



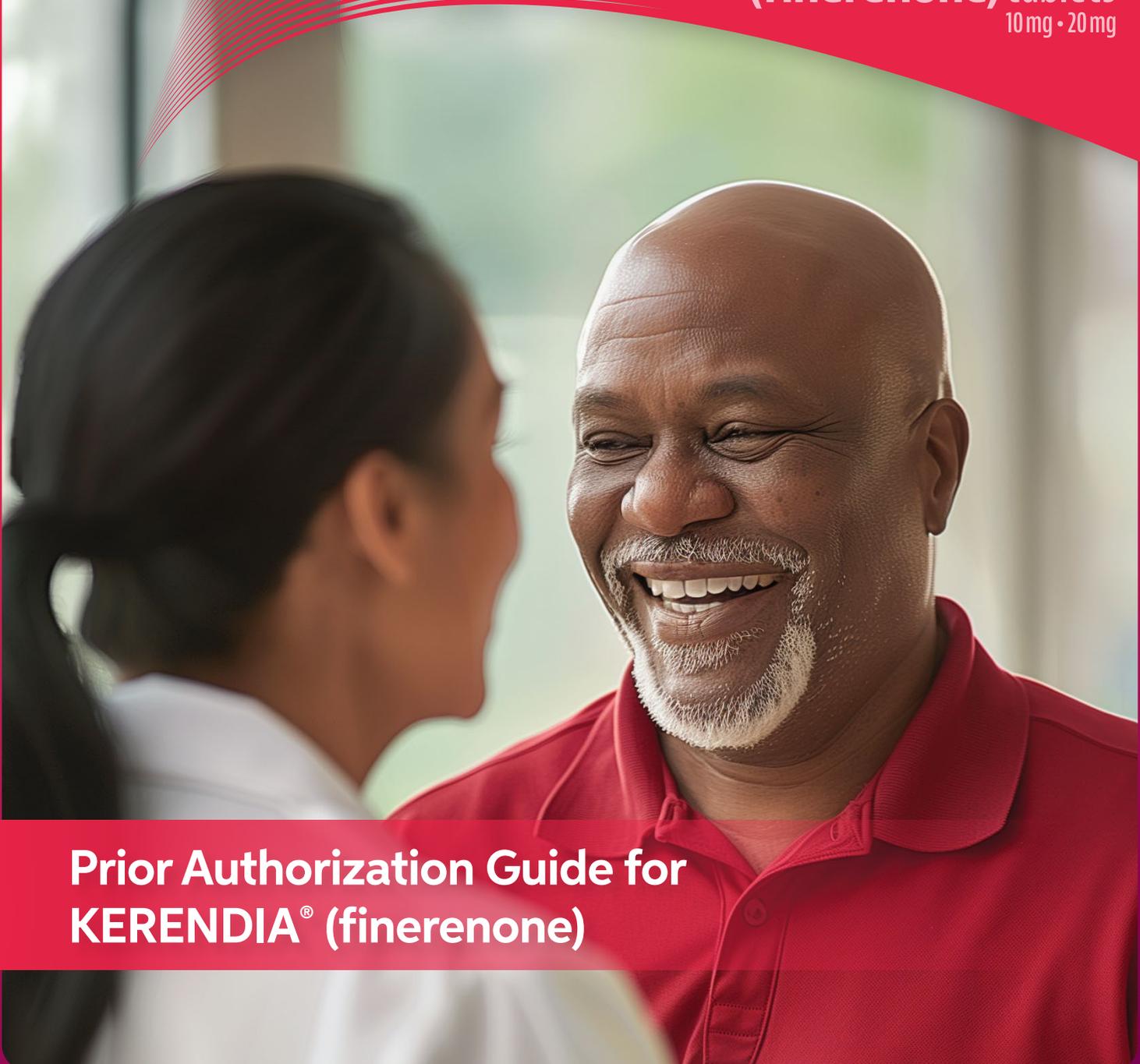
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Prior Authorizations

Medical/Tiering Exceptions

Appeals

Access Support



## Prior Authorization Guide for KERENDIA<sup>®</sup> (finerenone)

Many health plans require a prior authorization (PA) for products like KERENDIA<sup>®</sup> (finerenone). This is a common practice to establish appropriate utilization of medications, and **it may mean that your office will need to obtain authorization from the health plan before KERENDIA coverage is approved for your patient.**



CONTINUE



Please see Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full [Prescribing Information](#).

# Inside This Brochure

Click on a page number below or on the sectioned tabs on the right to find detailed information on specific PA-related topics within this resource.

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Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full [Prescribing Information](#).



# Securing Patient Access to KERENDIA® (finerenone)



The following information will help you navigate the PA, medical exceptions, tiering exceptions, and appeals processes, and may help avoid delays in patient access to KERENDIA.

## Submitting PA Requests

### Please keep in mind that:



You can submit an electronic PA through CoverMyMeds®\* for faster processing or fax a paper form to the health plan



Each health plan may have its own unique PA criteria and many plans will require completion of specific PA request forms, available on their website

- KERENDIA coverage falls under your patient's pharmacy benefit and not the medical benefit, and therefore, your patient's pharmacy benefit information **must be included** to ensure the correct form is selected and reviewed



If you already know that a certain health plan requires a PA for KERENDIA you may proactively submit the necessary paperwork to the health plan before sending the prescription to the pharmacy



Submitting complete and accurate PA forms along with supporting documentation can help to avoid delays in processing or avoid a PA denial (see pages 5 and 6 for more information)



If the initial PA request is denied, an appeal may be required (see pages 9 and 10 for information about the appeals process). Health plans will notify you of the reason the request was denied

### INDICATION:

- KERENDIA is indicated to reduce the risk of sustained eGFR decline, end-stage kidney disease, cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction, and hospitalization for heart failure in adult patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) associated with type 2 diabetes (T2D)

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

#### CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Concomitant use with strong CYP3A4 inhibitors
- Patients with adrenal insufficiency

\*CoverMyMeds is an independent party.

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According to data from CoverMyMeds<sup>1</sup>

## The Top 3 PA Denial Reasons Are:

1

**Failure to document an accurate diagnosis code** for chronic kidney disease (CKD) associated with type 2 diabetes (T2D). The most common ICD-10-CM code for CKD associated with T2D is **E11.22**

2

**Neglecting to report** a discontinuation, contraindication, or intolerance to formulary alternatives

3

Patient is **not** currently receiving a **maximum tolerated dose** of ACEi or ARB therapy or does not have a documented contraindication to an ACEi or ARB



### Tips to Avoid PA Denials

- Ensure accurate reporting of diagnosis and current/previous therapies
- Use clear handwriting
- Include all necessary signatures
- Provide complete information as prompted



ACEi, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker.

Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full [Prescribing Information](#).

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# Preparing to Submit a Prior Authorization\*

Consider the following **PA criteria** for KERENDIA® (finerenone) when preparing to submit a PA on behalf of your patient. Including this information may prevent a PA denial.



## Patient Information

Include a **complete record** of the patient's personal and member/beneficiary information. The patient's **pharmacy benefit member ID** should be provided for fields requesting an Insurance ID#.

## Prescriber Information

Include **all relevant prescriber information** in this section.

**Note:** If completing a PA through CoverMyMeds, this information may already be populated by the pharmacy.



## Relevant Laboratory Values

- Estimated glomerular filtration rate (**eGFR**)
- Urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio (**UACR**)
  - Other documentation of **proteinuria** or **albuminuria**
- Serum potassium level (**K<sup>+</sup>**)

**Note:** Diagnostic criteria for CKD may include **eGFR <60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>** or **albuminuria (UACR) ≥30 mg/g for >3 months**. The generally accepted normal range for potassium is **3.5-5 mEq/L**.



## KERENDIA Prescription Information

- Include accurate dispensing information for KERENDIA, including prescribed dose (eg, 10 mg or 20 mg), quantity, frequency, and sig code where required
- Provide the patient's diagnosis and corresponding ICD-10-CM code(s). Multiple ICD-10-CM codes may be included as applicable to the patient
  - **The most common ICD-10-CM code for CKD associated with T2D is E11.22**

**Note:** It is **not required** to include a DEA number on prescriptions for KERENDIA.

\*Information provided in this resource is for informational purposes only and does not guarantee that codes will be appropriate or that coverage will result. Customers should consult with their payers for all relevant coverage and coding.

DEA, Drug Enforcement Agency; ICD-10-CM, *International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification*.

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## Preparing to Submit a Prior Authorization (cont'd)



### Current and Previously Prescribed Therapies

- Indicate current and previously prescribed medications, or those for which the patient has an intolerance or contraindication, specifically\*:
  - **ACEi/ARBs** (eg, Zestril® [lisinopril], Cozaar® [losartan])
  - **SGLT2is** (eg, Jardiance® [empagliflozin], Farxiga® [dapagliflozin])
  - **MRAs** (eg, Aldactone® [spironolactone])
- Specify if the patient has taken KERENDIA® (finerenone) before (including free samples)
- Include dose, treatment duration, and reason for discontinuation (if applicable) for **each** medication listed. It is important to provide all information to underscore the medical necessity of KERENDIA

**Note:** If the payer requires that a patient take another medicine before starting KERENDIA, “Step Therapy Exception” **should be included as a justification** for the PA or Medical Exception.



### Additional Supporting Documentation

To assist the health plan's review of the PA submission, the patient's chart notes and prescription documentation for KERENDIA may be provided.



- ▶ Make sure to include the KERENDIA Prescribing Information (PI) to describe the efficacy, safety, and appropriateness of KERENDIA. Please click [here](#) to access the KERENDIA PI.

**Note:** The doctor's signature must be included before submitting a PA form.

\*Product names are listed as examples of each therapeutic class and do not imply a comparison of efficacy or safety. The products listed may not represent all the products for the therapeutic class.

MRAs, mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists; SGLT2is, sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitors.

Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full [Prescribing Information](#).

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# Medical and Tiering Exceptions

## Requesting a Medical Exception

### Coverage scenario

You have prescribed KERENDIA® (finerenone) for your patient, but it is not covered under the patient's health plan.

You may submit a **Letter of Medical Exception** along with a **Letter of Medical Necessity** to request formulary coverage for your patient.

Plans may require this to be a **formal request from the physician** via a letter of medical exception with additional evidence to explain, in detail, why you believe that KERENDIA is the appropriate medication for your patient. In addition, a letter of medical necessity may be submitted along with the letter of medical exception to describe why KERENDIA is medically necessary if your patient doesn't meet the health plan's full prior authorization criteria for coverage.

### Sample Letter of Medical Exception

**Sample Letter of Medical Exception**

The Sample Medical Exception Letter on the third page serves as a helpful template when a patient's health plan does not include KERENDIA® (finerenone) on the formulary/prescription drug list.

In addition, you may also submit a letter of medical necessity.

**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont'd)**

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS:**

- Hyperkalemia:** KERENDIA can cause hyperkalemia. The risk for developing hyperkalemia increases with decreasing kidney function and is greater in patients with higher baseline potassium levels or other risk factors for hyperkalemia. Measure serum potassium and ECG.

**INDICATIONS:**

- In patients with T2D and CKD treated with maximum tolerated doses of angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin receptor blockers, addition of KERENDIA should be considered to improve cardiovascular outcomes and reduce the risk of CKD progression.
- Recommendation 11.3c: In patients with CKD who are at an increased risk for cardiovascular events or CKD progression or are unable to use a sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitor, a nonsteroidal mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist (KERENDIA) is recommended to reduce CKD progression and CV events.

**PLEASE:**

Please call my office at [OFFICE PHONE NUMBER] if further information is needed or if I can clarify my position so that [PATIENT FIRST NAME] can begin/continue treatment.

Sincerely,  
[PRESCRIBER NAME AND SIGNATURE]

### Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

**Sample Letter of Medical Necessity**

The purpose of this letter is to request that [PAYER COMPANY NAME] approve coverage for KERENDIA. [INDICATION].

**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (cont'd)**

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS:**

- Hyperkalemia:** KERENDIA can cause hyperkalemia. The risk for developing hyperkalemia increases with decreasing kidney function and is greater in patients with higher baseline potassium levels or other risk factors for hyperkalemia. Measure serum potassium and ECG.

**INDICATIONS:**

- In patients with T2D and CKD treated with maximum tolerated doses of angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin receptor blockers, addition of KERENDIA should be considered to improve cardiovascular (CV) outcomes and reduce the risk of CKD progression.
- Recommendation 11.3c: In patients with CKD who are at an increased risk for cardiovascular events or CKD progression or are unable to use a sodium-glucose cotransporter 2 inhibitor, a nonsteroidal mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist (KERENDIA) is recommended to reduce CKD progression and CV events.

**PLEASE:**

Based on the above information, KERENDIA is indicated and medically necessary for [NAME OF PATIENT]'s treatment.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [PHYSICIAN TELEPHONE NUMBER].

Thank you in advance for your immediate attention to this request.

Sincerely,  
[PRESCRIBER NAME AND SIGNATURE]

Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full Prescribing Information.



# Medical and Tiering Exceptions (cont'd)

## Requesting a Tiering Exception

### Coverage scenario

Your patient's plan covers KERENDIA® (finerenone) in a non-preferred tier that has a higher co-pay or co-insurance.

A **Tiering Exception Request Letter** can help make KERENDIA more affordable for patients when KERENDIA is on a health plan's formulary but is placed in a non-preferred tier that has a higher co-pay or co-insurance. By submitting a tiering exception request letter that outlines the reasons why treatment is necessary to meet the medical needs of your patient, the health plan may grant approval for your patient to pay the lowest branded co-pay in place for the plan.

This exception may be especially helpful for patients who may not be eligible to participate in savings programs and may need assistance covering their drug costs.

Under this scenario, a letter of medical necessity may also be submitted along with the tiering exception request letter to describe why KERENDIA is medically necessary and further support this request.

### Sample Tiering Exception Request Letter



To download these sample letters and other PA support resources, visit [www.KerendiaHCP.com/accessresources](http://www.KerendiaHCP.com/accessresources).

Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full [Prescribing Information](#).



# Navigating the Appeals Process

## Appealing a Coverage Denial

### Coverage scenario

A PA request for KERENDIA® (finerenone) coverage was submitted to your patient's health plan, but the request was denied.

If a PA or medical exception request is denied, **an appeal may be required**. Health plans will notify you of the reason the initial request for coverage was denied, and often this can be corrected by **providing complete and accurate information** that was missing from the original submission.

Resubmitting the request through an appeal **is a crucial step to ensuring that your patient has access** to KERENDIA. There are various ways to approach the appeals process, including:

## Requesting a Peer-to-Peer Review

**Peer-to-peer (P2P) reviews** take place when the prescribing HCP discusses the clinical need for KERENDIA with another physician who works for the patient's health plan, following an adverse PA or medical exception determination.



### P2P Reviews May Enable KERENDIA Coverage Even When PAs and Medical Exceptions Are Denied

A doctor's persuasive explanation of their medical decision in a P2P review may be more compelling than formal written requests.<sup>2</sup>

To contact the health plan regarding a P2P review request, follow the guidance provided on the denial notice.

HCP, healthcare provider.

Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full [Prescribing Information](#).

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# Navigating the Appeals Process (cont'd)

## Submitting a Letter of Appeal

A **Letter of Appeal** can be submitted via fax or mail to formally request reconsideration of a PA denial. The letter can be tailored to address the reason(s) provided for the denial and supported with accompanying evidence as needed or as requested by the patient's health plan.

Download a **Sample Letter of Appeal** and other PA support resources at [www.KerendiaHCP.com/accessresources](http://www.KerendiaHCP.com/accessresources).

**Note:** Depending on the health plan, there may be an option to submit an e-appeal through CoverMyMeds.

### Sample Letter of Appeal



▶ To further support your appeal letter, include recommendations 10.43 and 11.5d (level of evidence: A) from the 2024 American Diabetes Association (ADA) Standards of Care, which support the use of KERENDIA® (finerenone) in appropriate patients with CKD associated with T2D.<sup>3</sup> Please click [here](#) to view 10.43 and [here](#) to view 11.5d.

Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full [Prescribing Information](#).



## Access Support for Providers and Patients

### covermymeds®

Bayer works with CoverMyMeds to provide **prior authorization and appeals support** for your practice to help get your patients access to KERENDIA® (finerenone).

Your practice can submit PA requests and appeals, speak with a payer expert by phone or through chat, and sign up for live demos of the CoverMyMeds platform.

Submit a PA request online at [www.covermymeds.com](http://www.covermymeds.com).

### BLINKRx

Bayer works with BlinkRx, a **digital pharmacy** that may help your patients save time and money on their KERENDIA prescription. BlinkRx **automatically applies savings for eligible patients through the \$0 Copay Program (no copay card needed),\*** offers low prices on all prescriptions, and will have the prescription delivered to their home with no delivery charge.

#### Self Pay Through BlinkRx

If your patient does not have insurance, their insurance plan does not cover KERENDIA, or they cannot afford their plan's copay, they can choose to pay for their prescription without going through their insurance. KERENDIA is available for **\$99 per month through BlinkRx**. Call 1-866-839-0766 or visit [www.BlinkRx.com](http://www.BlinkRx.com) to learn more. Terms and conditions apply.

#### E-prescribe KERENDIA to BlinkRx US Boise, Idaho.



Please remind your patients that they **must respond** to the call/text from BlinkRx to receive their KERENDIA prescription.

For additional support or to submit prescriptions by phone or fax, contact BlinkRx:



PHONE

1 (866) 839-0766



FAX

1 (866) 585-4631

\*Patients are eligible if they are commercially insured and may pay as little as \$0 per month. Benefit limitations apply. Patients who are enrolled in any type of government insurance or reimbursement programs are not eligible. Full terms and conditions apply. Visit [www.KERENDIAcopay.com](http://www.KERENDIAcopay.com) for more information.

BlinkRx is not affiliated with the KERENDIA Patient Support Program.

Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full [Prescribing Information](#).

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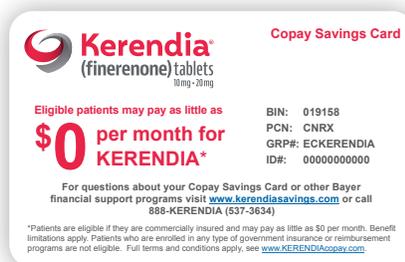
Appeals

Access Support

## \$0 KERENDIA Copay Savings Card

Your eligible commercial patients may pay as little as \$0 per month with the KERENDIA Copay Savings Card.\*

\*Patients are eligible if they are commercially insured and may pay as little as \$0 per month. Benefit limitations apply. Patients who are enrolled in any type of government insurance or reimbursement programs are not eligible. Full terms and conditions apply. Visit [www.KERENDIAcopay.com](http://www.KERENDIAcopay.com) for more information.



## 30-day Free Trial Offer

New patients can get up to 30 days of KERENDIA at no cost through the KERENDIA Free Trial Offer.† A 30-day free trial voucher is available to new patients, depending on their insurance.

†Terms and Conditions apply. Visit [www.KERENDIAfreetrial.com](http://www.KERENDIAfreetrial.com) for more information or call 1-888-KERENDIA.



## Bayer US Patient Assistance Foundation

If your patients cannot afford their prescription medication, Bayer may be able to help. Patients can call **1-866-2BUSPAF (228-7723)** or visit [www.patientassistance.bayer.us](http://www.patientassistance.bayer.us) to learn more.



▶ To learn more about financial assistance options offered by Bayer, your patients can call **1-888-537-3634** or visit [www.kerendia.com/savingsandsupport](http://www.kerendia.com/savingsandsupport).

Please see additional Important Safety Information on pages 3 and 13 and full [Prescribing Information](#).



# Indication and Important Safety Information

## INDICATION:

- KERENDIA is indicated to reduce the risk of sustained eGFR decline, end-stage kidney disease, cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction, and hospitalization for heart failure in adult patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) associated with type 2 diabetes (T2D)

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

### CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Concomitant use with strong CYP3A4 inhibitors
- Patients with adrenal insufficiency

### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS:

- **Hyperkalemia:** KERENDIA can cause hyperkalemia. The risk for developing hyperkalemia increases with decreasing kidney function and is greater in patients with higher baseline potassium levels or other risk factors for hyperkalemia. Measure serum potassium and eGFR in all patients before initiation of treatment with KERENDIA and dose accordingly. Do not initiate KERENDIA if serum potassium is  $>5.0$  mEq/L. Measure serum potassium periodically during treatment with KERENDIA and adjust dose accordingly. More frequent monitoring may be necessary for patients at risk for hyperkalemia, including those on concomitant medications that impair potassium excretion or increase serum potassium

### MOST COMMON ADVERSE REACTIONS:

- From the pooled data of 2 placebo-controlled studies, the adverse reactions reported in  $\geq 1\%$  of patients on KERENDIA and more frequently than placebo were hyperkalemia (14% vs 6.9%), hypotension (4.6% vs 3.9%), and hyponatremia (1.3% vs 0.7%)

### DRUG INTERACTIONS:

- **Strong CYP3A4 Inhibitors:** Concomitant use of KERENDIA with strong CYP3A4 inhibitors is contraindicated. Avoid concomitant intake of grapefruit or grapefruit juice
- **Moderate and Weak CYP3A4 Inhibitors:** Monitor serum potassium during drug initiation or dosage adjustment of either KERENDIA or the moderate or weak CYP3A4 inhibitor and adjust KERENDIA dosage as appropriate
- **Strong and Moderate CYP3A4 Inducers:** Avoid concomitant use of KERENDIA with strong or moderate CYP3A4 inducers

### USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS:

- **Lactation:** Avoid breastfeeding during treatment with KERENDIA and for 1 day after treatment
- **Hepatic Impairment:** Avoid use of KERENDIA in patients with severe hepatic impairment (Child Pugh C) and consider additional serum potassium monitoring with moderate hepatic impairment (Child Pugh B)

Please see full [Prescribing Information](#).

**References:** 1. Data on file. Bayer. 2. American Medical Association. 7 prior authorization terms that drive every doctor to distraction. Accessed March 15, 2024. <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/prior-authorization/7-prior-authorization-terms-drive-every-doctor-distraction> 3. American Diabetes Association. Standards of care in diabetes—2024. *Diabetes Care*. 2024;47(suppl 1):S1-S321.



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