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DRUG POLICY

Enbrel (etanercept)

NOTICE

This policy contains information which is clinical in nature. The policy is not medical advice. The information in this policy is used by Wellmark to make determinations whether medical treatment is covered under the terms of a Wellmark member's health benefit plan. Physicians and other health care providers are responsible for medical advice and treatment. If you have specific health care needs, you should consult an appropriate health care professional. If you would like to request an accessible version of this document, please contact customer service at 800-524-9242.

BENEFIT APPLICATION

Benefit determinations are based on the applicable contract language in effect at the time the services were rendered. Exclusions, limitations or exceptions may apply. Benefits may vary based on contract, and individual member benefits must be verified. Wellmark determines medical necessity only if the benefit exists and no contract exclusions are applicable. This medical policy may not apply to FEP. Benefits are determined by the Federal Employee Program.

DESCRIPTION

The intent of the Enbrel drug policy is to ensure appropriate selection of patients for therapy based on product labeling, clinical guidelines and clinical studies.

The indications below including FDA-approved indications and compendial uses are considered a covered benefit provided that all the approval criteria are met and the member has no exclusions to the prescribed therapy.

FDA-Approved Indications

1. Moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis (RA)
2. Moderately to severely active polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (pJIA) in patients aged 2 years or older
3. Active psoriatic arthritis (PsA)
4. Active ankylosing spondylitis (AS)
5. Moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis (PsO) in patients aged 4 years and older

Compendial Uses

1. Axial spondyloarthritis
2. Oligoarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis
3. Reactive arthritis
4. Hidradenitis suppurativa, severe, refractory
5. Behcet's disease
6. Graft versus host disease

POLICY

Criteria for Initial Approval

A. Moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis (RA)

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have previously received a biologic or targeted synthetic DMARD (e.g., Rinvoq, Xeljanz) indicated for moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis.
2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for treatment of moderately to severely active RA when any of the following criteria is met:
 - a. Member has experienced an inadequate response to at least a 3-month trial of methotrexate despite adequate dosing (i.e., titrated to 20 mg/week).
 - b. Member has an intolerance or contraindication to methotrexate (see Appendix A).

B. Moderately to severely active articular juvenile idiopathic arthritis

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have previously received a biologic indicated for moderately to severely active articular juvenile idiopathic arthritis.
2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of moderately to severely active articular juvenile idiopathic arthritis when any of the following criteria are met:
 - a. The member has had an inadequate response to methotrexate or another non-biologic DMARD administered at an adequate dose and duration.
 - b. The member has risk factors (see Appendix C) and the member also meets one of the following:
 - i. High-risk joints are involved (e.g., cervical spine, wrist, or hip).
 - ii. High disease activity
 - iii. Are judged to be at high risk for disabling joint disease.

C. Active psoriatic arthritis (PsA)

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for treatment of active psoriatic arthritis (PsA).

D. Active ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and axial spondyloarthritis

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have previously received a biologic indicated for active ankylosing spondylitis or axial spondyloarthritis.
2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for treatment of active ankylosing spondylitis and axial spondyloarthritis when any of the following criteria is met:
 - a. Member has experienced an inadequate response to at least two non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).
 - b. Member has an intolerance or contraindication to two or more NSAIDs.

E. Moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have previously received Otezla or a biologic indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis.
2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for treatment of moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis when all of the following criteria are met:
 - a. At least 3% of body surface area (BSA) is affected OR crucial body areas (e.g., hands, feet, face, neck, scalp, genitals/groin, intertriginous areas) are affected.
 - b. Member meets any of the following criteria:
 - i. Member has had an inadequate response or intolerance to either phototherapy (e.g., UVB, PUVA) or a pharmacologic treatment with methotrexate, cyclosporine or acitretin.
 - ii. Member has a clinical reason to avoid pharmacologic treatment with methotrexate, cyclosporine and acitretin (see Appendix B).
 - iii. Member has severe psoriasis that warrants a biologic DMARD as first-line therapy (i.e. at least 10% of the body surface area (BSA) or crucial body areas (e.g., hands, feet, face, neck, scalp, genitals/groin, intertriginous areas) are affected).

F. Reactive arthritis

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have previously received a biologic indicated for reactive arthritis.
2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for treatment of reactive arthritis when any of the following criteria is met:
 - a. Member has experienced an inadequate response to at least a 3-month trial of methotrexate despite adequate dosing (i.e., titrated to 20 mg/week).
 - b. Member has an intolerance or contraindication to methotrexate (see Appendix A).

G. Hidradenitis suppurativa

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have previously received a biologic indicated for the treatment of severe, refractory hidradenitis suppurativa.
2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for treatment of severe, refractory hidradenitis suppurativa when either of the following is met:
 - a. Member has experienced an inadequate response to oral antibiotics for at least 90 days.
 - b. Member has an intolerance or contraindication to oral antibiotics.

H. Graft versus host disease

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for treatment of graft versus host disease when either of the following criteria is met:

1. Member has experienced an inadequate response to topical or systemic corticosteroids or immunosuppressive therapy (e.g., cyclosporine or mycophenolate mofetil).
2. Member has an intolerance or contraindication to topical or systemic corticosteroids and immunosuppressive therapy (e.g. cyclosporine, mycophenolate mofetil).

I. Behcet's disease

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have previously received Otezla or a biologic indicated for the treatment of Behcet's disease.
2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of Behcet's disease when the member has had an inadequate response to at least one nonbiologic medication for Behcet's disease (e.g., apremilast, colchicine, systematic glucocorticoids, azathioprine).

Continuation of Therapy

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for all members (including new members) who are using Enbrel for an indication outlined above and who achieve or maintain positive clinical response with Enbrel as evidenced by low disease activity or improvement in signs and symptoms of the condition.

Other

For all indications: Member has had a documented negative TB test (which can include a tuberculosis skin test [PPD], an interferon release assay [IGRA], or a chest x-ray)* within 6 months of initiating therapy for persons who are naïve to biologic DMARDs or targeted synthetic DMARDs (e.g., Xeljanz), and repeated yearly for members with risk factors** for TB that are continuing therapy with biologics.

* If the screening testing for TB is positive, there must be documentation of further testing to confirm there is no active disease. Do not administer etanercept to members with active TB infection. If there is latent disease,

TB treatment must be started before initiation of etanercept.

** Risk factors for TB include: Persons with close contact to people with infectious TB disease; persons who have recently immigrated from areas of the world with high rates of TB (e.g., Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America, Russia); children less than 5 years of age who have a positive TB test; groups with high rates of TB transmission (e.g., homeless persons, injection drug users, persons with HIV infection); persons who work or reside with people who are at an increased risk for active TB (e.g., hospitals, long-term care facilities, correctional facilities, homeless shelters).

For all indications: Member cannot use Enbrel concomitantly with any other biologic DMARD or targeted synthetic DMARD.

Enbrel is considered **not medically necessary** for members who do not meet the criteria set forth above.

Dosage and Administration

Approvals may be subject to dosing limits in accordance with FDA-approved labeling, accepted compendia, and/or evidence-based practice guidelines.

Quantity Limits

Trade Name	Generic Name	Quantity Limit
Enbrel®	etanercept	8 syringes per 28 days

Appendices

Appendix A: Examples of Contraindications to Methotrexate

1. Diagnosis of alcohol use disorder, alcoholic liver disease or other chronic liver disease
2. Breastfeeding
3. Blood dyscrasias (e.g., thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, significant anemia)
4. Elevated liver transaminases
5. History of intolerance or adverse event
6. Hypersensitivity
7. Interstitial pneumonitis or clinically significant pulmonary fibrosis
8. Myelodysplasia
9. Pregnancy or currently planning pregnancy
10. Renal impairment
11. Significant drug interaction

Appendix B: Examples of Clinical Reasons to Avoid Pharmacologic Treatment with Methotrexate, Cyclosporine or Acitretin.

1. Diagnosis of alcohol use disorder, alcoholic liver disease, or other chronic liver disease
2. Breastfeeding
3. Drug interaction
4. Cannot be used due to risk of treatment-related toxicity
5. Pregnancy or currently planning pregnancy
6. Significant comorbidity prohibits use of systemic agents (examples include liver or kidney disease, blood dyscrasias, uncontrolled hypertension)

Appendix C: Risk Factors for articular juvenile idiopathic arthritis

1. Positive rheumatoid factor
2. Positive anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide antibodies
3. Pre-existing joint damage

PROCEDURES AND BILLING CODES

To report provider services, use appropriate CPT* codes, Alpha Numeric (HCPCS level 2) codes, Revenue codes, and/or ICD diagnostic codes.

- N/A

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POLICY HISTORY

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