

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION POLICY

Inflammatory Conditions - Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR Prior Authorization Policy POLICY:

Xeljanz®/Xeljanz XR (tofacitinib tablets, oral solution/extended-

release tablets - Pfizer)

REVIEW DATE: 09/10/2025

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 WHERE APPROPRIATE AND HAVE DISCRETION IN MAKING INDIVIDUAL COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS. WHERE COVERAGE FOR CARE OR SERVICES DOES NOT DEPEND ON SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES, REIMBURSEMENT WILL ONLY BE PROVIDED IF A REQUESTED SERVICE(S) IS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT CRITERIA OUTLINED IN THE APPLICABLE COVERAGE POLICY, INCLUDING COVERED DIAGNOSIS AND/OR PROCEDURE CODE(S). REIMBURSEMENT IS NOT ALLOWED FOR SERVICES WHEN BILLED FOR CONDITIONS OR DIAGNOSES THAT ARE NOT COVERED UNDER THIS COVERAGE POLICY (SEE "CODING INFORMATION" BELOW). WHEN BILLING, PROVIDERS MUST USE THE MOST APPROPRIATE CODES AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE SUBMISSION. CLAIMS SUBMITTED FOR SERVICES THAT ARE NOT ACCOMPANIED BY COVERED CODE(S) UNDER THE APPLICABLE COVERAGE POLICY WILL BE DENIED AS NOT COVERED. 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 NATIONAL FORMULARY COVERAGE:

OVERVIEW

Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR is an inhibitor of the Janus kinases pathways.¹ Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR <u>tablets</u> are approved for the following uses:

- Ankylosing spondylitis, in adults with active disease who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more tumor necrosis factor inhibitors (TNFis).
- Polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA), in patients ≥ 2 years of age with active disease who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more TNFis. Note: This indication is for Xeljanz only (not the XR formulation).
- **Psoriatic arthritis**, in adults with active disease who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more TNFis. In psoriatic arthritis, Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR should be used in combination with a conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (DMARD).

- **Rheumatoid arthritis**, in adults with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more TNFis.
- **Ulcerative colitis**, in adults with moderately to severely active disease who have had an inadequate response or who are intolerant to one or more TNFis.

Xeljanz <u>oral solution</u> is only indicated for **polyarticular JIA**.

For all indications, Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR is not recommended for use in combination with biologics or potent immunosuppressants such as azathioprine or cyclosporine.

Guidelines

Guidelines for the treatment of inflammatory conditions recommend use of Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR.

- Ankylosing Spondylitis: Guidelines from the American College of Rheumatology (ACR)/Spondylitis Association of America/Spondyloarthritis Research and Treatment Network (2019) recommend TNFis as the initial biologic.⁸ In those who are secondary non-responders to a TNFi, a second TNFi is recommended over switching out of the class. Both TNFis and interleukin-17 blockers are recommended over Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR.
- **JIA:** Xeljanz is not addressed in ACR/Arthritis Foundation guidelines for the treatment of JIA (2019) specific to juvenile non-systemic polyarthritis, sacroiliitis, and enthesitis.² TNFis are the biologics recommended for polyarthritis, sacroiliitis, and enthesitis. Actemra® (tocilizumab intravenous infusion, tocilizumab subcutaneous injection) and Orencia® (abatacept intravenous infusion, abatacept subcutaneous injection) are also among the biologics recommended for polyarthritis. Biologics are recommended following other therapies (e.g., following DMARDs for active polyarthritis or following a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug for active JIA with sacroiliitis or enthesitis). However, there are situations where initial therapy with a biologic may be preferred over other conventional therapies (e.g., if there is involvement of high-risk joints such as the cervical spine, wrist, or hip; high disease activity; and/or those judged to be at high risk of disabling joint damage).
- **Psoriatic arthritis:** Guidelines from ACR (2018) recommend TNFis over other biologics and Xeljanz for use in treatment-naïve patients with psoriatic arthritis and in those who were previously treated with an oral therapy.³
- Rheumatoid arthritis: Guidelines from ACR (2021) recommend addition of a biologic or a targeted synthetic DMARD for a patient taking the maximum tolerated dose of methotrexate who is not at target.⁴
- **Ulcerative colitis:** The AGA (2024) and the ACG (2025) have clinical practice guidelines on the management of moderate to severe UC.^{5,6} In moderate to severe disease, systemic corticosteroids or advanced therapies may be utilized for induction of remission. Advanced therapies recommended include TNF inhibitors, Entyvio, IL-23 inhibitors, IL-12/23 inhibitors, sphingosine-1-phosphate (S1P) receptor modulators, and Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors. If steroids are utilized for induction, efforts should be made to introduce steroid-sparing agents for maintenance therapy. Of note, guidelines state corticosteroids may be avoided entirely when other effective induction

strategies are planned.⁶ Both guidelines also recommend that any drug that effectively treats induction should be continued for maintenance.^{5,6}

POLICY STATEMENT

Prior Authorization is recommended for prescription benefit coverage of Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR. 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. Because of the specialized skills required for evaluation and diagnosis of a patient treated with Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR as well as the monitoring required for adverse events and long-term efficacy, initial approval requires Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR to be prescribed by or in consultation with a physician who specializes in the condition being treated.

 Xeljanz®/Xeljanz XR (tofacitinib tablets, oral solution/extendedrelease tablets – Pfizer)

is(are) covered as medically necessary when the following criteria is(are) met for FDA-approved indication(s) or other uses with supportive evidence (if applicable):

FDA-Approved Indications

- **1. Ankylosing Spondylitis.** Approve Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR tablets (<u>not</u> oral solution) for the duration noted if the patient meets ONE of the following (A <u>or</u> B):
 - **A)** <u>Initial Therapy</u>. Approve for 6 months if the patient meets ALL of the following (i, ii, <u>and</u> iii):
 - i. Patient is ≥ 18 years of age; AND
 - ii. Patient meets ONE of the following (a or b):
 - a) Patient has had a 3-month trial of at least ONE tumor necrosis factor inhibitor; OR
 - b) Patient has tried at least one tumor necrosis factor inhibitor but was unable to tolerate a 3-month trial; AND Note: Refer to Appendix for examples of tumor necrosis factor inhibitors used for rheumatoid arthritis. Conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) such as methotrexate, leflunomide, hydroxychloroquine, and sulfasalazine do not count.
 - **iii.** The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist; OR
 - **B)** Patient is Currently Receiving Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR. Approve for 1 year if the patient meets BOTH of the following (i and ii):
 - i. Patient has been established on therapy for at least 6 months; AND Note: A patient who has received < 6 months of therapy or who is restarting therapy 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 Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR); OR

Note: Examples of objective measures include Ankylosing Spondylitis Disease Activity Score (ASDAS), Ankylosing Spondylitis Quality of Life Scale (ASQoL), Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Disease Activity Index (BASDAI), Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Functional Index (BASFI), Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Global Score (BAS-G), Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Metrology Index (BASMI), Dougados Functional Index (DFI), Health Assessment Questionnaire for the Spondylarthropathies (HAQ-S), and/or serum markers (e.g., C-reactive protein, erythrocyte sedimentation rate).

- **b)** Compared with baseline (prior to initiating Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR), patient experienced an improvement in at least one symptom, such as decreased pain or stiffness, or improvement in function or activities of daily living.
- **2. Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA).** Approve Xeljanz tablets (<u>not</u> the Xeljanz XR formulation) or oral solution for the duration noted if the patient meets ONE of the following (A <u>or</u> B):

<u>Note</u>: This includes JIA regardless of type of onset and a patient with juvenile spondyloarthropathy/active sacroiliac arthritis. JIA is also referred to as Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis.

- **A)** <u>Initial Therapy</u>. Approve for 6 months if the patient meets ALL of the following (i, ii, and iii):
 - i. Patient is ≥ 2 years of age; AND
 - ii. Patient meets ONE of the following (a or b):
 - a) Patient has had a 3-month trial of at least one tumor necrosis factor inhibitor; OR
 - b) Patient has tried at least one tumor necrosis factor inhibitor but was unable to tolerate a 3-month trial; AND Note: Refer to Appendix for examples of tumor necrosis factor inhibitors. Conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) such as methotrexate, leflunomide,
 - iii. The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist;

hydroxychloroquine, and sulfasalazine do not count.

- **B)** <u>Patient is Currently Receiving Xeljanz</u>. Approve for 1 year if the patient meets BOTH of the following (i <u>and</u> ii):
- i. Patient has been established on therapy for at least 6 months; AND Note: A patient who has received < 6 months of therapy or who is restarting therapy with Xeljanz 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 Xeljanz); OR

<u>Note</u>: Examples of objective measures include Physician Global Assessment (MD global), Parent/Patient Global Assessment of Overall Well-Being (PGA), Parent/Patient Global Assessment of Disease Activity (PDA), Juvenile Arthritis Disease Activity Score (JDAS), Clinical Juvenile

- Arthritis Disease Activity Score (cJDAS), Juvenile Spondyloarthritis Disease Activity Index (JSpADA), serum markers (e.g., C-reactive protein, erythrocyte sedimentation rate), and/or reduced dosage of corticosteroids.
- **b)** Compared with baseline (prior to initiating Xeljanz), patient experienced an improvement in at least one symptom, such as improvement in limitation of motion, less joint pain or tenderness, decreased duration of morning stiffness or fatigue, improved function or activities of daily living.
- **3. Psoriatic Arthritis.** Approve Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR tablets (<u>not</u> oral solution) for the duration noted if the patient meets ONE of the following (A or B):
 - **A)** <u>Initial Therapy</u>. Approve for 6 months if the patient meets ALL of the following (i, ii, iii, <u>and</u> iv):
 - i. Patient is \geq 18 years of age; AND
 - **ii.** Patient meets ONE of the following (a <u>or</u> b):
 - a) Patient has had a 3-month trial of at least ONE tumor necrosis factor inhibitor; OR
 - b) Patient has tried at least one tumor necrosis factor inhibitor but was unable to tolerate a 3-month trial; AND Note: Refer to Appendix for examples of tumor necrosis factor inhibitors used for psoriatic arthritis. Conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) such as methotrexate, leflunomide, hydroxychloroguine, and sulfasalazine do not count.
 - **iii.** The medication will be used in combination with methotrexate or another conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (DMARD), unless contraindicated; AND
 - <u>Note</u>: Examples of other conventional synthetic DMARDs include leflunomide and sulfasalazine.
 - iv. The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist or a dermatologist; OR
 - **B)** Patient is Currently Receiving Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR. Approve for 1 year if the patient meets ALL of the following (i, ii, and iii):
 - i. Patient has been established on therapy for at least 6 months; AND Note: A patient who has received < 6 months of therapy or who is restarting therapy with Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR is reviewed under criterion A (Initial Therapy).
 - ii. The medication will be used in combination with methotrexate or another conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drug (DMARD), unless contraindicated; AND
 - <u>Note</u>: Examples of other conventional synthetic DMARDs include leflunomide and sulfasalazine.
 - iii. 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 Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR); OR
 - Note: Examples of standardized measures of disease activity include Disease Activity Index for Psoriatic Arthritis (DAPSA), Composite

- Psoriatic Disease Activity Index (CPDAI), Psoriatic Arthritis Disease Activity Score (PsA DAS), Grace Index, Leeds Enthesitis Score (LEI), Spondyloarthritis Consortium of Canada (SPARCC) enthesitis score, Leeds Dactylitis Instrument Score, Minimal Disease Activity (MDA), Psoriatic Arthritis Impact of Disease (PsAID-12), and/or serum markers (e.g., C-reactive protein, erythrocyte sedimentation rate).
- **b)** Compared with baseline (prior to initiating Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR), patient experienced an improvement in at least one symptom, such as less joint pain, morning stiffness, or fatigue; improved function or activities of daily living; decreased soft tissue swelling in joints or tendon sheaths.
- **4. Rheumatoid Arthritis.** Approve Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR tablets (<u>not</u> oral solution) for the duration noted if the patient meets ONE of the following (A or B):
 - **A)** <u>Initial Therapy</u>. Approve for 6 months if the patient meets ALL of the following (i, ii, <u>and</u> iii):
 - i. Patient is ≥ 18 years of age; AND
 - ii. Patient meets ONE of the following (a or b):
 - Patient has had a 3-month trial of at least ONE tumor necrosis factor inhibitor; OR
 - b) Patient has tried at least one tumor necrosis factor inhibitor but was unable to tolerate a 3-month trial; AND <u>Note</u>: Refer to <u>Appendix</u> for examples of tumor necrosis factor inhibitors used for rheumatoid arthritis. Conventional synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) such as methotrexate, leflunomide, hydroxychloroguine, and sulfasalazine do not count.
 - **iii.** The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist; OR
 - B) <u>Patient is Currently Receiving Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR</u>. Approve for 1 year if the patient meets BOTH of the following (i <u>and</u> ii):
 - i. Patient has been established on therapy for at least 6 months; AND Note: A patient who has received < 6 months of therapy or who is restarting therapy with Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR is reviewed under criterion A (Initial Therapy).
 - ii. Patient meets at least one of the following (a or b):
 - a) Patient experienced a beneficial clinical response when assessed by at least one objective measure; OR

 Note: Examples of objective measures of disease activity include Clinical Disease Activity Index (CDAI), Disease Activity Score (DAS) 28 using erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) or C-reactive protein (CRP), Patient Activity Scale (PAS)-II, Rapid Assessment of Patient Index Data 3 (RAPID-3), and/or Simplified Disease Activity Index (SDAI).
 - **b)** Patient experienced an improvement in at least one symptom, such as decreased joint pain, morning stiffness, or fatigue; improved function or activities of daily living; decreased soft tissue swelling in joints or tendon sheaths.
- **5. Ulcerative Colitis.** Approve Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR tablets (<u>not</u> oral solution) for the duration noted if the patient meets ONE of the following (A or B):

- **A)** <u>Initial Therapy</u>. Approve for 6 months if the patient meets ALL of the following (i, ii, <u>and</u> iii):
 - i. Patient is ≥ 18 years of age; AND
 - **ii.** Patient meets ONE of the following (a <u>or</u> b):
 - a) Patient has had a 3-month trial of at least ONE tumor necrosis factor inhibitor; OR
 - b) Patient has tried at least one tumor necrosis factor inhibitor but was unable to tolerate a 3-month trial; AND <u>Note</u>: Refer to <u>Appendix</u> for examples of tumor necrosis factor inhibitors used for ulcerative colitis.
 - **iii.** The medication is prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist; OR
- **B)** Patient is Currently Receiving Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR. Approve for 1 year if the patient meets BOTH of the following (i and ii):
 - i. Patient has been established on therapy for at least 6 months; AND Note: A patient who has received < 6 months of therapy or who is restarting therapy with Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR 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 Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR); OR Note: Examples of objective measures 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 Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR), patient experienced an improvement in at least one symptom, such as decreased pain, fatigue, stool frequency, and/or decreased rectal bleeding.

CONDITIONS NOT COVERED

• Xeljanz®/Xeljanz XR (tofacitinib tablets, oral solution/extended-release tablets - Pfizer)

is(are) considered not medically necessary for ANY other use(s) 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.
- **2.** Concurrent use with Other Potent Immunosuppressants (e.g., azathioprine, tacrolimus, cyclosporine, mycophenolate mofetil).¹ Co-

administration with other potent immunosuppressive drugs has the risk of added immunosuppression and has not been evaluated in rheumatoid arthritis. In ulcerative colitis, Xeljanz is not recommended for use in combination with potent immunosuppressants such as azathioprine and cyclosporine.

<u>Note</u>: This does NOT exclude use of Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR with methotrexate for rheumatoid arthritis; Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR has been evaluated in patients with rheumatoid arthritis taking background methotrexate, leflunomide, or combinations of disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) containing methotrexate and/or leflunomide.

3. Renal Transplantation. More data are needed. A Phase IIb study in kidney transplant patients (n = 331) found Xeljanz was equivalent to cyclosporine in preventing acute rejection.⁷ However, based on Phase IIb studies, there are concerns of Epstein Barr Virus-associated post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder in certain transplant patients receiving Xeljanz.^{1,6}

REFERENCES

- 1. Xeljanz®/Xeljanz XR [prescribing information]. New York, NY: Pfizer; February 2025.
- 2. Ringold S, Angeles-Han ST, Beukelman T, et al. 2019 American College of Rheumatology/Arthritis Foundation Guideline for the treatment of juvenile idiopathic arthritis: therapeutic approaches for non-systemic polyarthritis, sacroiliitis, and enthesitis. *Arthritis Rheumatol.* 2019;71(6):846-863.
- 3. Singh JA, Guyatt G, Ogdie A, et al. 2018 American College of Rheumatology/National Psoriasis Foundation Guideline for the treatment of psoriatic arthritis. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)*. 2019;71(1):2-29.
- 4. Fraenkel L, Bathon JM, England BR, et al. 2021 American College of Rheumatology guideline for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2021;73(7):1108-1123.
- 5. Singh S, Loftus EV Jr, Limketkai BN, et al. AGA Living Clinical Practice Guideline on Pharmacological Management of Moderate-to-Severe Ulcerative Colitis. *Gastroenterology*. 2024 Dec;167(7):1307-1343.
- 6. Rubin D, Ananthakrishnan A, Siegel C. ACG Clinical Guideline Update: Ulcerative Colitis in Adults. *Am J of Gastroenterol.* 2025 June;120(6):1187-1224.
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HISTORY

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Review Date
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	08/31/2022
Annual Revision	No criteria changes.	09/06/2023

Annual	Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis: For initial approvals, a	09/11/2024			
Revision	requirement that the patient is ≥ 2 years of age was added.				
	Conditions Not Covered: Concurrent use with a Biologic or with				
	a Targeted Synthetic Oral Small Molecule Drug was changed to as				
	listed (previously oral small molecule drug was listed as Disease-				
	Modifying Antirheumatic Drug).				
Selected	Removed the following from the Policy Statement: "All reviews for	04/23/2025			
Revision	use of Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR for COVID-19 and/or cytokine release				
	syndrome associated with COVID-19 will be forwarded to the				
	Medical Director."				
	Conditions Not Covered: Removed COVID-19.				
Annual	No criteria changes.	09/10/2025			
Revision					

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
Simponi®, Simponi Aria® (golimumab SC injection, golimumab IV infusion)	Inhibition of TNF	SC formulation: AS, PsA, RA, UC IV formulation: AS, PJIA,
Tocilizumab Products (Actemra® IV, biosimilar; Actemra SC, biosimilar)	Inhibition of IL-6	PsA, RA SC formulation: PJIA, RA, SJIA IV formulation: PJIA, RA, SJIA
Kevzara® (sarilumab SC injection)	Inhibition of IL-6	RA
Orencia® (abatacept IV infusion,	T-cell costimulation	SC formulation: JIA, PSA, RA
abatacept SC injection)	modulator	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	CD, UC
Ustekinumab Products (Stelara® IV, biosimilars, Stelara SC, biosimilars)	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	AS, nr-axSpA, PsO, PsA
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
Tremfya [®] (guselkumab SC injection, guselkumab IV infusion)	Inhibition of IL-23	IV formulation: CD, UC SC formulation: CD, PsA, PsO, UC IV formulation: CD, UC
Entyvio® (vedolizumab IV infusion, vedolizumab SC injection)	Integrin receptor antagonist	CD, UC

APPENDIX (CONTINUED)

	Mechanism of Action	Examples of Indications*				
Oral Therapies/Targeted Synthetic Oral Small Molecule Drugs						
Otezla® (apremilast tablets)	Inhibition of PDE4	PsO, PsA				
Cibinqo™ (abrocitinib tablets)	Inhibition of JAK	AD				
	pathways					
Olumiant® (baricitinib tablets)	Inhibition of JAK	RA, AA				
	pathways					
Litfulo ® (ritlecitinib capsules)	Inhibition of JAK	AA				
	pathways					
Leqselvi® (deuruxolitinib tablets)	Inhibition of JAK	AA				
	pathways					
Rinvoq ® (upadacitinib extended-release	Inhibition of JAK	AD, AS, nr-axSpA, RA, PsA,				
tablets)	pathways	UC				
Rinvoq® LQ (upadacitinib oral solution)	Inhibition of JAK	PsA, PJIA				
	pathways					
Sotyktu [®] (deucravacitinib tablets)	Inhibition of TYK2	PsO				
Xeljanz® (tofacitinib tablets/oral	Inhibition of JAK	RA, PJIA, PsA, UC				
solution)	pathways					
Xeljanz® XR (tofacitinib extended-	Inhibition of JAK	RA, PsA, UC				
release tablets)	pathways					
Zeposia® (ozanimod tablets)	Sphingosine 1	UC				
	phosphate receptor					
	modulator					
Velsipity® (etrasimod tablets)	Sphingosine 1	UC				
	phosphate receptor					
	modulator					

^{*} 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.

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