Mass General Brigham
Health Plan

Journavx (suzetrigine)
Effective 09/01/2025

Plan	☐ MassHealth UPPL ☒Commercial/Exchange	**Program Type**	☒ Prior Authorization ☐ Quantity Limit ☐ Step Therapy
Benefit	☒ Pharmacy Benefit ☐ Medical Benefit		
Specialty Limitations	N/A		
Contact Information	**Medical and Specialty Medications** All Plans | Phone: 877-519-1908 | Fax: 855-540-3693		
	Non-Specialty Medications All Plans | Phone: 800-711-4555 | Fax: 844-403-1029		
Exceptions	N/A		

Overview
Journavx (suzetrizine) is a sodium channel blocker indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe acute pain in adults.

Journavx is available as 50 mg tablets. Patients should administer 100 mg for the first dose. Starting 12 hours after the initial dose, patients should administer 50 mg every 12 hours. Treatment with Journavx beyond 14 days has not been studied.

Coverage Guidelines
Authorizations will be granted when all of the following criteria are met:

1. Member is 18 years of age or older
2. Member is experiencing a new episode of moderate to severe acute pain
3. Duration of therapy will be limited to 14 days for one acute pain occurrence
4. Dosing frequency of requested medication will be limited to twice daily
5. Requested medication will not be used in combination with opioid products
6. Member meets ONE of the following:
    a. Member has a history of inadequate response, adverse reaction, or contraindication to BOTH of the following:
        i. Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) (e.g., ibuprofen, naproxen)
        ii. Acetaminophen
    b. Acute pain event requires opioid for pain management AND member has history of opioid use disorder

Limitations

1. Approvals will be limited to 14 days and one approval per 60-day period.
2. Journavx will not be approved more than once for the same acute pain episode.

3. Requests for a new pain episode will be reviewed against initial criteria.
4. Members on samples or patient assistance programs will not be approved for continuation of therapy.
5. Journavx will not be approved for the treatment of headache or migraine.
6. The following quantity limitations apply:

Drug Name and Dosage Form	Quantity Limit
Journavx 50 mg tablet	29 tablets per 14 days

References

1. Amaechi O, Huffman MM, Featherstone K. Pharmacologic therapy for acute pain. *Am Fam Phys*. 2021;104(1):63-72.
2. Bertoch T, D'Aunno D, McCoun J, et al. Randomized, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trials of suzetrigine, a non-opioid, pain signal inhibitor for treatment of acute pain after abdominoplasty of bunionectomy (NAVIGATE 1/NAVIGATE 2). Oral presentation at: The anesthesiology annual meeting; October 18 to 22, 2024; Philadelphia, PA.
3. Carrasco-Labra A, Polk DE, Urquhart O, et al. Evidence-based clinical practice guideline for the pharmacologic management of acute dental pain in adolescents, adults, and older adults: A report from the American Dental Association Science and Research Institute, the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Pennsylvania. *JADA*. 2024;155(2):102-117. doi.org/10.1016/j.adaj.2023.10.009
4. Chou R, Gordon DB, de Leon-Casasola OA, et al. Guidelines on the management of postoperative pain: A clinical practice guideline from the American Pain Society, the American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine, and the American Society of Anesthesiologists' Committee on Regional Anesthesia, Executive Committee, and Administrative Council. *J Pain*. 2016;17(2):131-157. doi: 10.1016/j.jpain.2016.02.002
5. Dowell D, Ragan KR, Jones CM, Baldwin GT, Chou R. CDC clinical practice guideline for prescribing opioids for pain- United States, 2022. *MMWR Recomm Rep*. 2022;71(3). doi: 10.15585/mmwr.rr7103a1
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10. McCoun J, Winkle P, Solanki D, et al. A Phase 3, single-arm study of suzetrigine, a non-opioid, pain signal inhibitor for treatment of acute pain from surgical and non-surgical conditions. Poster presented at: The anesthesiology annual meeting; October 18 to 22, 2024; Philadelphia, PA.
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12. Qaseem A, McLean RM, O'Gurek D, et al. Nonpharmacologic and pharmacologic management of acute pain from non-low back, musculoskeletal injuries in adults: a clinical guideline from the American College of Physicians and American Academy of Family Physicians. *Ann intern Med*. 2020;173:739-748. doi.10.7326/M19-3602

13. Qaseem A, Wilt TJ, McLean RM, Forciea MA; Clinical Guidelines Committee of the American College of Physicians. Noninvasive treatments from acute, subacute, and chronic low back pain: a clinical practice guideline from the American College of Physicians. *Ann Intern Med*. 2017;166:514-530. doi:10.7326/M16-2367
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06/11/2025 – Reviewed at June P&T. Effective 09/1/2025.