

**APPLICANT** (stamp or sticker acceptable)      **PATIENT NHI:** .....      **REFERRER** Reg No: .....

Reg No: .....      First Names: .....      First Names: .....

Name: .....      Surname: .....      Surname: .....

Address: .....      DOB: .....      Address: .....

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Fax Number: .....      Fax Number: .....

**Zoledronic acid**

**INITIAL APPLICATION - Paget's disease**

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid for 1 year.

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

Paget's disease

and

- Bone or articular pain
- or
- Bone deformity
- or
- Bone, articular or neurological complications
- or
- Asymptomatic disease, but risk of complications
- or
- Preparation for orthopaedic surgery

and

The patient will not be prescribed more than one infusion in the 12-month approval period

**INITIAL APPLICATION - Underlying cause - Osteoporosis**

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid without further renewal unless notified.

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- History of one significant osteoporotic fracture demonstrated radiologically and documented bone mineral density (BMD)  $\geq 2.5$  standard deviations below the mean normal value in young adults (i.e. T-Score  $\leq -2.5$ ) (see Note)
- or
- History of one significant osteoporotic fracture demonstrated radiologically, and either the patient is elderly, or densitometry scanning cannot be performed because of major logistical, technical or pathophysiological reasons. It is unlikely that this provision would apply to many patients under 75 years of age
- or
- History of two significant osteoporotic fractures demonstrated radiologically
- or
- Documented T-Score  $\leq -3.0$  (see Note)
- or
- A 10-year risk of hip fracture  $\geq 3\%$ , calculated using a published risk assessment algorithm (e.g. FRAX or Garvan) which incorporates BMD measurements (see Note)
- or
- Patient has had a Special Authority approval for alendronate (Underlying cause - Osteoporosis)

and

The patient will not be prescribed more than one infusion in a 12-month period

**Use next page for: Initial application - Underlying cause - glucocorticosteroid therapy, Renewal - Paget's disease, Renewal - Underlying cause was, and remains, glucocorticosteroid therapy and Renewal - Underlying cause was glucocorticosteroid therapy but patient now meets the 'Underlying cause - osteoporosis' criteria**

I confirm the above details are correct and that in signing this form I understand I may be audited.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

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**Zoledronic acid - continued**

**INITIAL APPLICATION - Underlying cause - glucocorticosteroid therapy**

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid for 1 year.

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

The patient is receiving systemic glucocorticosteroid therapy ( $\geq 5$  mg per day prednisone equivalents) and has already received or is expected to receive therapy for at least three months

and

- The patient has documented BMD  $\geq 1.5$  standard deviations below the mean normal value in young adults (i.e. T-Score  $\leq -1.5$ ) (see Note)
- or
- The patient has a history of one significant osteoporotic fracture demonstrated radiologically
- or
- The patient has had a Special Authority approval for alendronate (Underlying cause - glucocorticosteroid therapy)

and

The patient will not be prescribed more than one infusion in the 12-month approval period

**RENEWAL - Paget's disease**

Current approval Number (if known):.....

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid for 1 year. The patient must have had no more than 1 prior approval in the last 12 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- The patient has relapsed (based on increases in serum alkaline phosphatase)
- or
- The patient's serum alkaline phosphatase has not normalised following previous treatment with zoledronic acid
- or
- Symptomatic disease (prescriber determined)

and

The patient will not be prescribed more than one infusion in the 12-month approval period

**RENEWAL - Underlying cause was, and remains, glucocorticosteroid therapy**

Current approval Number (if known):.....

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid for 1 year. The patient must have had no more than 1 prior approval in the last 12 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

The patient is continuing systemic glucocorticosteroid therapy ( $\geq 5$  mg per day prednisone equivalents)

and

The patient will not be prescribed more than one infusion in the 12-month approval period

**RENEWAL - Underlying cause was glucocorticosteroid therapy but patient now meets the 'Underlying cause - osteoporosis' criteria**

Current approval Number (if known):.....

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid without further renewal unless notified.

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# APPLICATION FOR SUBSIDY BY SPECIAL AUTHORITY

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**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- History of one significant osteoporotic fracture demonstrated radiologically and documented bone mineral density (BMD)  $\geq 2.5$  standard deviations below the mean normal value in young adults (i.e. T-Score  $\leq -2.5$ ) (see Note)
- or
- History of one significant osteoporotic fracture demonstrated radiologically, and either the patient is elderly, or densitometry scanning cannot be performed because of major logistical, technical or pathophysiological reasons. It is unlikely that this provision would apply to many patients under 75 years of age
- or
- History of two significant osteoporotic fractures demonstrated radiologically
- or
- Documented T-Score  $\leq -3.0$  (see Note)
- or
- A 10-year risk of hip fracture  $\geq 3\%$ , calculated using a published risk assessment algorithm (e.g. FRAX or Garvan) which incorporates BMD measurements (see Note)
- or
- Patient has had a Special Authority approval for alendronate (Underlying cause was glucocorticosteroid therapy but patient now meets the 'Underlying cause - Osteoporosis' criteria)

and  
 The patient will not be prescribed more than one infusion in a 12-month period

- Note:
1. BMD (including BMD used to derive T-Score) must be measured using dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry (DXA). Quantitative ultrasound and quantitative computed tomography (QCT) are not acceptable.
  2. Evidence used by National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidance indicates that patients aged 75 years and over who have a history of significant osteoporotic fracture demonstrated radiologically are very likely to have a T-Score  $\leq -2.5$  and, therefore, do not require BMD measurement for treatment with bisphosphonates.
  3. Osteoporotic fractures are the incident events for severe (established) osteoporosis and can be defined using the WHO definitions of osteoporosis and fragility fracture. The WHO defines severe (established) osteoporosis as a T-score below  $-2.5$  with one or more associated fragility fractures. Fragility fractures are fractures that occur as a result of mechanical forces that would not ordinarily cause fracture (minimal trauma). The WHO has quantified this as forces equivalent to a fall from a standing height or less.
  4. A vertebral fracture is defined as a 20% or greater reduction in height of the anterior or mid portion of a vertebral body relative to the posterior height of that body, or a 20% or greater reduction in any of these heights compared to the vertebral body above or below the affected vertebral body.

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