

Aetna Better Health® of Maryland
10320 Little Patuxent Parkway
Suite 600
Columbia, MD 21044



May 15, 2026

AETNA BETTER HEALTH® OF MARYLAND

Provider Notice: Cell & Gene Therapy Access Model for Sickle Cell Disease Effective Date: January 1, 2026

Goal: To improve access to gene therapy treatments for individuals living with sickle cell disease, a genetic blood disorder. The Cell and Gene Therapy (CGT) Model supports outcomes-based agreements between states and manufacturers to provide such treatments.

Available Cell and Gene Therapies

The two drugs available in this Model are CASGEVY™, which is manufactured by Vertex Pharmaceuticals, and LYFGENIA™, which is manufactured by Genetix Biotherapeutics (formerly Bluebird Bio). The medications can only be offered by an authorized treatment center (ATC).

Treatment Policies and Network Contracting

There are two ATCs in the Maryland region: Children's National Medical Center (CNMC) and University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC).

On January 26, 2026, the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC) received approval to provide CASGEVY. As a result, both UMMC and Children's National Medical Center now can administer CASGEVY™ and LYFGENIA™ under the CGT Access Model for Aetna Better Health of Maryland members to receive treatment.

Service Authorization

Both Casgevy and Lyfgenia require prior authorization and are covered through the medical benefit only for 12 months.



Important Links:

- **Lyfgenia PA criteria**
<https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/Documents/LYFGENIA%20Preauthorization%20Form.pdf#search=sickle%20cell>
- **Casgevy PA Criteria**
 - <https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/Documents/Casgevy%20Preauthorization%20Form.pdf#search=sickle%20cell>
- **Service Authorization submission**
 - <https://www.aetnabetterhealth.com/maryland/providers/prior-authorization.html>
- **Maryland Medicaid Cell and Gene Therapy webpage**
 - <https://bit.ly/49hMXTt>

Billing

CGT Model HCPCS Codes

Codes and Billing			
Model Drug	HCPCS Code	Description	Cost
CASGEVY*	J3392	Injection, exagamglogene autotemcel	Payable by Invoice
LYFGENIA	J3394	Injection, lovotibeglogene autotemcel	Payable by Invoice

*While Casgevy is also FDA approved for the treatment of Transfusion-dependent β -thalassemia (TDT), treatment of TDT is not part of the CGT Model.

- These HCPCS codes are paid “by invoice,” meaning providers must submit an invoice along with their claim for reimbursement.
- Providers will submit their claims for the CGT medications on a **UB04 claim ONLY**.
- The provider may submit for the medication and infusion inpatient stay on the same claim.
- ATCs must be CIBMTR participating centers, which is an additional requirement for billing.
- **Providers may NOT use 340B discounts** on any CGT model medications.
- **Specialty pharmacies are not allowed** to submit claims for CGT model medications.

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Fertility Preservation

- After chemotherapy conditioning step, member may become infertile.
- Fertility preservation is an optional benefit under the CGT Model.
- Medicaid FFS and HealthChoice MCOs are not responsible for reimbursement of fertility preservation services a CGT Model participant utilizes.
- ATCs and fertility preservation providers must bill the gene therapy manufacturers directly by invoice if a participant chooses to receive the service.
- Fertility Preservation PA form and criteria is available on the ABH MD website at the link below:
 - <https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/pap/docs/PA%20Forms/Fertility%20Preservation%20Medication%20PA%20Form.pdf>
 - <https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/pap/pages/Clinical-Criteria.aspx>

Sincerely,

Aetna Better Health of Maryland