Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Medicare Plus BlueSM and BCN AdvantageSM Categories: Authorizations/referrals, Pharmacy

Date posted: Oct. 27, 2023

Changes to infliximab step therapy requirements for Medicare Advantage members

For dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2024, infliximab step therapy requirements are changing for Cimzia[®], Skyrizi[®] IV and Ilumya[®]. These changes apply to Medicare Plus BlueSM and BCN AdvantageSM members.

Notes:

- These drugs are part of members' medical benefits, not their pharmacy benefits.
- These drugs require prior authorization. Submit requests through the NovoLogix[®] online tool.

Requirements added for Cimzia and Skyrizi

Starting Jan. 1, members will have to try and fail a preferred infliximab drug before a provider requests prior authorization for the following drugs:

- Cimzia[®] (certolizumab pegol), HCPCS code J0717
- Skyrizi[®] IV (risankizumab-rzaa), HCPCS code J2327

For information about preferred drug designations, see our provider alert titled <u>Update:</u> <u>Changes to preferred drug designations and prior authorization requirements for Medicare Advantage members.</u>

Requirements removed for Ilumya

Starting Jan. 1, members won't have to try and fail a preferred infliximab drug before using Ilumya[®].

Ilumya will continue to require prior authorization.

How to submit prior authorization requests

To submit a prior authorization request, log in to our provider portal (<u>availity.com</u>*), click *Payer Spaces* in the menu bar and then click the BCBSM and BCN logo. Then, click the tile to access the appropriate NovoLogix[®] tool.

Note: If you need to request access to Availity[®] Essentials, follow the instructions on the Register for web tools webpage at **bcbsm.com/providers**.

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When prior authorization is required

These drugs require prior authorization when they are administered by a health care provider in sites of care such as outpatient facilities or physician offices and are billed in one of the following ways:

- Electronically through an 837P transaction or on a professional CMS-1500 claim form
- Electronically through an 837I transaction or using the UB04 claim form for a hospital outpatient type of bill 013x

List of requirements

For a list of requirements related to drugs covered under the medical benefit, see the Medical Drug and Step Therapy Prior Authorization List for Medicare Plus Blue and BCN Advantage members.

We'll update the list to reflect these changes prior to the effective date.

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