

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington  
 Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington Options, Inc.  
 CONTRACT MANAGER NAME  
 Provider Communications, RCR-A3W-04  
 PO Box 34262, Seattle WA 98124-1262

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

**CABOTEGRAVIR EXTENDED RELEASE (APRETUDE) WILL REQUIRE  
 PRIOR AUTHORIZATION APPROVAL**

Dear Provider,

**Effective December 1, 2023**, Cabotegravir Extended Release (Apretude) will be added to the **non-Medicare** list of office administered drugs requiring prior authorization. **This letter is a notification of the upcoming change in prior authorization criteria required before administering this medication under the medical benefit.**

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington, Options, Inc. (Kaiser Permanente) require prior authorization for a select group of injectable drugs that may be administered under the medical benefit in a physician’s office or by home infusion. These reviews are intended to ensure consistent benefit adjudication as well as appropriate utilization in accordance with the Kaiser Permanente Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee’s evidence-based criteria for coverage.

**Prior Authorization Criteria for Cabotegravir Extended Release (Apretude):**

DRUG NAME	COVERAGE CRITERIA
CABOTEGRAVIR EXTENDED RELEASE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient is 13 years of age or older and weighs <math>\geq 35</math> kg</li> </ul> AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use is for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to reduce the risk of HIV-1 infection</li> </ul> AND 1 of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient has an allergy or intolerance* to oral PrEP treatment (emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate [generic Truvada] AND emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide [Descovy]) after an adequate trial<sup>^</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> * Intolerance excludes adverse drug reactions that are expected, mild in nature, resolve with continued treatment, and do not require medication discontinuation.</p> <p><sup>^</sup> Adequate trial is defined as 21-day treatment duration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient is unable to use generic Truvada and Descovy due to moderate or severe renal impairment (CrCl <math>&lt;30</math> mL/min).</li> <li>• Patients with persistent increased serum creatinine from baseline defined as 2 or more labs with an increase of 0.4 mg/dL change or sustained proteinuria/glycosuria while using generic Truvada and Descovy</li> <li>• Patients who have needed more than 2 nPEP (non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis) courses over 12 months due to poor adherence to oral PrEP treatment</li> </ul>

DRUG NAME	COVERAGE CRITERIA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Patients experiencing structural or individual level barriers to oral PrEP use</li><li>• Patients who have evidence of malabsorption from GI conditions (e.g., sleeve gastrectomy, gastric bypass, terminal ileitis, celiac disease, severe chronic diarrhea)</li></ul>

**Additional Information**

A complete list of office-administered injectable drugs requiring prior authorization can be found on the Kaiser Permanente provider website at <https://wa-provider.kaiserpermanente.org/provider-manual/clinical-review/officeinject>.

To request prior authorization review, please use the Referral Request online form located on the Kaiser Permanente provider website at <https://wa-provider.kaiserpermanente.org/provider-manual/clinical-review/preservice>. You can also fax your request to the Review Services department toll-free at 1-888-282-2685.

Thank you for the care you provide to our members, your patients. If you have any questions about this process, please call Review Services at 1-800-289-1363, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sincerely,



Gurpreet Rawat, MD, Chair  
Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee