

Clinical Policy: Vedolizumab (Entyvio)

Reference Number: IL.ERX.SPA.163

Effective Date: 06.01.21

Last Review Date: 05.21

Lines of Business: Illinois Medicaid

[Revision Log](#)

See **Important Reminder** at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

Vedolizumab (Entyvio®) is an integrin receptor antagonist.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Entyvio is indicated in adults for the treatment of:

- Moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis (UC).
- Moderately to severely active Crohn's disease (CD).

Policy/Criteria

Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that member has met all approval criteria.

Health plan approved formularies should be reviewed for all coverage determinations. Requirements to use preferred alternative agents apply only when such requirements align with the health plan approved formulary.

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Envolve Pharmacy Solutions™ that Entyvio is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Crohn's Disease (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of CD;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
 - a. Failure of a \geq 3 consecutive month trial of at least ONE immunomodulator (e.g., azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurine [6-MP], MTX) at up to maximally indicated doses, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
 - b. Medical justification supports inability to use immunomodulators (*see Appendix E*);
5. Failure of a \geq 3 consecutive month trial of Cimzia® AND Humira®, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
**Prior authorization is required for adalimumab and certolizumab*
6. Dose does not exceed 300 mg at weeks 0, 2, and 6, followed by maintenance dose of 300 mg every 8 weeks.

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Ulcerative Colitis (must meet all):

1. Diagnosis of UC;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist;
3. Age \geq 18 years;
4. Documentation of a Mayo Score \geq 6 (*see Appendix F*);
5. Failure of an 8-week trial of systemic corticosteroids, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
6. If age \geq 18 years: Failure of a \geq 3 consecutive month trial of Humira and Xeljanz®/Xeljanz® XR, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
**Prior authorization may be required for Humira and Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR*
7. Dose does not exceed 300 mg at weeks 0, 2, and 6, followed by maintenance dose of 300 mg every 8 weeks.

Approval duration: 6 months

C. Other diagnoses/indications

1. Refer to ERX.PA.01 if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized).

II. Continued Therapy

A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all):

1. Currently receiving medication via a health plan affiliated with Envolve Pharmacy Solutions or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
2. Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed 300 mg every 8 weeks.

Approval duration: 12 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2):

1. Currently receiving medication via a health plan affiliated with Envolve Pharmacy Solutions and documentation supports positive response to therapy.

Approval duration: Duration of request or 6 months (whichever is less); or

2. Refer to ERX.PA.01 if diagnosis is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized).

III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:

A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off-label use policy – ERX.PA.01 or evidence of coverage documents;

B. Combination use of biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (bDMARDs), including any tumor necrosis factor (TNF) antagonists [Cimzia®, Enbrel®, Simponi®, Avsola™, Inflectra™, Remicade®, Renflexis™], interleukin agents [Arcalyst® (IL-1 blocker), Ilaris® (IL-1 blocker), Kineret® (IL-1RA), Actemra® (IL-6RA), Kevzara® (IL-6RA), Stelara® (IL-12/23 inhibitor), Cosentyx® (IL-17A inhibitor), Taltz® (IL-17A inhibitor), Siliq™ (IL-17RA), Ilumya™ (IL-23 inhibitor), Skyrizi™ (IL-23 inhibitor), Tremfya® (IL-23 inhibitor)], janus kinase inhibitors (JAKi) [Xeljanz®/Xeljanz® XR, Rinvoq™], anti-CD20 monoclonal antibodies [Rituxan®, Riabni™, Ruxience™, Truxima®, and Rituxan Hycela®], selective co-stimulation modulators [Orencia®], or integrin receptor antagonists [Entyvio®] because of the possibility of increased immunosuppression, neutropenia and increased risk of infection.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

6-MP: 6-mercaptopurine

CD: Crohn's disease

FDA: Food and Drug Administration

GI: gastrointestinal

MTX: methotrexate

TNF: tumor necrosis factor

UC: ulcerative colitis

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives

This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria.

The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
azathioprine (Azasan®, Imuran®)	CD* 1.5 – 2 mg/kg/day PO	2.5 mg/kg/day
corticosteroids	CD* prednisone 40 mg PO QD for 2 weeks or IV 50 – 100 mg Q6H for 1 week budesonide (Entocort EC®) 6 – 9 mg PO QD	N/A

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
6-mercaptopurine (Purixan®)	CD* 50 mg PO QD or 1 – 2 mg/kg/day PO	2 mg/kg/day
mesalamine (Pentasa®)	CD 1,000 mg PO QID	4 g/day
Humira® (adalimumab)	CD, UC <u>Initial dose:</u> 160 mg SC on Day 1, then 80 mg SC on Day 15 <u>Maintenance dose:</u> 40 mg SC every other week starting on Day 29	40 mg every other week
Cimzia® (certolizumab)	CD <u>Initial dose:</u> 400 mg SC at 0, 2, and 4 weeks <u>Maintenance dose:</u> 400 mg SC every 4 weeks	CD: 400 mg every 4 weeks week
Xeljanz® (tofacitinib, immediate-release)	UC 10 mg PO BID for 8 weeks; then 5 or 10 mg PO BID	Maintenance: 10 mg/day
Xeljanz XR® (tofacitinib, extended-release)	UC 22 mg PO QD for 8 weeks; then 11 mg PO QD	Maintenance: 11 mg/day

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name® (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name®) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.

*Off-label

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

- Contraindication(s): patients who have had a known serious or severe hypersensitivity reaction to Entyvio or any of its excipients
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

Appendix D: General Information

- Definition of failure of MTX or DMARDs:
 - Child-bearing age is not considered a contraindication for use of MTX. Each drug has risks in pregnancy. An educated patient and family planning would allow use of MTX in patients who have no intention of immediate pregnancy.
 - Social use of alcohol is not considered a contraindication for use of MTX. MTX may only be contraindicated if patients choose to drink over 14 units of alcohol per week. However, excessive alcohol drinking can lead to worsening of the condition, so patients who are serious about clinical response to therapy should refrain from excessive alcohol consumption.

Appendix E: Immunomodulator Medical Justification

- The following may be considered for medical justification supporting inability to use an immunomodulator for Crohn's disease:
 - Inability to induce short-term symptomatic remission with a 3-month trial of systemic glucocorticoids
 - High-risk factors for intestinal complications may include:
 - Initial extensive ileal, ileocolonic, or proximal GI involvement
 - Initial extensive perianal/severe rectal disease
 - Fistulizing disease (e.g., perianal, enterocutaneous, and rectovaginal fistulas)
 - Deep ulcerations
 - Penetrating, stricturing or stenosis disease and/or phenotype
 - Intestinal obstruction or abscess

Appendix F: Mayo Score

- Mayo Score: evaluates ulcerative colitis stage, based on four parameters: stool frequency, rectal bleeding, endoscopic evaluation and Physician’s global assessment. Each parameter of the score ranges from zero (normal or inactive disease) to 3 (severe activity) with an overall score of 12.

Score	Decoding
0 – 2	Remission
3 – 5	Mild activity
6 – 10	Moderate activity
>10	Severe activity

- The following may be considered for medical justification supporting inability to use an immunomodulator for ulcerative colitis:
 - Documentation of Mayo Score 6 – 12 indicative of moderate to severe ulcerative colitis.

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
UC, CD	<u>Initial dose:</u> 300 mg IV at weeks 0, 2, and 6 <u>Maintenance dose:</u> 300 mg IV every 8 weeks	300 mg every 8 weeks

VI. Product Availability

Single-use vial: 300 mg/20 mL

VII. References

1. Entyvio Prescribing Information. Deerfield, IL: Takeda Pharmaceuticals America Inc.; March 2020. Available at: <https://www.entyviohcp.com/>. Accessed January 11, 2021.
2. Bernell O, Lapidus A, Hellers G. Risk Factors for Surgery and Postoperative Recurrence in Crohn’s Disease. *Annals of Surgery*. 2000; 231(1): 38-45.
3. Ordas I, Feagan BG, Sandborn WJ. Early use of immunosuppressives or TNF antagonists for the treatment of Crohn’s disease: time for a change. *Gut*. 2011 Dec; 60(12):1754-63.
4. Lichtenstein GR, Loftus Jr. EV, Isaacs KI, Regueiro MD, Gerson LB, and Sands BE. ACG clinical guideline: management of Crohn’s disease in adults. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2018; 113:481-517.
5. Rubin DT, Ananthakrishnan AN, Siegel CA, et al. ACG Clinical Guideline: Ulcerative Colitis in Adults. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2019;114:384-413

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
Policy created	04.20.21	05.21

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information.

This Clinical Policy is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine, nor does it constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members.

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