

Effective: June 11, 2024

<b>Prior Authorization Required</b> If <u>REQUIRED</u> , submit supporting clinical documentation pertinent to service request.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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**Applies to:**

**Commercial Products**

- Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Commercial products; Fax 617-673-0988
- Tufts Health Plan Commercial products; Fax 617-673-0988  
CareLink<sup>SM</sup> – Refer to CareLink Procedures, Services and Items Requiring Prior Authorization

**Public Plans Products**

- Tufts Health Direct – A Massachusetts Qualified Health Plan (QHP) (a commercial product); Fax 617-673-0988
- Tufts Health Together – MassHealth MCO Plan and Accountable Care Partnership Plans; Fax 617-673-0939
- Tufts Health RITogether – A Rhode Island Medicaid Plan; Fax 617-673-0939
- Tufts Health One Care\* – A Medicare-Medicaid Plan (a dual eligible product); Fax 617-673-0956  
\*The MNG applies to Tufts Health One Care members unless a less restrictive LCD or NCD exists.

**Senior Products**

- Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Stride Medicare Advantage; Fax 617-673-0956
- Tufts Health Plan Senior Care Options (SCO), (a dual-eligible product); Fax 617-673-0956
- Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO, (a Medicare Advantage product); Fax 617-673-0956
- Tufts Medicare Preferred PPO, (a Medicare Advantage product); Fax 617-673-0956

**Note:** While you may not be the provider responsible for obtaining prior authorization, as a condition of payment you will need to ensure that prior authorization has been obtained.

**Overview**

**Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Approved Indications:**

- Apretude (cabotegravir) is an HIV-1 integrase strand transfer inhibitor (INSTI) indicated in at-risk adults and adolescents weighing at least 35 kg for PrEP to reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV-1 infection. Individuals must have a negative HIV-1 test prior to initiating Apretude (with or without an oral lead-in with oral cabotegravir) for HIV-1 PrEP.

**Clinical Guideline Coverage Criteria**

**Initial Coverage Criteria:**

The Plan may cover Apretude when all the following clinical criteria is met:

1. Apretude is being requested for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to reduce the risk of HIV-1 infection from sexual acquisition  
**AND**
2. The patient has tried and failed or has a contraindication, to or clinical intolerance to, or compliance related concern with taking oral emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 200-300 mg (generic Truvada)

**Reauthorization Criteria:**

Reauthorization may be granted when all of the following clinical criteria are met:

1. The Member meets initial approval criteria

**AND**

2. The Member has maintained a positive clinical response and remains HIV-1 negative

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## Limitations

- Initial approval duration will be for a period of 12 months. Reauthorizations will be for a duration of an additional 12 months.

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## Codes

The following code(s) require prior authorization:

**Table 1: HCPCS Codes**

HCPCS Codes	Description
J0739	Injection, cabotegravir, 1 mg

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## References:

- Apretude (cabotegravir) [prescribing information]. Research Triangle Park, NC: ViiV Healthcare; December 2023.

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## Approval And Revision History

May 17, 2023: Reviewed by the Medical Policy Approval Committee (MPAC)

June 13, 2023: Reviewed by Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T)

Subsequent endorsement date(s) and changes made:

- Originally approved September 13, 2022 by P&T and September 21, 2022 by MPAC committees effective January 1, 2023
- Administrative update: April 2023 added Medical Benefit Drugs to title, updated MATogether and RITogether fax numbers to 617-673-0939
- May 17, 2023: Annual review, no change, effective July 1, 2023
- August 2023: Administrative update to rebrand Tufts Health Unify to Tufts Health One Care for 2024
- June 11, 2024: No change

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## Background, Product and Disclaimer Information

Medical Necessity Guidelines are developed to determine coverage for benefits and are published to provide a better understanding of the basis upon which coverage decisions are made. We make coverage decisions using these guidelines, along with the Member's benefit document, and in coordination with the Member's physician(s) on a case-by-case basis considering the individual Member's health care needs.

Medical Necessity Guidelines are developed for selected therapeutic or diagnostic services found to be safe and proven effective in a limited, defined population of patients or clinical circumstances. They include concise clinical coverage criteria based on current literature review, consultation with practicing physicians in our service area who are medical experts in the particular field, FDA and other government agency policies, and standards adopted by national accreditation organizations. We revise and update Medical Necessity Guidelines annually, or more frequently if new evidence becomes available that suggests needed revisions.

For self-insured plans, coverage may vary depending on the terms of the benefit document. If a discrepancy exists between a Medical Necessity Guideline and a self-insured Member's benefit document, the provisions of the benefit document will govern. For Tufts Health Together (Medicaid), coverage may be available beyond these guidelines for pediatric members under age 21 under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefits of the plan in accordance with 130 CMR 450.140 and 130 CMR 447.000, and with prior authorization.

Treating providers are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of Members. The use of this guideline is not a guarantee of payment or a final prediction of how specific claim(s) will be adjudicated. Claims payment is subject to eligibility and benefits on the date of service, coordination of benefits, referral/authorization, utilization management guidelines when applicable, and adherence to plan policies, plan procedures, and claims editing logic.