

This policy applies to the following:

	Standard Opt-in		PDPD		Marketplace		Medical Benefit	✓	Medicare Part B	Reference # 3452-D
	Standard Opt-out		ACSF		MMT		Medical Benefit: Biosimilars First		Medicare Part B: Biosimilars First	
	VF		Balanced		Medical Benefit: Managed Medicaid		Medical Benefit: Add-on		Medicare Part B: Add-on	

POLICY Document for REMICADE, AVSOLA, INFLECTRA, RENFLEXIS

The overall objective of this policy is to support the appropriate and cost effective use of the medication, specific to use of preferred medication options, lower cost site of care and overall clinically appropriate use. This document provides specific information to each section of the overall policy.

Section 1: Preferred Product

- Policy information specific to preferred medications

Section 2: Clinical Criteria

- Policy information specific to the clinical appropriateness for the medication

Section 1: Preferred Product

EXCEPTIONS CRITERIA

DISEASE-MODIFYING ANTIRHEUMATIC DRUG PRODUCTS

PREFERRED PRODUCTS: ENTYVIO, ILUMYA, REMICADE, SIMPONI ARIA, STELARA IV

POLICY

This policy informs prescribers of preferred products and provides an exception process for targeted products through prior authorization.

I. PLAN DESIGN SUMMARY

This program applies to the disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (DMARD) products specified in this policy. Coverage for targeted products is provided based on clinical circumstances that would exclude the use of the preferred product and may be based on previous use of a product. The coverage review process will ascertain situations where a clinical exception can be made. This program applies to adult members who are new to treatment with a targeted product for the first time.

Each referral is reviewed based on all utilization management (UM) programs implemented for the client.

Table. Disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs for autoimmune conditions

	Products	
Preferred	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entyvio (vedolizumab) • Ilumya (tildrakizumab-asmn) • Remicade (infliximab) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simponi Aria (golimumab, intravenous) • Stelara IV (ustekinumab)*
Targeted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actemra (tocilizumab) • Avsola (infliximab-axxq) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflectra (infliximab-dyyb) • Orencia (abatacept)

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	• Cimzia (certolizumab pegol)	• Renflexis (infliximab-abda)
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*Stelara IV is indicated for a one time induction dose for Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis.

II. EXCEPTION CRITERIA

This program applies to members requesting treatment for an indication that is FDA-approved for the preferred products.

Coverage for a targeted product is provided when any of the following criteria is met:

- A. For Avsola, Inflectra and Renflexis, when either of the following criteria are met:
 - 1. Member has received treatment with the targeted product in the past 365 days.
 - 2. When both of the following criteria are met:
 - a. Member has a documented intolerable adverse event with the preferred product, Remicade, and the adverse event was not an expected adverse event attributed to the active ingredient as described in the prescribing information.
 - b. Member has a documented inadequate response or intolerable adverse event with Entyvio, Ilumya, and Simponi Aria where the product’s indications overlap.
- B. For Cimzia, when any of the following criteria are met:
 - 1. Member has received treatment with the targeted product in the past 365 days.
 - 2. Member has a documented inadequate response or intolerable adverse event with Entyvio, Ilumya, Remicade, and Simponi Aria where the product’s indications overlap
 - 3. Member is currently pregnant or breastfeeding
- C. For all other targeted products, when any of the following criteria are met:
 - 1. Member has received treatment with the targeted product in the past 365 days.
 - 2. Member has a documented inadequate response or intolerable adverse event with Entyvio, Ilumya, Remicade, and Simponi Aria where the product’s indications overlap, unless there is a documented clinical reason to avoid TNF inhibitors (Appendix)

III. Appendix: Clinical reasons to avoid TNF inhibitors

- History of demyelinating disorder
- History of congestive heart failure
- History of hepatitis B virus infection
- Autoantibody formation/lupus-like syndrome
- Risk of lymphoma

Section 2: Clinical Criteria

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STANDARD MEDICARE PART B MANAGEMENT

REMICADE (infliximab)

AVSOLA (infliximab-axxq)

INFLECTRA (infliximab-dyyb)

RENFLEXIS (infliximab-abda)

POLICY

I. INDICATIONS

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.

A. REMICADE

1. FDA-Approved Indications

- i. Crohn's disease
 - a. Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in adult patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
 - b. Reducing the number of draining enterocutaneous and rectovaginal fistulas and maintaining fistula closure in adult patients with fistulizing disease
- ii. Pediatric Crohn's disease
Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in pediatric patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy

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- iii. Ulcerative colitis
Reducing signs and symptoms, inducing and maintaining clinical remission and mucosal healing, and eliminating corticosteroid use in adult patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
- iv. Pediatric ulcerative colitis
Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in pediatric patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
- v. Rheumatoid arthritis in combination with methotrexate
Reducing signs and symptoms, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function in patients with moderately to severely active disease
- vi. Ankylosing spondylitis
Reducing signs and symptoms in patients with active disease
- vii. Psoriatic arthritis
Reducing signs and symptoms of active arthritis, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function
- viii. Plaque Psoriasis
Treatment of adult patients with chronic severe (i.e., extensive and/or disabling) plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy and when other systemic therapies are medically less appropriate

2. Compendial Uses

- i. Adult onset Still's disease
- ii. Arthritis/arthropathy in Crohn's disease
- iii. Axial spondyloarthritis
- iv. Behcet's disease
- v. Gastrointestinal tract transplantation organ rejection
- vi. Giant cell arteritis
- vii. Graft versus host disease
- viii. Granulomatosis with polyangiitis
- ix. Hidradenitis suppurativa
- x. Juvenile idiopathic arthritis
- xi. Kawasaki disease
- xii. Necrobiosis lipoidica diabetorum
- xiii. Pyoderma gangrenosum
- xiv. Rheumatoid arthritis as monotherapy
- xv. Severe, refractory SAPHO syndrome
- xvi. Sarcoidosis
- xvii. Subcorneal pustular dermatosis
- xviii. Synovitis
- xix. Takayasu's arteritis
- xx. Uveitis
- xxi. Immune checkpoint inhibitor toxicity

B. AVSOLA

1. FDA-Approved Indications

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- i. Crohn's disease
 - a. Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in adult patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
 - b. Reducing the number of draining enterocutaneous and rectovaginal fistulas and maintaining fistula closure in adult patients with fistulizing disease
- ii. Pediatric Crohn's disease
Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in pediatric patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
- iii. Ulcerative colitis
Reducing signs and symptoms, inducing and maintaining clinical remission and mucosal healing, and eliminating corticosteroid use in adult patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
- iv. Pediatric ulcerative colitis
Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in pediatric patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
- v. Rheumatoid arthritis in combination with methotrexate
Reducing signs and symptoms, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function in patients with moderately to severely active disease
- vi. Ankylosing spondylitis
Reducing signs and symptoms in patients with active disease
- vii. Psoriatic arthritis
Reducing signs and symptoms of active arthritis, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function
- viii. Plaque Psoriasis
Treatment of adult patients with chronic severe (i.e., extensive and/or disabling) plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy and when other systemic therapies are medically less appropriate

2. Compensial Uses
Same as Remicade. See Section I.A.2.

C. INFLECTRA

1. FDA-Approved Indications
 - i. Crohn's disease
 - a. Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in adult patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
 - b. Reducing the number of draining enterocutaneous and rectovaginal fistulas and maintaining fistula closure in adult patients with fistulizing disease
 - ii. Pediatric Crohn's disease

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Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in pediatric patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy

- iii. Ulcerative colitis
Reducing signs and symptoms, inducing and maintaining clinical remission and mucosal healing, and eliminating corticosteroid use in adult patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
- iv. Pediatric ulcerative colitis
Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in pediatric patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
- v. Rheumatoid arthritis in combination with methotrexate
Reducing signs and symptoms, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function in patients with moderately to severely active disease
- vi. Ankylosing spondylitis
Reducing signs and symptoms in patients with active disease
- vii. Psoriatic arthritis
Reducing signs and symptoms of active arthritis, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function
- viii. Plaque Psoriasis
Treatment of adult patients with chronic severe (i.e., extensive and/or disabling) plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy and when other systemic therapies are medically less appropriate

- 2. Compendial Uses
Same as Remicade. See Section I.A.2.

D. RENFLEXIS

- 1. FDA-Approved Indications
 - i. Crohn's disease
 - a. Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in adult patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
 - b. Reducing the number of draining enterocutaneous and rectovaginal fistulas and maintaining fistula closure in adult patients with fistulizing disease
 - ii. Pediatric Crohn's disease
Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in pediatric patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
 - iii. Ulcerative colitis
Reducing signs and symptoms, inducing and maintaining clinical remission and mucosal healing, and eliminating corticosteroid use in adult patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy

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- iv. Pediatric ulcerative colitis
Reducing signs and symptoms and inducing and maintaining clinical remission in pediatric patients with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response to conventional therapy
- v. Rheumatoid arthritis in combination with methotrexate
Reducing signs and symptoms, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function in patients with moderately to severely active disease
- vi. Ankylosing spondylitis
Reducing signs and symptoms in patients with active disease
- vii. Psoriatic arthritis
Reducing signs and symptoms of active arthritis, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function
- viii. Plaque Psoriasis
Treatment of adult patients with chronic severe (i.e., extensive and/or disabling) plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy and when other systemic therapies are medically less appropriate

- 2. Compendial Uses
Same as Remicade. See Section I.A.2.

All other indications will be assessed on an individual basis. Submissions for indications other than those enumerated in this policy should be accompanied by supporting evidence from Medicare approved compendia.

II. CRITERIA FOR INITIAL APPROVAL

A. Crohn's disease

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for treatment of Crohn's disease

B. Ulcerative colitis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for treatment of ulcerative colitis

C. Rheumatoid arthritis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis when any of the following criteria are met:

- i. The member has previously received any other biologic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD) (e.g., Humira) or targeted synthetic DMARD (e.g., Xeljanz) indicated for rheumatoid arthritis.

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- ii. The member had an inadequate response to methotrexate or there is a clinical reason to avoid treatment with methotrexate (e.g., renal or hepatic impairment).

D. Ankylosing spondylitis and axial spondyloarthritis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for treatment of active ankylosing spondylitis and axial spondyloarthritis.

E. Psoriatic arthritis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for treatment of psoriatic arthritis.

F. Plaque psoriasis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for treatment of plaque psoriasis.

G. Adult onset Still's disease

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of adult onset Still's disease.

H. Arthritis/arthropathy in Crohn's disease

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of arthritis or arthropathy in a member with Crohn's disease.

I. Behcet's disease

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of Behcet's disease.

J. Gastrointestinal tract transplantation organ rejection

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of gastrointestinal tract transplantation organ rejection.

K. Giant cell arteritis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of giant cell arteritis.

L. Graft versus host disease

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of graft versus host disease.

M. Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (Wegener's granulomatosis)

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of granulomatosis with polyangiitis.

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N. Hidradenitis suppurativa

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of hidradenitis suppurativa.

O. Juvenile idiopathic arthritis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of juvenile idiopathic arthritis.

P. Kawasaki disease

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of Kawasaki disease.

Q. Necrobiosis lipoidica diabetorum

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of necrobiosis lipoidica diabetorum.

R. Pyoderma gangrenosum

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of pyoderma gangrenosum.

S. SAPHO syndrome

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of SAPHO syndrome.

T. Sarcoidosis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of sarcoidosis.

U. Subcorneal pustular dermatosis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of subcorneal pustular dermatosis.

V. Synovitis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of synovitis.

W. Takayasu's disease

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of Takayasu's disease.

X. Uveitis

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for the treatment of uveitis.

Y. Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Toxicity

Authorization of 1 month may be granted for the treatment of immune checkpoint inhibitor toxicity.

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III. CONTINUATION OF THERAPY

A. Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Toxicity

All members (including new members) requesting authorization for continuation of therapy must meet all initial authorization criteria.

B. All other indications

All members (including new members) requesting authorization for continuation of therapy must be currently receiving therapy with the requested agent.

Authorization for 24 months may be granted when all of the following criteria are met:

1. The member is currently receiving therapy with Avsola, Remicade, Inflectra, or Renflexis
2. The requested medication is being used to treat an indication enumerated in Section II
3. The member is receiving benefit from therapy

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