

**Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator (CFTR) Potentiators:**  
**Alyftrek (vanzacaftor/tezacaftor/deutivacaftor)**  
**Kalydeco (ivacaftor)**  
**Orkambi (lumacaftor/ivacaftor)**  
**Symdeko (tezacaftor/ivacaftor)**  
**Trikafta (elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor)**  
**Effective 08/01/2025**

<b>Plan</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> MassHealth UPPL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial/Exchange	<b>Program Type</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prior Authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Quantity Limit <input type="checkbox"/> Step Therapy
<b>Benefit</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy Benefit <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Benefit		
<b>Specialty Limitations</b>	This medication has been designated specialty and must be filled at a contracted specialty pharmacy.		
<b>Contact Information</b>	<b>Medical Benefit</b> Pharmacy Benefit	Phone: 833-895-2611 Phone: 800-711-4555	Fax: 888-656-6671 Fax: 844-403-1029
<b>Exceptions</b>	N/A		

### Overview

Cystic fibrosis (CF) is caused by genetic mutations in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) protein. The CFTR protein is present in the respiratory epithelium and plays an important role in the regulation of airway surface liquid. Genetic mutations in the protein result in abnormal airway secretions, chronic endobronchial infection, and progressive airway obstruction. The CFTR potentiators treat the underlying cause of CF by targeting the defective CFTR protein to help facilitate increased chloride transport.

Alyftrek is a combination of deutivacaftor (a CFTR potentiator), tezacaftor, and vanzacaftor indicated for the treatment of CF in patients 6 years of age and older who have at least one F508del mutation or another responsive mutation in the CFTR gene.

Kalydeco (ivacaftor) is a CFTR potentiator indicated for the treatment of CF in patients age 1 month and older who have at least one mutation in the CFTR gene that is responsive to ivacaftor based on clinical and/or in vitro assay data. If the patient's genotype is unknown, an FDA-cleared CF mutation test should be used to detect the presence of a CFTR mutation followed by verification with bi-directional sequencing when recommended by the mutation test instructions for use.

Orkambi is a combination of ivacaftor and lumacaftor indicated for the treatment of CF in patients 1 year of age or older who are homozygous for the *F508del* mutation in the CFTR gene. If the patient's genotype is unknown, an FDA-cleared CF mutation test should be used to detect the presence of *F508del* mutation on both alleles of the CFTR gene. The efficacy and safety of Orkambi has not been established in patients with CF other than those who are homozygous for the F508del mutation.

Symdeko is a combination of tezacaftor and ivacaftor indicated for the treatment of CF in patients 6 years of age and older who are homozygous for the *F508del* mutation or who have at least one mutation in the CFTR gene that is responsive to tezacaftor/ivacaftor based on in vitro data and/or clinical evidence. If the patient's genotype

is unknown, an FDA-cleared CF mutation test should be used to detect the presence of a *CFTR* mutation followed by verification with bi-directional sequencing when recommended by the mutation test instructions for use.

Trikafta is a combination of ivacaftor (a *CFTR* potentiator), tezacaftor, and elexacaftor indicated for the treatment of CF in patients aged 2 years and older who have at least one *F508del* mutation in the *CFTR* gene or a mutation in the *CFTR* gene that is responsive based on in vitro data. If the patient's genotype is unknown, an FDA-cleared CF mutation test should be used to confirm the presence of at least one *F508del* mutation or a mutation that is responsive based on in vitro data.

**Coverage Guidelines:**

Authorization may be granted for members new to the plan within the last 90 days who are currently receiving treatment with the requested medication and are stable, excluding when the product is obtained as samples or via manufacturer's patient assistance programs

**OR**

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

**Alyftrek (vanzacaftor/tezacaftor/deutivacaftor)**

1. Documentation of genetic testing to detect a mutation in the *CFTR* gene
2. Member meets at least ONE of the following:
  - a. Member is positive for the *F508del* mutation
  - b. Member has at least one mutation that is responsive to vanzacaftor/tezacaftor/deutivacaftor  
(note: specific gene must be documented)
3. Member is 6 years of age or older
4. Member meets ONE of the following:
  - a. Member has a mutation that is not responsive to Trikafta (elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor)
  - b. Member meets BOTH of the following:
    - i. Member has a mutation that is responsive to Trikafta (elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor)
    - ii. Documentation member has had an inadequate response, adverse reaction, or contraindication to Trikafta
5. Alyftrek will not be used in combination with Kalydeco, Orkambi, Symdeko, or Trikafta

**Kalydeco (ivacaftor)**

1. Documentation of genetic testing to detect a mutation in the *CFTR* gene
2. Member has at least one mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (*CFTR*) gene that is responsive to ivacaftor (Note: specific gene must be documented)
3. Member is 1 month of age or older
4. Kalydeco will not be used in combination with Alyftrek, Symdeko, Orkambi, or Trikafta

**Orkambi (lumacaftor/ivacaftor)**

1. Documentation of genetic testing to detect a mutation in the *CFTR* gene
2. The member is positive for the *F508del* mutation on both alleles of the *CFTR* gene
3. Member is 1 year of age or older
4. Orkambi will not be used in combination with Alyftrek, Kalydeco, Symdeko, or Trikafta

**Symdeko (tezacaftor/ivacaftor)**

1. Documentation of genetic testing to detect a mutation in the *CFTR* gene
2. Member meets at least ONE of the following:



- a. Member is positive for the *F508del* mutation on both alleles of the CFTR gene
- b. Member has at least one mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene that is responsive to tezacaftor/ivacaftor (Note: specific gene must be documented)
- 3. Member is 6 years of age or older
- 4. Symdeko will not be used in combination with Alyftrek, Kalydeco, Orkambi, or Trikafta

#### **Trikafta (elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor)**

- 1. Documentation of genetic testing to detect a mutation in the *CFTR* gene
- 2. Member meets at least ONE of the following:
  - a. Member is positive for at least one *F508del* mutation on the CFTR gene
  - b. Member has at least one mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene that is responsive to elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor (Note: specific gene must be documented)
- 3. Member is 2 years of age or older
- 4. Trikafta will not be used in combination with Alyftrek, Kalydeco, Symdeko, or Orkambi

#### **Continuation of Therapy**

Requests for reauthorization will be approved when the following criteria are met:

- 1. Member meets initial criteria

#### **Limitations**

- 1. Initial approvals will be granted for 6 months
- 2. Reauthorizations will be granted for 12 months
- 3. The following quantity limits apply:

Drug Name and Dosage Form	Quantity Limit
Alyftrek 4 mg/20 mg/50 mg tablets	3 tablets per day
Alyftrek 10 mg/50 mg/125 mg tablets	2 tablets per day
Kalydeco 150mg tablets	2 tablets per day
Kalydeco 5.8 mg, 13.4 mg, 25mg, 50mg, or 75mg packets	2 packets per day
Orkambi 100-125 mg tablets, 200-125mg tablets	4 tablets per day
Orkambi 75-94 mg granules, 150-188mg granules, 100-125 mg granules	2 tablets per day
Symdeko 50-75mg tablets, 100-150 mg tablets	2 tablets per day
Trikafta 50-25-37.5 mg tablets, 100-50-75mg tablets	3 tablets per day
Trikafta 80-40-60 mg granules, 100-50-75 mg granules	2 granules per day

#### **References**

1. Alyftrek (vanzacaftor/tezacaftor/deutivacaftor) [prescribing information]. Boston, MA: Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.; January 2025.
2. Kalydeco (ivacaftor) [prescribing information]. Boston, MA: Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.; August 2023.
3. Mogayzel PJ, Naureckas ET, Robinson KA, et al. Cystic fibrosis pulmonary guidelines. Chronic medications for maintenance of lung health. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med.* 2013;187:680-689.



4. Orkambi (lumacaftor and ivacaftor) [prescribing information]. Boston, MA: Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.; December 2024.
5. Rowe SM, Daines C, Ringshausen FC, Kerem E, Wilson J, Tullis E, Nair N, Simard C, Han L, Ingenito EP, McKee C, Lekstrom-Himes J, Davies JC. Tezacaftor-Ivacaftor in Residual Function Heterozygotes with Cystic Fibrosis. *N Engl J Med.* 2017; 377:2024-2035
6. Symdeko (tezacaftor/ivacaftor) [prescribing information]. Boston, MA: Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.; January 2025.
7. Taylor-Cousar JL, Munck A, McKone EF, et al. Tezacaftor–ivacaftor in patients with cystic fibrosis homozygous for Phe508del *N Engl J Med* 2017; 377:2013-2023
8. Trikafta (elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor) [prescribing information]. Boston, MA: Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc., December 2024.

#### **Review History**

05/20/2020 – Created and Reviewed P&T Mtg; Merged Orkambi, Symdeko, Trikafta and Kalydeco into one program. Effective 7/1/20.

05/19/2021 – Updated and Reviewed May P&T Mtg; Separated out Comm/Exch vs. MH UPPL; Added duration of approval to Limitations.

07/21/2021 – Updated and Reviewed July P&T; removed previous failure or inadequate response to Orkambi, Symdeko and Kalydeco for the drug Trikafta. Age requirement for Trikafta updated to  $\geq$  6 years old. Effective 10/01/2021.

11/13/2024 – Updated and reviewed at November P&T. Updated Kalydeco criteria to decrease approval age from 6 months to 1 month to reflect updated FDA-approved indication. Updated Orkambi criteria to decrease approval age from 2 years to 1 year to reflect updated FDA-approved indication. Updated Trikafta criteria from 6 years of age to 2 years of age to reflect up dated FDA-approved indication. Updated language for Kalydeco, Symdeko, and Trikafta to remove specific mutations and instead require member has at least one mutation in the CFTR gene that is responsive. to the requested agent. Updated quantity limitations grid to include all doses and formulations. Effective 02/01/2025.

05/14/2025 – Reviewed and updated at May P&T. Added Alyftrek to policy. Updated criteria for Kalydeco, Symdeko, Orkambi, and Trikafta to include Alyftrek as an agent that will not be used concomitantly with the requested agent. Effective 08/01/2025.

