 1-833-EMGALITY (1-833-364-2548).

Many health plans require that a Letter of Medical Necessity (LMN) accompany an Appeal Letter. The purpose of an LMN is to explain the prescribing healthcare provider's (HCP) rationale and clinical decision-making when choosing a treatment.\* LMNs are often required by plans when submitting an Appeal Letter, Formulary Exception Request Letter, and Tiering Exception Request Letter.

This resource, [Composing a Letter of Medical Necessity](#), provides information on the process of drafting an LMN. A checklist is included below that can be followed when creating an LMN. In addition, a sample letter is attached to this document and includes information that plans often require. Note that some plans have specific Coverage Authorization Forms that must be utilized to document an LMN.

Follow the patient's plan requirements when requesting **Emgality™ (galcanezumab-gnlm) injection (120 mg/mL)**; otherwise, treatment may be delayed.

## LMN CONSIDERATIONS

- Include the patient's full name, plan identification number, date of birth, and the case identification number. If a decision has already been rendered, the doctor would provide the case ID number
- Provide a copy of the patient's records with the following details:
  - The patient's history, diagnosis with specific International Classification of Diseases (ICD) code, and present-day condition and symptoms
  - The patient's allergies and existing comorbidities
- Indicate the severity of the patient's condition, if applicable
- Document prior treatments and the duration of each treatment. It may be beneficial to include Current Procedural Terminology, 4th Edition (CPT-4) and/or J-codes to define prior services/treatments so that the health plan can conduct research and make a timely determination request
  - Describe the rationale for why each treatment was discontinued
- Attach clinical documentation that supports your recommendation; this information may be found in the Emgality Prescribing Information and/or clinical peer-reviewed literature

\*For Medicare beneficiaries, there are specific requirements that need to be met for the HCP to be considered a legal representative of the patient in an appeal.

# Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

The purpose of an LMN is to explain the prescribing HCP's rationale and clinical decision-making when choosing Emgality™ (galcanezumab-gnlm) injection (120 mg/mL) for a patient. LMNs are often required by plans when submitting an Appeal Letter, Formulary Exception Request Letter, and Tiering Exception Request Letter.

[Date] Re: [Patient's name]

[Prior authorization department] [Plan identification number]

[Name of health plan] [Date of birth]

[Mailing address]

To whom it may concern:

We have reviewed and recognize your guidelines for the responsible management of medications within this class. We are requesting that you reassess your recent denial of Emgality (galcanezumab-gnlm) coverage. We understand that the reason for your denial is **[copy reason verbatim from the plan's denial letter]**. However, we believe that Emgality **[dose, frequency]** is the appropriate treatment for the patient. In support of our recommendation for Emgality treatment, we have provided an overview of the patient's relevant clinical history below.

Sample wording from page 3 of this document can be placed after this sentence if this appeal has been previously denied by the plan.

## For Patients Diagnosed With Migraine

### The International Classification of Headache Disorders Diagnosis

- Migraine without aura - Diagnosed (Date): \_\_\_\_\_
- Migraine with aura - Diagnosed (Date): \_\_\_\_\_
- Chronic migraine - Diagnosed (Date): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of migraine headache days a month: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of headache hours per migraine headache day: \_\_\_\_\_

### Impairment due to headache/migraine:

- No impairment
  Moderate impairment
  Severe impairment

Please detail all past treatments used for the prevention of migraine, including any antidepressant, antiepileptic/anticonvulsant, beta blocker, calcium channel blocker, ACE inhibitor, or neurotoxin.

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Past treatment(s) - including name, strength, and dosage form

Start/stop dates

Reason(s) for discontinuing

Provide the information that is applicable to the primary diagnosis.

# Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

[Provide patient-specific clinical rationale for this treatment; this information may be found in the Emgality Prescribing Information.]

[INSERT PEER-REVIEWED DATA HERE]

[Insert your recommendation summary here, including your professional opinion of the patient's likely prognosis or disease progression without treatment with Emgality.]

Please feel free to contact me, [HCP name], at [office phone number] for any additional information you may require. We look forward to receiving your timely response and approval of this claim.

Sincerely,

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[Physician's name and signature]

[Physician's medical specialty]

[Physician's NPI]

[Physician's practice name]

[Phone #]

[Fax #]

Encl: [Medical records, clinical trial information]

## INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS WHO HAVE BEEN TREATED WITH EMGALITY:

HCPs can utilize the following language for patients who **HAVE** been treated with Emgality and have had treatment interruptions.

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to provide additional information to support my claim for [patient's name]'s preventive treatment of migraine [ICD code] with Emgality<sup>™</sup> (galcanezumab-gnlm). In brief, continued treatment with Emgality 120 mg, once monthly, is medically appropriate and necessary for this patient. This letter includes the patient's medical history, previous treatments, and disease severity [if applicable] that support my recommendation for treatment with Emgality.

[In this section, describe the frequency and duration of your patient's migraine experience and what kind of impact it is having on work, family, and ability to function. Describe the patient's clinical response to Emgality in previous treatment and the reason why reinitiation is necessary.]

## INDICATION

Emgality is a calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP) antagonist indicated for the preventive treatment of migraine in adults.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR EMGALITY

### Contraindications

Emgality is contraindicated in patients with serious hypersensitivity to galcanezumab-gnlm or to any of the excipients.

### Warnings and Precautions

#### Hypersensitivity Reactions

Hypersensitivity reactions (e.g., rash, urticaria, and dyspnea) have been reported with Emgality in clinical studies. If a serious or severe hypersensitivity reaction occurs, discontinue administration of Emgality and initiate appropriate therapy. Hypersensitivity reactions can occur days after administration and may be prolonged.

#### Adverse Reactions

The most common adverse reactions (incidence  $\geq 2\%$  and at least 2% greater than placebo) in Emgality clinical studies were injection site reactions.

Please see [Full Prescribing Information](#), including [Patient Information](#), for Emgality. See Instructions for Use included with the [pen](#) and [prefilled syringe](#).

GZ HCP ISI 27SEP2018

### Reference

Emgality [Prescribing Information]. Indianapolis, IN: Lilly USA, LLC.