Drug Coverage Policy

Effective Date.....11/01/2024
Coverage Policy Number.....IP0675
Policy Title.....Entyvio Subcutaneous Prior Authorization Policy

Inflammatory Conditions – Entyvio Subcutaneous Prior Authorization Policy

- Entyvio® (vedolizumab subcutaneous injection – Takeda)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE
The following Coverage Policy applies to health benefit plans administered by Cigna Companies. Certain Cigna Companies and/or lines of business only provide utilization review services to clients and do not make coverage determinations. References to standard benefit plan language and coverage determinations do not apply to those clients. Coverage Policies are intended to provide guidance in interpreting certain standard benefit plans administered by Cigna Companies. Please note, the terms of a customer's particular benefit plan document [Group Service Agreement, Evidence of Coverage, Certificate of Coverage, Summary Plan Description (SPD) or similar plan document] may differ significantly from the standard benefit plans upon which these Coverage Policies are based. For example, a customer's benefit plan document may contain a specific exclusion related to a topic addressed in a Coverage Policy. In the event of a conflict, a customer's benefit plan document always supersedes the information in the Coverage Policies. In the absence of a controlling federal or state coverage mandate, benefits are ultimately determined by the terms of the applicable benefit plan document. Coverage determinations in each specific instance require consideration of 1) the terms of the applicable benefit plan document in effect on the date of service; 2) any applicable laws/regulations; 3) any relevant collateral source materials including Coverage Policies and; 4) the specific facts of the particular situation. Each coverage request should be reviewed on its own merits. Medical directors are expected to exercise clinical judgment and have discretion in making individual coverage determinations. Coverage Policies relate exclusively to the administration of health benefit plans. Coverage Policies are not recommendations for treatment and should never be used as treatment guidelines. In certain markets, delegated vendor guidelines may be used to support medical necessity and other coverage determinations.

Cigna Healthcare Coverage Policy

OVERVIEW
Entyvio subcutaneous (SC), an integrin receptor antagonist, is indicated for treatment of the following uses:[1]

- **Crohn's disease**, in adults with moderately to severely active disease.
- **Ulcerative colitis**, in adults with moderately to severely active disease.

Therapy begins with Entyvio 300 mg IV at Week 0 and Week 2. At Week 6, or at any scheduled Entyvio IV infusion in patients with a clinical response or remission, therapy can be switched to Entyvio SC. The recommended dose of Entyvio SC is 108 mg SC once every 2 weeks. In the pivotal studies evaluating Entyvio subcutaneous, all patients had previously tried corticosteroids, conventional agents, or biologics for ulcerative colitis.

Guidelines

Guidelines for the treatment of inflammatory conditions recommend use of Entyvio.

- **Crohn's Disease:** The American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) has updated guidelines (2018) for Crohn's disease.[2] Entyvio is among the recommendations for treatment of patients with moderate to severe disease or moderate to high risk disease (for induction of remission as well as maintenance of this remission). Guidelines from the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) [2021] include Entyvio among the therapies for moderate to severe Crohn's disease, for induction and maintenance of remission.[3]
- **Ulcerative Colitis:** Updated American College of Gastroenterology guidelines for ulcerative colitis (2019) note that the following agents can be used for induction of remission in moderately to severely active disease: Uceris® (budesonide extended-release tablets); oral or intravenous systemic corticosteroids, Entyvio, Xeljanz® (tofacitinib tablets), or tumor necrosis factor inhibitors.[4] Current guidelines for ulcerative colitis from the American Gastroenterological Association (2020) include Entyvio among the therapies recommended for moderate to severe disease.[5]

Medical Necessity Criteria

POLICY STATEMENT

Prior Authorization is recommended for benefit coverage of Entyvio subcutaneous. All approvals are provided for the duration listed below. Because of the specialized skills required for evaluation and diagnosis of patients treated with Entyvio subcutaneous as well as the monitoring required for adverse events and long-term efficacy, initial approval requires Entyvio subcutaneous to be prescribed by or in consultation with a physician who specializes in the condition being treated.

NOTE: This product also requires the use of preferred products before approval of the requested product. For additional preferred product criteria requirements and exceptions, refer to the respective *Inflammatory Conditions Preferred Specialty Management Policy for Individual and Family Plans (PSM002)* or to *Inflammatory Conditions Preferred Specialty Management Policy for Employer Plans (PSM001)*, when Entyvio SC is covered under the Prescription Drug Benefit.

Entyvio subcutaneous is considered medically necessary when ONE of the following is met (1 or 2):

FDA-Approved Indications

1. **Crohn's Disease.** Approve for the duration noted if the patient meets ONE of the following (A or B):
   A) Initial Therapy. Approve for 6 months if the patient meets ALL of the following (i, ii, iii, and iv):
      i. Patient is ≥ 18 years of age; AND

ii. According to the prescriber, the patient is currently receiving Entyvio intravenous or will receive induction dosing with Entyvio intravenous within 2 months of initiating therapy with Entyvio subcutaneous; AND

iii. Patient meets ONE of the following (a, b, c, or d):

a) Patient has tried or is currently taking systemic corticosteroids, or corticosteroids are contraindicated in this patient; OR

b) Patient has tried one conventional systemic therapy for Crohn's disease; OR
Note: Examples of conventional systemic therapy for Crohn's disease include azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurine, or methotrexate. An exception to the requirement for a trial of or contraindication to steroids or a trial of one other conventional systemic agent can be made if the patient has already tried 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 Crohn's disease. These patients who have already received a biologic are not required to "step back" and try another agent. A trial of mesalamine does not count as a systemic therapy for Crohn's disease.

c) Patient has enterocutaneous (perianal or abdominal) or rectovaginal fistulas; OR

d) Patient had ileocolonic resection (to reduce the chance of Crohn's disease recurrence); AND

iv. The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist.

B) Patient is Currently Receiving Entyvio Intravenous or Subcutaneous. Approve for 1 year if the patient meets BOTH of the following (i and ii):

i. Patient has been established on Entyvio subcutaneous or intravenous for at least 6 months; AND
Note: A patient who has received < 6 months of therapy or who is restarting therapy with the requested drug is reviewed under criterion A (Initial Therapy).

ii. Patient meets at least ONE of the following (a or b):

a) When assessed by at least one objective measure, patient experienced a beneficial clinical response from baseline (prior to initiating the requested drug); OR
Note: Examples of objective measures include fecal markers (e.g., fecal lactoferrin, fecal calprotectin), serum markers (e.g., C-reactive protein), imaging studies (magnetic resonance enterography [MRE], computed tomography enterography [CTE]), endoscopic assessment, and/or reduced dose of corticosteroids.

b) Compared with baseline (prior to initiating the requested drug), patient experienced an improvement in at least one symptom, such as decreased pain, fatigue, stool frequency, and/or blood in stool.

2. Ulcerative Colitis. Approve for the duration noted if the patient meets ONE of the following (A or B):

A) Initial Therapy. Approve for 6 months if the patient meets ALL of the following (i, ii, and iii):

i. Patient is ≥ 18 years of age; AND

ii. According to the prescriber, the patient is currently receiving Entyvio intravenous or will receive induction dosing with Entyvio intravenous within 2 months of initiating therapy with Entyvio subcutaneous; AND

iii. Patient meets ONE of the following (a or b):

a) Patient has had a trial of one systemic therapy; OR
Note: Examples include 6-mercaptopurine, azathioprine, cyclosporine, tacrolimus, or a corticosteroid such as prednisone or methylprednisolone. A trial of a mesalamine product does not count as a systemic therapy for ulcerative colitis. A trial of a biologic also counts as a trial of one systemic agent for ulcerative colitis. Refer to Appendix for examples of biologics used for ulcerative colitis.

b) Patient meets BOTH of the following [(1) and (2)]:

(1) Patient has pouchitis; AND

(2) Patient has tried an antibiotic, probiotic, corticosteroid enema, or mesalamine enema; AND

Note: Examples of antibiotics include metronidazole and ciprofloxacin. Examples of corticosteroid enemas include hydrocortisone enema.

iv. The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist.

B) Patient is Currently Receiving Entyvio Subcutaneous or Intravenous. Approve for 1 year if the patient meets BOTH of the following (i and ii):

i. Patient has been established on Entyvio subcutaneous or intravenous for at least 6 months; AND

Note: A patient who has received < 6 months of therapy or who is restarting therapy with Entyvio subcutaneous or intravenous is reviewed under criterion A (Initial Therapy).

ii. Patient meets at least ONE of the following (a or b):

a) When assessed by at least one objective measure, patient experienced a beneficial clinical response from baseline (prior to initiating the requested drug); OR

Note: Examples of assessment for inflammatory response include fecal markers (e.g., fecal calprotectin), serum markers (e.g., C-reactive protein), endoscopic assessment, and/or reduced dose of corticosteroids.

b) Compared with baseline (prior to initiating the requested drug), patient experienced an improvement in at least one symptom, such as decreased pain, fatigue, stool frequency, and/or decreased rectal bleeding.

When coverage is available and medically necessary, the dosage, frequency, duration of therapy, and site of care should be reasonable, clinically appropriate, and supported by evidence-based literature and adjusted based upon severity, alternative available treatments, and previous response to therapy.

Receipt of sample product does not satisfy any criteria requirements for coverage.

Conditions Not Covered

Any other use is considered experimental, investigational, or unproven, including the following (this list may not be all inclusive; criteria will be updated as new published data are available):

1. **Concurrent Use with a Biologic or with a Targeted Synthetic Oral Small Molecule Drug.** This medication should not be administered in combination with another biologic or with a targeted synthetic oral small molecule drug used for an inflammatory condition (see Appendix for examples). Combination therapy is generally not recommended due to a potentially higher rate of adverse events and lack of controlled clinical data supporting additive efficacy.

   Note: This does NOT exclude the use of conventional synthetic DMARDs (e.g., methotrexate, leflunomide, hydroxychloroquine, or sulfasalazine) in combination with this medication.

Coding Information

1) This list of codes may not be all-inclusive.
2) Deleted codes and codes which are not effective at the time the service is rendered may not be eligible for reimbursement.

Considered Medically Necessary when criteria in the applicable policy statements listed above are met:

HCPCS Codes	Description
C9399	Unclassified drugs or biologicals
J3590	Unclassified biologics

References

1. Entyvio [prescribing information]. Deerfield, IL: Takeda; April 2024.
2. Lichtenstein GR, Loftus EV, Isaacs KL, et al. ACG clinical guideline: management of Crohn's disease in adults. *Am J Gastroenterol.* 2018;113(4):481-517.
3. Feuerstein JD, Ho EY, Shmidt E, et al. AGA clinical practice guidelines on the medical management of moderate to severe luminal and perianal fistulizing Crohn's disease. *Gastroenterology*. 2021;160(7):2496-2508.
4. Rubin DT, Ananthakrishnan AN, Siegel CA, et al. ACG clinical guideline: ulcerative colitis in adults. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2019;114(3):384-413.
5. Bressler B, Marshall JK, Bernstein CN, et al. Clinical practice guidelines for the medical management of nonhospitalized ulcerative colitis: the Toronto consensus. *Gastroenterology*. 2015;148(5):1035-1058.
6. Feuerstein JD, Isaacs KL, Schneider Y, et al. AGA clinical practice guidelines on the management of moderate to severe ulcerative colitis. *Gastroenterology*. 2020;158(5):1450-1461.

Revision Details

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Date
New	New policy	11/01/2024

The policy effective date is in force until updated or retired.

APPENDIX

	Mechanism of Action	Examples of 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, RA
Infliximab IV Products (Remicade®, biosimilars)	Inhibition of TNF	AS, CD, PsO, PsA, RA, UC
Zymfentra® (infliximab-dyyb SC injection)	Inhibition of TNF	CD, UC
	Inhibition of TNF	SC formulation: AS, PsA, RA, UC

Simponi®, Simponi Aria® (golimumab SC injection, golimumab IV infusion)		IV formulation: AS, PJIA, PsA, RA
Tocilizumab Products (Actemra® IV, biosimilar; Actemra SC, biosimilar)	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
Omvoh® (mirikizumab IV infusion, SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-23	UC
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; secukinumab IV infusion)	Inhibition of IL-17A	SC formulation: AS, ERA, nr-axSpA, PsO, PsA
		IV formulation: AS, nr-axSpA, PsA
Taltz® (ixekizumab SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-17A	AS, nr-axSpA, PsO, PsA
Bimzelx® (bimekizumab-bkzx SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-17A/17F	PsO
Ilumya® (tildrakizumab-asmn SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-23	PsO
Skyrizi® (risankizumab-rzaa SC injection, risankizumab-rzaa IV infusion)	Inhibition of IL-23	SC formulation: CD, PSA, PsO, UC
		IV formulation: CD, UC
Tremfya® (guselkumab SC injection, guselkumab IV infusion)	Inhibition of IL-23	SC formulation: PsA, PsO, UC
		IV formulation: UC
Entyvio® (vedolizumab IV infusion, vedolizumab SC injection)	Integrin receptor antagonist	CD, UC
Oral Therapies/Targeted Synthetic Oral Small Molecule Drugs		
Otezla® (apremilast tablets)	Inhibition of PDE4	PsO, PsA
Cibinqo™ (abrocitinib tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	AD
Olumiant® (baricitinib tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	RA, AA
Litfulo® (ritlecitinib capsules)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	AA
Leqselvi® (deuruxolitinib tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	AA
Rinvoq® (upadacitinib extended-release tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	AD, AS, nr-axSpA, RA, PsA, UC
Rinvoq® LQ (upadacitinib oral solution)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	PsA, PJIA

Sotyktu® (deucravacitinib tablets)	Inhibition of TYK2	PsO
Xeljanz® (tofacitinib tablets/oral solution)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	RA, PJIA, PsA, UC
Xeljanz® XR (tofacitinib extended-release tablets)	Inhibition of JAK pathways	RA, PsA, UC
Zeposia® (ozanimod tablets)	Sphingosine 1 phosphate receptor modulator	UC
Velsipity® (etrasimod tablets)	Sphingosine 1 phosphate receptor modulator	UC

* Not an all-inclusive list of indications. 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; AA – Alopecia areata; TYK2 – Tyrosine kinase 2.