

# Deferasirox (EXJADE and JADENU)

## Criteria for Use

### March 2023

VA Pharmacy Benefits Management Services, Medical Advisory Panel, and VISN Pharmacist Executives

*The following recommendations are based on medical evidence, clinician input, and expert opinion. The content of the document is dynamic and will be revised as new information becomes available. The purpose of this document is to assist practitioners in clinical decision-making, to standardize and improve the quality of patient care, and to promote cost-effective drug prescribing. THE CLINICIAN SHOULD USE THIS GUIDANCE AND INTERPRET IT IN THE CLINICAL CONTEXT OF THE INDIVIDUAL PATIENT. INDIVIDUAL CASES THAT ARE EXCEPTIONS TO THE EXCLUSION AND INCLUSION CRITERIA SHOULD BE ADJUDICATED AT THE LOCAL FACILITY ACCORDING TO THE POLICY AND PROCEDURES OF ITS P&T COMMITTEE AND PHARMACY SERVICES.*

The Product Information should be consulted for detailed prescribing information.

See the VA National PBM-MAP-VPE Monograph on this drug at the [PBM INTRAnet](#) site for further information.

### Exclusion Criteria

If the answer to ANY item below is met, then the patient should NOT receive deferasirox:

- Creatinine clearance <40 mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>
- Severe (Child-Pugh C) hepatic impairment
- Terminal high-risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS-excess blasts)
- Unmanageable CYP2C8, CYP1A2, UGT, bile sequestrant, or aluminum-containing antacid drug interactions
- Baseline ophthalmology exam not completed
- Known hypersensitivity to deferasirox or any of its components
- Breastfeeding

### Inclusion Criteria

ONE of the following criteria must be met:

- Chronic iron overload due to red blood cell transfusion dependence
- Chronic iron overload in patients with non-transfusion-dependent thalassemia (NTDT) syndromes, and a liver iron concentration (LIC) of at least 5 mg Fe per gram of dry weight and a serum ferritin greater than 300 mcg/L

### Additional Inclusion Criteria

All of the following criteria must be met:

- Care is provided by a VA/VA Community Care oncology or hematology provider
- Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) performance status 0-2

### Additional Inclusion Criteria- Select if applicable

- For patients who can become pregnant and patients with partners who can become pregnant: Counseling provided on potential risks vs benefits of treatment and the use of effective non-hormonal contraception during therapy

### Other Justification

 \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared: Feb 2023. Contact: Mark C. Geraci, Pharm.D. BCOP, National Clinical Pharmacy Program Manager, VA Pharmacy Benefits Management Services (12PBM)