



Prior Authorization Inflammatory Conditions – Siliq® (brodalumab subcutaneous injection)

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Product Identifier(s)

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National Formulary Medical Necessity

Cigna covers brodalumab (Siliq®) as medically necessary when the following criteria are met for FDA Indications or Other Uses with Supportive Evidence:

Prior Authorization is recommended for prescription benefit coverage of Siliq. Because of the specialized skills required for evaluation and diagnosis of individuals treated with Siliq as well as the monitoring required for adverse events and long-term efficacy, initial approval requires Siliq to be prescribed by or in consultation with a physician who specializes in the condition being treated. All approvals are provided for the duration noted below. In cases where the approval is authorized in months, 1 month is equal to 30 days.

FDA Indication(s)

1. **Plaque Psoriasis.** Approve for the duration noted if the individual meets ONE of the following (A or B):
 - A) **Initial Therapy.** Approve for 3 months if the individual meets ALL of the following criteria (i, ii, and iii):
 - i. Individual is ≥ 18 years of age; AND
 - ii. Individual meets ONE of the following conditions (a or b):

- a) Individual has tried at least one traditional systemic agent for psoriasis for at least 3 months, unless intolerant; OR
Note: Examples include methotrexate, cyclosporine, acitretin, or psoralen plus ultraviolet A light (PUVA). An exception to the requirement for a trial of one traditional systemic agent for psoriasis can be made if the individual has already had a 3-month trial or previous intolerance to at least one biologic other than the requested drug. A biosimilar of the requested biologic does not count. Refer to [Appendix](#) for examples of biologics used for plaque psoriasis. An individual who has already tried a biologic for psoriasis is not required to “step back” and try a traditional systemic agent for psoriasis.
 - b) Individual has a contraindication to methotrexate, as determined by the prescriber; AND
 - iii. The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a dermatologist.
- B) Individual is Currently Receiving Siliq.** Approve for 1 year if the individual meets ALL of the following (i, ii, and iii):
- i. Individual has been established on therapy for at least 90 days; AND
Note: An individual who has received < 90 days of therapy or who is restarting therapy is reviewed under criterion A (Initial Therapy).
 - ii. Individual experienced a beneficial clinical response, defined as improvement from baseline (prior to initiating the requested drug) in at least one of the following: estimated body surface area, erythema, induration/thickness, and/or scale of areas affected by psoriasis; AND
 - iii. Compared with baseline (prior to receiving the requested drug), individual experienced an improvement in at least one symptom, such as decreased pain, itching, and/or burning.

Conditions Not Covered

Brodalumab (Siliq®) is considered experimental, investigational or unproven for ANY other use including the following (this list may not be all inclusive):

- 1. Concurrent Use with other Biologics or with Targeted Synthetic Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs (DMARDs).** Siliq should not be administered in combination with a biologic used for an inflammatory condition (see [Appendix](#) for examples). Combination therapy with biologics and/or biologics + targeted synthetic DMARDs has a potential for a higher rate of adverse effects and lack controlled trial data in support of additive efficacy.
Note: This does NOT exclude the use of conventional synthetic DMARDs (e.g., methotrexate, leflunomide, hydroxychloroquine, and sulfasalazine) in combination with Siliq.
- 2. Crohn’s Disease.** Siliq is contraindicated in individuals with Crohn’s disease.¹ There is a published Phase II study evaluating Siliq in Crohn’s disease (n = 130) that was terminated early due to a disproportionate number of worsening Crohn’s disease and lack of efficacy.⁵
- 3. Rheumatoid Arthritis.** Efficacy has not been established. A published Phase II study (n = 252) did not demonstrate improvement in American College of Rheumatology 20/50/70 responses with Siliq vs. placebo for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis in individuals who had previously failed methotrexate.⁶

Background

Overview

Siliq, an interleukin (IL)-17A antagonist, is indicated for treatment of adults with moderate to severe **plaque psoriasis** who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy and have failed to respond or have lost response to other systemic therapies.¹ In the pivotal trial, patients were assessed for a response at Week 12.

Guidelines

Joint guidelines from the American Academy of Dermatology and National Psoriasis Medical Board (2019) have been published for management of psoriasis with biologics.² These guidelines list Siliq as a monotherapy treatment option for patients with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis. Guidelines from the European Dermatology Forum (2015) recommend biologics (i.e., etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, Stelara®

[ustekinumab subcutaneous injection]) as second-line therapy for induction and long-term treatment if phototherapy and conventional systemic agents have failed, are contraindicated, or are not tolerated.³

Safety

Siliq has a Boxed Warning, Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) program, and limited distribution program due to risks of suicidal ideation and behavior. The REMS program requires prescribers and pharmacies to be certified to prescribe and/or dispense Siliq.⁴ Patients must sign a patient-prescriber agreement form and be aware of the need to seek medical attention for any new/worsening suicidal thoughts or behavior, depression, anxiety, or mood changes.

References

1. Siliq® subcutaneous injection [prescribing information]. Bridgewater, NJ: Valeant Pharmaceuticals; February 2017.
2. Menter A, Strober BE, Kaplan DH, et al. Joint AAD-NPF guidelines of care for the management and treatment of psoriasis with biologics. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2019 80(4):1029-1072.
3. Nast A, Gisondi P, Ormerod AD, et al. European S3-Guidelines on the systemic treatment of psoriasis vulgaris – Update 2015 – Short version – EDF in cooperation with EADV and IPC. *J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol*. 2015;29(12):2277-2294.
4. US Food and Drug Administration, US Department of Health and Human Services [Web site]. <https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/rems/index.cfm?event=IndvRemsDetails.page&REMS=362>. Search term: Siliq. Updated January 22, 2021. Accessed on May 2, 2022.
5. Targan SR, Feagan B, Vermeire S, et al. A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled Phase 2 study of brodalumab in patients with moderate-to-severe Crohn's disease. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2016;111(11):1599-1607.
6. Pavelka K, Chon Y, Newmark R, et al. A study to evaluate the safety, tolerability, and efficacy of brodalumab in subjects with rheumatoid arthritis and an inadequate response to methotrexate. *J Rheumatol*. 2015;42(6):912-919.

Revision History

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Approval Date
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	05/04/2022

Appendix

	Mechanism of Action	Examples of Inflammatory Indications*
Biologics		
Adalimumab SC Products (Humira®, biosimilars)	Inhibition of TNF	AS, CD, JIA, PsO, PsA, RA, UC
Cimzia® (certolizumab pegol SC injection)	Inhibition of TNF	AS, CD, nr-axSpA, PsO, PsA, RA
Etanercept SC Products (Enbrel®, biosimilars)	Inhibition of TNF	AS, JIA, PsO, PsA
Infliximab IV Products (Remicade®, biosimilars)	Inhibition of TNF	AS, CD, PsO, PsA, RA, UC
Simponi®, Simponi® Aria™ (golimumab SC injection, golimumab IV infusion)	Inhibition of TNF	SC formulation: AS, PsA, RA, UC
		IV formulation: AS, PJIA, PsA, RA
Actemra® (tocilizumab IV infusion, tocilizumab SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-6	SC formulation: PJIA, RA, SJIA
		IV formulation: PJIA, RA, SJIA
Kevzara® (sarilumab SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-6	RA
Orencia® (abatacept IV infusion, abatacept SC injection)	T-cell costimulation modulator	SC formulation: JIA, PsA, RA
		IV formulation: JIA, PsA, RA
Rituximab IV Products (Rituxan®, biosimilars)	CD20-directed cytolytic antibody	RA
Kineret® (anakinra SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-1	JIA [^] , RA
Stelara® (ustekinumab SC injection, ustekinumab IV infusion)	Inhibition of IL-12/23	SC formulation: CD, PsO, PsA, UC
		IV formulation: CD, UC
Siliq™ (brodalumab SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-17	PsO
Cosentyx® (secukinumab SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-17A	AS, ERA, nr-axSpA, PsO, PsA
Taltz® (ixekizumab SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-17A	AS, nr-axSpA, PsO, PsA
Ilumya™ (tildrakizumab-asmn SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-23	PsO
Skyrizi® (risankizumab-rzaa SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-23	PsA, PsO
Tremfya™ (guselkumab SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-23	PsO
Entyvio™ (vedolizumab IV infusion)	Integrin receptor antagonist	CD, UC
Oral Therapies/Targeted Synthetic DMARDs		
Otezla® (apremilast tablets)	Inhibition of PDE4	PsO, PsA
Cibinco™ (abrocitinib tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	AD
Olumiant® (baricitinib tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	RA
Rinvoq® (upadacitinib extended-release tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	AD, AS, RA, PsA, UC
Xeljanz® (tofacitinib tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	RA, PJIA, PsA, UC
Xeljanz® XR (tofacitinib extended-release tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	RA, PsA, UC

* Not an all-inclusive list of indications (e.g., oncology indications and rare inflammatory conditions are not listed). Refer to the prescribing information for the respective agent for FDA-approved indications; SC – Subcutaneous; TNF – Tumor necrosis factor; AS – Ankylosing spondylitis; CD – Crohn’s disease; JIA – Juvenile idiopathic arthritis; PsO – Plaque psoriasis; PsA – Psoriatic arthritis; RA – Rheumatoid arthritis; UC – Ulcerative colitis; nr-axSpA – Non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis; IV – Intravenous, PJIA – Polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis; IL – Interleukin; SJIA – Systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis; [^] Off-label use of Kineret in JIA supported in guidelines; ERA – Enthesitis-related arthritis; DMARD – Disease-modifying antirheumatic drug; PDE4 – Phosphodiesterase 4; JAK – Janus kinase; AD – Atopic dermatitis.

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