

Vabysmo® (faricimab-svoa) (Intravitreal)

Document Number: IC-0659

Last Review Date: 05/05/2026

Date of Origin: 03/01/2022

Dates Reviewed: 03/2022, 07/2022, 10/2022, 10/2023, 12/2023, 09/2024, 03/2025, 07/2025, 05/2026

I. Length of Authorization

- Initial: Prior authorization validity will be provided initially for 12 months (365 days).
- Renewal: Prior authorization validity may be renewed every 12 months (365 days) thereafter.

II. Dosing Limits

Max Units (per dose and over time) [HCPCS Unit]:

Diagnosis	MU for Initial Dosing	MU for Maintenance Dosing
Neovascular age-related macular degeneration (AMD)	120 billable units every 28 days x 4 doses	120 billable units every 28 days
Diabetic Macular Edema (DME)	120 billable units every 28 days x 6 doses	120 billable units every 28 days
Macular Edema following Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO)	N/A	120 billable units every 28 days

(Max units are based on administration to both eyes)

III. Initial Approval Criteria ¹

Prior authorization validity is provided in the following conditions:

- Patient must have a contraindication, intolerance, or failure to a bevacizumab product prior to the consideration of another ophthalmic VEGF-inhibitor product; **AND**

- Member is at least 18 years of age; **AND**

Universal Criteria ¹⁻¹²

- Member is free of ocular and/or periocular infections; **AND**
- Member does not have active intraocular inflammation; **AND**
- Therapy will not be used concomitantly with other ophthalmic vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) inhibitors^{**}; **AND**
- Member's best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) is measured at baseline and periodically during treatment; **AND**
- Member has a definitive diagnosis of one of the following:

Neovascular (Wet) Age-Related Macular Degeneration (nAMD) †*

Diabetic Macular Edema (DME) †*

Macular Edema following Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO) †

* Members with an insufficient response during initial therapy administered every 4 weeks for at least 4 doses may continue with dosing every 4 weeks. Members with loss of response to maintenance therapy administered at less frequent intervals may increase the dosing frequency in a step-wise manner until response is regained. (Refer to Section V).

**Note: Use as part of an alternating treatment regimen with other ophthalmic vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) inhibitors is generally not permitted and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

† FDA Approved Indication(s); ‡ Compendia Recommended Indication(s); Ⓢ Orphan Drug

IV. Renewal Criteria ¹⁻¹²

Prior authorization validity can be renewed based upon the following criteria:

- Member continues to meet the universal and indication-specific relevant criteria as identified in section III; **AND**
- Absence of unacceptable toxicity from the drug. Examples of unacceptable toxicity include: endophthalmitis and retinal detachments, increase in intraocular pressure, arterial thromboembolic events (ATE), retinal vasculitis and/or retinal vascular occlusion, etc.; **AND**
- Member has had a beneficial response to therapy (e.g., improvement in the baseline best corrected visual acuity (BCVA), etc.) and continued administration is necessary for the maintenance treatment of the condition

V. Dosage/Administration ¹

Indication	Dose
Neovascular (Wet) Age-Related Macular Degeneration (nAMD)	<p><u>Initiation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administer 6 mg intravitreally per affected eye once every 4 weeks (approximately every 28 days ±7 days, monthly) for the first four doses (16 weeks or 4 months) <p><u>Maintenance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow the initial four doses with optical coherence tomography and visual acuity evaluations 8 and 12 weeks later to ascertain whether to give a 6 mg dose via intravitreal injection on one of the following three regimens:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Weeks 28, 44, and every 16 weeks thereafter*;– Weeks 24, 36, 48 and every 12 weeks thereafter*;– Weeks 20, 28, 36, 44 and every 8 weeks thereafter*
Diabetic Macular Edema (DME)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administer 6 mg intravitreally per affected eye once every 4 weeks (approximately every 28 days ±7 days, monthly) for at least four doses. If after at least 4 doses, resolution of edema based on the central subfield thickness (CST) of the macula as measured by optical coherence tomography is achieved, then the interval of dosing may be modified by extensions of up to 4 week interval increments or

	<p>reductions of up to 8 week interval increments based on CST and visual acuity evaluations*; OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer 6 mg intravitreally per affected eye once every 4 weeks (approximately every 28 days \pm7 days, monthly) for the first six doses, followed by 6 mg dose via intravitreal injection at intervals of every 8 weeks*
Macular Edema following Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer 6 mg intravitreally per affected eye once every 4 weeks (approximately every 28 days \pm7 days, monthly)
<p>*Note: Although additional efficacy was not demonstrated in most members when VABYSMO was dosed every 4 weeks compared to every 8 weeks, some members may need every 4 week (monthly) dosing after the first four doses. Members should be assessed regularly. Members with loss of response to maintenance therapy administered at less frequent intervals may increase the dosing frequency in a step-wise manner until response is regained.</p>	

VI. Billing Code/Availability Information

HCPCS Code:

- J2777 – Injection, faricimab-svoa, 0.1 mg; 1 billable unit = 0.1 mg

NDC:

- Vabysmo 6 mg/0.05 mL (concentration 120 mg/mL) single-dose vial: 50242-0096-xx
- Vabysmo 6 mg/0.05 mL (concentration 120 mg/mL) single-dose prefilled syringe: 50242-0096-xx

VII. References

- Vabysmo [package insert]. South San Francisco, CA; Genentech, Inc.; April 2026. Accessed April 2026.
- Solomon SD, Chew E, Duh EJ, et al. Diabetic Retinopathy: A Position Statement by the American Diabetes Association. *Diabetes Care*. 2017 Mar;40(3):412-418.
- American Academy of Ophthalmology-Preferred Practice Patterns (AAO-PPP) Retina/Vitreous Committee, Hoskins Center for Quality Eye Care. Diabetic Retinopathy PPP – Update 2024. Sept 2024.
- American Academy of Ophthalmology-Preferred Practice Patterns (AAO-PPP) Retina/Vitreous Committee, Hoskins Center for Quality Eye Care. Retinal Vein Occlusions PPP – Update 2024. Sept 2024.
- American Academy of Ophthalmology-Preferred Practice Patterns (AAO-PPP) Retina/Vitreous Committee, Hoskins Center for Quality Eye Care. Age-Related Macular Degeneration PPP – Update 2024. Sept 2024.
- Royal College of Ophthalmologists. Clinical Guidelines – Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO) Guidelines – July 2015. Accessed at <https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Retinal-Vein-Occlusion-RVO-Guidelines-July-2015.pdf>.
- Heier JS, Khanani AM, Quezada et al; TENAYA and LUCERNE Investigators. Efficacy, durability, and safety of intravitreal faricimab up to every 16 weeks for neovascular age-related

- macular degeneration (TENAYA and LUCERNE): two randomised, double-masked, phase 3, non-inferiority trials. Lancet. 2022 Jan 21. Pii: S0140-6736(22)00010-1. Doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(22)00010-1.
8. Wykoff CC, Abreu F, Adamis AP, et al; YOSEMITE and RHINE Investigators. Efficacy, durability, and safety of intravitreal faricimab with extended dosing up to every 16 weeks in patients with diabetic macular oedema (YOSEMITE and RHINE): two randomised, double-masked, phase 3 trials. Lancet. 2022 Jan 21. Pii: S0140-6736(22)00018-6. Doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(22)00018-6.
 9. American Academy of Ophthalmology-Preferred Practice Patterns (AAO-PPP) Retina/Vitreous Panel, Hoskins Center for Quality Eye Care. Retina Summary Benchmarks-2024. December 2024.
 10. Chandra S, McKibbin M, Mahmood S, et al; AMD Commissioning Guidance Development Group. The Royal College of Ophthalmologists Commissioning guidelines on age macular degeneration: executive summary. Eye (Lond). 2022 Nov;36(11):2078-2083. doi: 10.1038/s41433-022-02095-2. Epub 2022 May 27. PMID: 35624304; PMCID: PMC9582190.
 11. Hattenbach LO, Abreu F, Arrisi P, et al. BALATON and COMINO: Phase III Randomized Clinical Trials of Faricimab for Retinal Vein Occlusion: Study Design and Rationale. Ophthalmol Sci. 2023 Mar 27;3(3):100302. doi: 10.1016/j.xops.2023.100302.
 12. Royal College of Ophthalmologists. Clinical Guidelines – Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO) Guidelines – 17 February 2022. Date of Review: January 2025. Accessed at <https://www.rcophth.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Retinal-Vein-Occlusion-Guidelines-2022.pdf>.
 13. National Government Services, Inc. Local Coverage Article (LCA): Billing and Coding: Ranibizumab and biosimilars, Aflibercept, Aflibercept HD, Brolucizumab-dblI, Faricimab-svoa, and PAVBLU™ aflibercept-ayyh, AHZANTIVE® aflibercept-abzv. ENZEEVU™ aflibercept-mrbb, OPUVIZ™ aflibercept-yszy and YESAFILI™ aflibercept-jbvf (A52451). Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Inc. Updated on 03/27/2026 with effective date of 01/01/2026. Accessed April 2026.

Appendix A – Non-Quantitative Treatment Limitations (NQL) Factor Checklist

Non-quantitative treatment limitations (NQLs) refer to the methods, guidelines, standards of evidence, or other conditions that can restrict how long or to what extent benefits are provided under a health plan. These may include things like utilization review or prior authorization. The utilization management NQL applies comparably, and not more stringently, to mental health/substance use disorder (MH/SUD) Medical Benefit Prescription Drugs and medical/surgical (M/S) Medical Benefit Prescription Drugs. The table below lists the factors that were considered in designing and applying prior authorization to this drug/drug group, and a summary of the conclusions that Prime’s assessment led to for each.

Factor	Conclusion
Indication	Yes: Consider for PA
Safety and efficacy	No: PA not a priority

Potential for misuse/abuse	No: PA not a priority
Cost of drug	Yes: Consider for PA

Appendix 1 – Covered Diagnosis Codes

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description
E08.311	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with unspecified diabetic retinopathy with macular edema
E08.3211	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E08.3212	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E08.3213	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E08.3219	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E08.3311	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E08.3312	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E08.3313	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E08.3319	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E08.3411	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E08.3412	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E08.3413	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E08.3419	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E08.3511	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E08.3512	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E08.3513	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E08.3519	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E09.311	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy with macular edema
E09.3211	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E09.3212	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description
E09.3213	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E09.3219	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E09.3311	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E09.3312	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E09.3313	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E09.3319	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E09.3411	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E09.3412	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E09.3413	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E09.3419	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E09.3511	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E09.3512	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E09.3513	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E09.3519	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E10.311	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy with macular edema
E10.3211	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E10.3212	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E10.3213	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E10.3219	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E10.3311	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E10.3312	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E10.3313	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E10.3319	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E10.3411	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description
E10.3412	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E10.3413	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E10.3419	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E10.3511	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E10.3512	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E10.3513	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E10.3519	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E11.311	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy with macular edema
E11.3211	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E11.3212	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E11.3213	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E11.3219	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E11.3311	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E11.3312	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E11.3313	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E11.3319	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E11.3411	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E11.3412	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E11.3413	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E11.3419	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E11.3511	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E11.3512	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E11.3513	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E11.3519	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E13.311	Other specified diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy with macular edema
E13.3211	Other specified diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E13.3212	Other specified diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E13.3213	Other specified diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description
E13.3219	Other specified diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E13.3311	Other specified diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E13.3312	Other specified diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E13.3313	Other specified diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E13.3319	Other specified diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E13.3411	Other specified diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E13.3412	Other specified diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E13.3413	Other specified diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E13.3419	Other specified diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
E13.3511	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E13.3512	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E13.3513	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E13.3519	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, unspecified eye
H34.8110	Central retinal vein occlusion, right eye, with macular edema
H34.8120	Central retinal vein occlusion, left eye, with macular edema
H34.8130	Central retinal vein occlusion, bilateral, with macular edema
H34.8190	Central retinal vein occlusion, unspecified eye, with macular edema
H34.8310	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, right eye, with macular edema
H34.8320	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, left eye, with macular edema
H34.8330	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, bilateral, with macular edema
H34.8390	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, unspecified eye, with macular edema
H35.3210	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, right eye, stage unspecified
H35.3211	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, right eye, with active choroidal neovascularization
H35.3212	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, right eye, with inactive choroidal neovascularization
H35.3213	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, right eye, with inactive scar
H35.3220	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, left eye, stage unspecified
H35.3221	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, left eye, with active choroidal neovascularization
H35.3222	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, left eye, with inactive choroidal neovascularization
H35.3223	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, left eye, with inactive scar
H35.3230	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, bilateral, stage unspecified
H35.3231	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, bilateral, with active choroidal neovascularization
H35.3232	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, bilateral, with inactive choroidal neovascularization

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description
H35.3233	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, bilateral, with inactive scar
H35.3290	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, unspecified eye, stage unspecified
H35.3291	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, unspecified eye, with active choroidal neovascularization
H35.3292	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, unspecified eye, with inactive choroidal neovascularization
H35.3293	Exudative age-related macular degeneration, unspecified eye, with inactive scar

Appendix 2 – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

The preceding information is intended for non-Medicare coverage determinations. Medicare coverage for outpatient (Part B) drugs is outlined in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual (Pub. 100-2), Chapter 15, §50 Drugs and Biologicals. In addition, National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) and/or Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) may exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) may also exist for claims payment purposes or to clarify benefit eligibility under Part B for drugs which may be self-administered. The following link may be used to search for NCD, LCD, or LCA documents:

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx>. Additional indications, including any preceding information, may be applied at the discretion of the health plan.

Medicare Part B Covered Diagnosis Codes		
Jurisdiction	NCD/LCA/LCD Document (s)	Contractor
6, K	A52451	National Government Services, Inc.

Medicare Part B Administrative Contractor (MAC) Jurisdictions		
Jurisdiction	Applicable State/US Territory	Contractor
E (1)	CA, HI, NV, AS, GU, CNMI	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
F (2 & 3)	AK, WA, OR, ID, ND, SD, MT, WY, UT, AZ	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC
5	KS, NE, IA, MO	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
6	MN, WI, IL	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
H (4 & 7)	LA, AR, MS, TX, OK, CO, NM	Novitas Solutions, Inc.
8	MI, IN	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)
N (9)	FL, PR, VI	First Coast Service Options, Inc.
J (10)	TN, GA, AL	Palmetto GBA
M (11)	NC, SC, WV, VA (excluding below)	Palmetto GBA
L (12)	DE, MD, PA, NJ, DC (includes Arlington & Fairfax counties and the city of Alexandria in VA)	Novitas Solutions, Inc.
K (13 & 14)	NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, ME, NH	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)
15	KY, OH	CGS Administrators, LLC