

C1 esterase inhibitor [recombinant] (Ruconest®)

Place of Service

Home infusion Administration  
Infusion Center Administration  
Office Administration  
Outpatient Facility Administration  
Self-Administration (covered under  
Medical Benefit)

HCPCS: J0596 per 10 units

Conditions listed in policy (see criteria for details):

- [Hereditary angioedema, treatment](#)

**AHFS therapeutic class:** Complement inhibitor

**Mechanism of action:** Recombinant analogue of human complement component 1 esterase inhibitor. C1 inhibitor therapy in patients with C1 deficiency is believed to suppress contact system activation via inactivation of plasma kallikrein and factor XIIa, preventing bradykinin angioedema.

**(1) Special Instructions and Pertinent Information**

**Covered under the medical benefit,** please submit clinical information for prior authorization review via fax.

**(2) Prior Authorization/Medical Review is required for the following condition(s)**

All requests for Ruconest® for conditions NOT listed in section 3 must be sent for clinical review and receive authorization prior to drug administration or claim payment.

**(3) The following condition(s) DO NOT require Prior Authorization/Preservice**

All requests for Ruconest® for conditions NOT listed in section 3 must be sent for clinical review and receive authorization prior to drug administration or claim payment.

Hereditary angioedema (HAE), treatment

- Being used to treat acute attacks of hereditary angioedema (HAE)

**Covered Doses**

Up to 50 units/kg, max of 4200 units IV per dose, not to exceed 2 doses within a 24-hour period

**Coverage Period**

Cover once per attack

**ICD-10:**

D84.1

**(4) This Medication is NOT medically necessary for the following condition(s)**

Coverage for a Non-FDA approved indication, requires that criteria outlined in Health and Safety Code § 1367.21, including objective evidence of efficacy and safety are met for the proposed indication.

Please refer to the Provider Manual and User Guide for more information.

Commercial

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Effective: 02/01/2023

Page 1 of 3

## (5) Additional Information

### How supplied:

- 2100 IU lyophilized powder for reconstitution for injection in a single-use vial

### HAE Diagnosis<sup>1</sup>:

- Suspicion of HAE-1/2 should prompt laboratory investigations to support a diagnosis
  - Measurements of serum/plasma levels of C1-INH function, C1- INH protein, and C4 are used to diagnose HAE-1/2
  - HAE-1: Both concentration and function of C1-INH are low (<50% of normal).
  - HAE-2:
    - C1-INH concentrations are normal or elevated
    - C1-INH function is low (<50% of normal)
  - C4 levels are usually low in HAE-1/2 patients, but the sensitivity and specificity of C4 as a marker for HAE are limited.
  - Sequencing of the SERPING1 gene can be supportive in the diagnostic workup of some HAE-1/2 patients (including prenatal diagnosis); however, bio-chemical C1-INH testing is effective and less expensive than genetic testing
- HAE with normal C1 inhibitor (HAE-nC1-INH)
  - The different forms of HAE share some clinical features and, possibly, therapeutic options with HAE-1/2
  - Can only be diagnosed by genetic testing, which is becoming increasingly available
  - Genetic testing should be performed and include testing for the 6 recognized HAE types:
    - HAE with mutation in the factor XII gene (HAE-FXII)
    - HAE with mutation in the angiotensinogen gene (HAE-ANGPT1)
    - HAE with mutation in the plasminogen gene (HAE-PLG)
    - HAE with mutation in the kininogen 1 gene (HAE-KNG1)
    - HAE with mutation in the myoferlin gene (HAE-MYOF)
    - HAE with mutation in the heparan sulfate 3-O- sulfotransferase 6 gene (HAE-HS3ST6).
  - Additional mutations are likely to be identified in the future and should be included in the genetic diagnostic workup for HAE.

| Type of Angioedema | Laboratory Findings |                        |                         |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
|                    | C4 Level            | Antigenic C1 INH Level | Functional C1 INH Level |
| HAE – Type I       | ↓                   | ↓                      | ↓                       |
| HAE – Type II      | ↓                   | ↔ or ↑                 | ↓                       |

**Key:** ↓ - decreased, ↑ - increased, ↔ - normal

## (6) References

- AHFS®. Available by subscription at <http://www.lexi.com>
- Busse PJ, Christiansen SC, Riedl MA, et al. US HAEA Medical Advisory Board 2020 Guidelines for the Management of Hereditary Angioedema. J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract. 2020; S2213-2198(20)30878-3. doi:10.1016/j.jaip.2020.08.046
- DrugDex®. Available by subscription at <http://www.micromedexsolutions.com/home/dispatch>
- Ruconest (C1 esterase inhibitor, recombinant) [Prescribing information]. Bridgewater, NJ: Pharming Healthcare Inc.; 4/2020.
- Maurer, M, Magerl, M, Betschel, S, et al. The international WAO/EAACI guideline for the management of hereditary angioedema -The 2021 revision and update. Allergy. 2022; 77: 1961–1990.

- Zuraw BL, Bernstein JA, Lang DM, et al. A focused parameter update: Hereditary angioedema, acquired C1 inhibitor deficiency, and angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor–associated angioedema. *J Allergy Clin Immunol*. 2013 Jun;131(6):1491 - 3. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaci.2013.03.034>
1. Maurer, M, Magerl, M, Betschel, S, et al. The international WAO/EAACI guideline for the management of hereditary angioedema—The 2021 revision and update. *Allergy*. 2022; 77: 1961–1990.

## (7) Policy Update

Date of last review: 1Q2023

Date of next review: 1Q2024

Changes from previous policy version:

- No clinical change to policy following routine annual review.

*BSC Drug Coverage Criteria to Determine Medical Necessity  
Reviewed by P&T Committee*