Reference number(s)
2004-A

SPECIALTY GUIDELINE MANAGEMENT

ENTYVIO (vedolizumab)

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. FDA-Approved Indications
   1. Adult patients with moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis (UC)
   2. Adult patients with moderately to severely active Crohn's disease (CD)

B. Compendial Uses
   Immune checkpoint inhibitor-related toxicity

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and not medically necessary.

II. DOCUMENTATION

Submission of the following information is necessary to initiate the prior authorization review:

A. Ulcerative colitis
   1. Initial requests
      i. Chart notes, medical record documentation, or claims history supporting previous medications tried (if applicable), including response to therapy. If therapy is not advisable, documentation of clinical reason to avoid therapy.
      ii. Chart notes or medical record documentation of hospitalization due to acute, severe ulcerative colitis (if applicable)
   2. Continuation requests: Chart notes or medical record documentation supporting positive clinical response to therapy or remission.

B. Crohn's disease
   1. Initial requests
      i. Chart notes, medical record documentation, or claims history supporting previous medications tried (if applicable), including response to therapy. If therapy is not advisable, documentation of clinical reason to avoid therapy.
      ii. Chart notes or medical record documentation supporting diagnosis of fistulizing Crohn's disease (if applicable)
   2. Continuation requests: Chart notes or medical record documentation supporting positive clinical response to therapy or remission.

C. Immune checkpoint inhibitor-related toxicity
   Chart notes, medical record documentation, or claims history supporting previous medications tried, including response to therapy or intolerance to therapy. If therapy is not advisable, documentation of clinical reason to avoid therapy.

III. CRITERIA FOR INITIAL APPROVAL

A. Moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis (UC)

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have previously received a biologic or targeted synthetic drug (e.g., Xeljanz) indicated for moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis.

2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of moderately to severely active UC for members who had an inadequate response, intolerance or contraindication to at least one conventional therapy option (See Appendix A).

3. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have been hospitalized for acute, severe UC (e.g., continuous bleeding, severe toxic symptoms, including fever and anorexia).

B. Moderately to severely active Crohn's disease (CD)

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members who have previously received a biologic indicated for the treatment of moderately to severely active Crohn's disease.

2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of moderately to severely active CD in members who had an inadequate response, intolerance or contraindication to at least one conventional therapy option (See Appendix B).

3. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for the treatment of fistulizing CD.

C. Immune checkpoint inhibitor-related toxicity

Authorization of 1 month may be granted for the treatment of immune checkpoint inhibitor-related diarrhea or colitis when the member has experienced an inadequate response, intolerance, or contraindication to systemic corticosteroids.

IV. CONTINUATION OF THERAPY

A. Moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for all members (including new members) who are using the requested medication for moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis and who achieve or maintain remission.

2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for all members (including new members) who are using the requested medication for moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis and who achieve or maintain a positive clinical response as evidenced by low disease activity or improvement in signs and symptoms of the condition when there is improvement in any of the following from baseline:
   i. Stool frequency
   ii. Rectal bleeding
   iii. Urgency of defecation
   iv. C-reactive protein (CRP)
   v. Fecal calprotectin (FC)
   vi. Endoscopic appearance of the mucosa
   vii. Improvement on a disease activity scoring tool (e.g., Ulcerative Colitis Endoscopic Index of Severity [UCEIS], Mayo score)

B. Moderately to severely active Crohn's disease

1. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for all members (including new members) who are using the requested medication for moderately to severely active Crohn's disease and who achieve or maintain remission.

2. Authorization of 12 months may be granted for all members (including new members) who are using the requested medication for moderately to severely active Crohn's disease and who achieve or maintain a positive clinical response as evidenced by low disease activity or improvement in signs and symptoms of the condition when there is improvement in any of the following from baseline:
   i. Abdominal pain or tenderness
   ii. Diarrhea
   iii. Body weight
   iv. Abdominal mass
   v. Hematocrit
   vi. Endoscopic appearance of the mucosa
   vii. Improvement on a disease activity scoring tool (e.g., Crohn's Disease Activity Index [CDAI] score)

C. Immune checkpoint inhibitor-related toxicity

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

V. OTHER

For all indications: Member cannot use the requested medication concomitantly with any other biologic drug or targeted synthetic drug.

VI. DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

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

VII. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Examples of Conventional Therapy Options for UC

1. Mild to moderate disease – induction of remission:
   a. Oral mesalamine (e.g., Asacol, Asacol HD, Lialda, Pentasa), balsalazide, olsalazine
   b. Rectal mesalamine (e.g., Canasa, Rowasa)
   c. Rectal hydrocortisone (e.g., Colocort, Cortifoam)
   d. Alternatives: prednisone, azathioprine, mercaptopurine, sulfasalazine
2. Mild to moderate disease – maintenance of remission:
   a. Oral mesalamine, balsalazide, olsalazine, rectal mesalamine
   b. Alternatives: azathioprine, mercaptopurine, sulfasalazine
3. Severe disease – induction of remission:
   a. Prednisone, hydrocortisone IV, methylprednisolone IV
   b. Alternatives: cyclosporine IV, tacrolimus, sulfasalazine
4. Severe disease – maintenance of remission:
   a. Azathioprine, mercaptopurine
   b. Alternative: sulfasalazine

Appendix B: Examples of Conventional Therapy Options for CD

1. Mild to moderate disease – induction of remission:
   a. Oral budesonide
   b. Alternatives: metronidazole, ciprofloxacin, rifaximin
2. Mild to moderate disease – maintenance of remission:
   a. Azathioprine, mercaptopurine
   b. Alternatives: oral budesonide, methotrexate intramuscular (IM) or subcutaneous (SC), sulfasalazine
3. Moderate to severe disease – induction of remission:
   a. Prednisone, methylprednisolone intravenously (IV)
   b. Alternatives: methotrexate IM or SC
4. Moderate to severe disease – maintenance of remission:
   a. Azathioprine, mercaptopurine
   b. Alternative: methotrexate IM or SC
5. Perianal and fistulizing disease – induction of remission
   a. Metronidazole ± ciprofloxacin, tacrolimus
6. Perianal and fistulizing disease – maintenance of remission
   a. Azathioprine, mercaptopurine
   b. Alternative: methotrexate IM or SC

VIII. REFERENCES

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