Clinical Policy: Upadacitinib (Rinvoq, Rinvoq LQ)

Reference Number: CP.PHAR.443
Effective Date: 12.01.19
Last Review Date: 06.25
Line of Business: Medicaid

Revision Log

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

Description

Upadacitinib (Rinvoq®, Rinvoq LQ®) is a Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitor.

FDA Approved Indication(s)

Rinvoq and Rinvoq LQ are indicated for treatment of:

- Adults and pediatric patients 2 years of age and older with active psoriatic arthritis (PsA) who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more tumor necrosis factor (TNF) blockers.
- Patients 2 years of age and older with active polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (pJIA) who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more TNF blockers.

Rinvoq is also indicated for treatment of:

- Adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis (RA) who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more TNF blockers.
- Adults and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older with refractory, moderate to severe atopic dermatitis whose disease is not adequately controlled with other systemic drug products, including biologics, or when use of those therapies are inadvisable.
- Adult patients with moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis (UC) who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more TNF blockers.
- Adults with active ankylosing spondylitis (AS) who have had an inadequate response or intoleranace to one or more TNF blockers.
- Adults with active non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (nr-axSpA) with objective signs of inflammation who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to TNF blocker therapy.
- Adults with moderately to severely active Crohn's disease (CD) who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to one or more TNF blockers.
- Adults with giant cell arteritis (GCA).

Limitation(s) of use: Use of Rinvoq/Rinvoq LQ is not recommended for use in combination with other JAK inhibitors, biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs), or with potent immunosuppressants such as azathioprine and cyclosporine.

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.

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation® that Rinvoq and Rinvoq LQ are **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Rheumatoid Arthritis (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of RA per American College of Rheumatology (ACR) criteria (*see Appendix E*);
2. Request is for Rinvoq;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist;
4. Age ≥ 18 years;
5. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of methotrexate (MTX) at up to maximally indicated doses;
   b. Member has intolerance or contraindication to MTX (*see Appendix D*), and failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of at least ONE conventional DMARD (e.g., sulfasalazine, leflunomide, hydroxychloroquine) at up to maximally indicated doses, unless clinically significant adverse effect are experienced or all are contraindicated;
6. Failure of ALL* of the following, each used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a, b, and c, *see Appendix D*):
   a. One adalimumab product (e.g., *Hadlima™, Simlandi®, Yusimry™, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab-adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*), unless the member has had a history of failure of two TNF blockers;
   b. Actemra®;
   c. If member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers, Xeljanz®/Xeljanz XR®, unless member has cardiovascular risk and benefits do not outweigh the risk of treatment;

   **Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products, Actemra, and Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR*
7. Documentation of one of the following baseline assessment scores (a or b):
   a. Clinical disease activity index (CDAI) score (*see Appendix F*);
   b. Routine assessment of patient index data 3 (RAPID3) score (*see Appendix G*);
8. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
9. Dose does not exceed both of the following (a and b):
   a. 15 mg per day;
   b. 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

B. Psoriatic Arthritis (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of PsA;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a dermatologist or rheumatologist;
3. Age ≥ 2 years;
4. For members ≥ 18 years, both of the following (a and b):
   a. Request is for Rinvoq;

b. Failure of ALL of the following, each used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (i, ii, iii, and iv, *see Appendix D*):
   i. One adalimumab product (e.g., *Hadlima, Simlandi, Yusimry, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab-adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*), unless the member has had a history of failure of two TNF blockers;
   ii. Otezla®;
   iii. Taltz®;
   iv. If member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers, Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR, unless member has cardiovascular risk and benefits do not outweigh the risk of treatment;

   **Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products, Otezla, Taltz, and Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR*

5. For age ≥ 6 years, failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of one ustekinumab product (e.g. *Otulfi®, Pyzchiva® (branded), Selarsdi™, Steqeyma®, Yesintek™ are preferred*), unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
   **Prior authorization may be required for ustekinumab products*
6. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
7. Dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):
   a. Age ≥ 18 years: Both of the following (i and ii) (*Rinvoq*):
      i. 15 mg per day;
      ii. 1 tablet per day;
   b. Age ≥ 2 to < 18 years: One of the following (i, ii, or iii):
      i. Weight 10 kg to < 20 kg: 6 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
      ii. Weight 20 kg to < 30 kg: 8 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
      iii. Weight ≥ 30 kg, one of the following (1 or 2):
         1) 12 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
         2) Both of the following (a and b) (*Rinvoq*):
            a) 15 mg per day;
            b) 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

C. Atopic Dermatitis (must meet all)**:**
1. Diagnosis of atopic dermatitis affecting one of the following (a or b):
   a. At least 10% of the member's body surface area (BSA);
   b. Hands, feet, face, neck, scalp, genitals/groin, and/or intertriginous areas;
2. Request is for Rinvoq;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a dermatologist or allergist;
4. Age ≥ 12 years;
5. Failure of both of the following (a and b), unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced:
   a. Two formulary medium to very high potency topical corticosteroids, each used for ≥ 2 weeks;

b. One non-steroidal topical therapy* used for ≥ 4 weeks: topical calcineurin inhibitor (e.g., tacrolimus 0.03% ointment, pimecrolimus 1% cream) or Eucrisa®;
**These agents may require prior authorization*

6. Rinvoq is not prescribed concurrently with another biologic medication (e.g., Adbry®, Dupixent®) or a JAK inhibitor (e.g., Olumiant®, Cibinqo®, Opzelura™);
7. Dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):
   a. Both of the following (i and ii):
      i. 15 mg per day;
      ii. 1 tablet per day;
   b. Medical justification supports inadequate response to 15 mg daily and both of the following (i and ii):
      i. 30 mg per day;
      ii. 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

D. Axial Spondyloarthritis (must meet all)**:**
1. Diagnosis of AS or nr-axSpA;
2. Request is for Rinvoq;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist;
4. Age ≥ 18 years;
5. Failure of at least TWO non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) at up to maximally indicated doses, each used for ≥ 4 weeks unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
6. For AS: Failure of ALL of the following, each used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a, b, and c, *see Appendix D*):
   a. One adalimumab product (e.g., *Hadlima, Simlandi, Yusimry, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab-adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*), unless the member has had a history of failure of two TNF blockers;
   b. Taltz;
   c. If member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers, Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR, unless member has cardiovascular risk and benefits do not outweigh the risk of treatment;

   **Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products, Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR, and Taltz*
7. For nr-axSpA: Failure of Taltz*, used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
   **Prior authorization may be required for Taltz*
8. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
9. Dose does not exceed both of the following (a and b):
   a. 15 mg per day;
   b. 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

E. Ulcerative Colitis (must meet all)**:**
1. Diagnosis of UC;

2. Request is for Rinvoq;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist;
4. Age ≥ 18 years;
5. Documentation of a Mayo Score ≥ 6 or modified Mayo Score ≥ 5 (*see Appendix H*);
6. Failure of an 8-week trial of systemic corticosteroids, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
7. Failure of one of the following, used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a or b):
   a. One adalimumab product (e.g., *Hadlima, Simlandi, Yusimry, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab-adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*), unless the member has had a history of failure of two TNF blockers;
   b. One ustekinumab product (e.g. *Otulfi®, Pyzchiva® (branded), Selarsdi™, Steqeyma®, Yesintek™ are preferred*);

   **Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products and ustekinumab products*
8. Member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers, unless contraindicated;

   **Prior authorization may be required for TNF blockers*
9. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
10. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
    a. For induction (both i and ii):
       i. 45 mg once daily for 8 weeks;
       ii. 1 tablet once daily for 8 weeks;
    b. For maintenance (both i and ii):
       i. 15 mg once daily;
       ii. 1 tablet once daily.

Approval duration: 6 months

F. Crohn's Disease (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of CD;
2. Request is for Rinvoq;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist;
4. Age ≥ 18 years;
5. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of at least ONE immunomodulator (e.g., azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurine [6-MP], methotrexate [MTX]) at up to maximally indicated doses, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
   b. Medical justification supports inability to use immunomodulators (*see Appendix I*);
6. Member meets one of the following, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a or b, *see Appendix D*):*
   a. Failure of one adalimumab product (e.g., *Hadlima, Simlandi, Yusimry, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab-adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*), used for ≥ 3 consecutive months;
   b. History of failure of two TNF blockers;

**Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products*

7. Failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of one ustekinumab product (e.g. *Otulfi®, Pyzchiva® (branded), Selarsdi™, Steqeyma®, Yesintek™ are preferred*), unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
   **Prior authorization may be required for ustekinumab products*
8. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
9. Request meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. For induction (both i and ii):
      i. 45 mg once daily for 12 weeks;
      ii. 1 tablet once daily for 8 weeks;
   b. Medical justification supports inadequate response to 15 mg daily and both of the following (i and ii):
      i. 30 mg per day;
      ii. 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

G. Polyarticular Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of PJIA* as evidenced by ≥ 5 joints with active arthritis;
   **Overlap of diagnosis exists in children with JIA and non-systemic polyarthritis, which may include children from ILAR JIA categories of enthesitis-related arthritis*
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist;
3. Age ≥ 2 years;
4. Member meets one of the following (a, b, c, or d):
   a. Failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of MTX at up to maximally indicated doses;
   b. Member has intolerance or contraindication to MTX (*see Appendix D*), and failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of leflunomide or sulfasalazine at up to maximally indicated doses, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or both are contraindicated;
   c. For sacroiliitis/axial spine involvement (i.e., spine, hip), failure of a ≥ 4 week trial of an NSAID at up to maximally indicated doses, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
   d. Documentation of high disease activity;
5. Failure of ALL* of the following, each used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a, b, and c, *see Appendix D*):
      a. ONE adalimumab product (e.g., *Hadlima, Simlandi, Yusimry, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab-adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*), unless the member has had a history of failure of two TNF blockers;
   b. Actemra®;
   c. If member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers, Xeljanz, unless member has cardiovascular risk and benefits do not outweigh the risk of treatment;

   **Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products, Actemra,, and Xeljanz*

6. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
7. Dose does not exceed one of the following (a, b, or c):
   a. Weight 10 kg to < 20 kg: 6 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
   b. Weight 20 kg to < 30 kg: 8 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
   c. Weight ≥ 30 kg, one of the following (i or ii):
      i. 12 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
      ii. Both of the following (1 and 2) (*Rinvoq*):
         1) 15 mg per day;
         2) 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

H. Giant Cell Arteritis (must meet all)**:**
1. Diagnosis of GCA;
2. Request is for Rinvoq;
3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist;
4. Age ≥ 18 years;
5. Failure of a systemic corticosteroid at up to maximally tolerated doses, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
6. Failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of Actemra, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
   **Prior authorization may be required for Actemra*
7. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
8. Dose does not exceed both of the following (a and b):
   a. 15 mg per day;
   b. 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 6 months

I. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2)**:**
1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
   a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
   b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. Rheumatoid Arthritis (must meet all)**:**

1. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
   b. Member is currently receiving medication and is enrolled in a state and product with continuity of care regulations (*refer to state specific addendums for CC.PHARM.03A and CC.PHARM.03B);*
2. Request is for Rinvoq;
3. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by one of the following (a or b):
   a. A decrease in CDAI (*see Appendix F*) or RAPID3 (*see Appendix G*) score from baseline;
   b. Medical justification stating inability to conduct CDAI re-assessment, and submission of RAPID3 score associated with disease severity that is similar to initial CDAI assessment or improved;
4. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
5. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed both of the following (a and b):
   a. 15 mg per day;
   b. 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 12 months

B. Atopic Dermatitis (must meet all)**:**

1. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
   b. Member is currently receiving medication and is enrolled in a state and product with continuity of care regulations (*refer to state specific addendums for CC.PHARM.03A and CC.PHARM.03B);*
2. Request is for Rinvoq;
3. Member is responding positively to therapy as evidenced by, including but not limited to, reduction in itching and scratching;
4. Rinvoq is not prescribed concurrently with another biologic medication (e.g., Adbry, Dupixent) or a JAK inhibitor (e.g., Olumiant, Cibinqo, Opzelura);
5. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):
   a. Both of the following (i and ii):
      i. 15 mg per day;
      ii. 1 tablet per day;
   b. Medical justification supports inadequate response to 15 mg daily and both of the following (i and ii):
      i. 30 mg per day;
      ii. 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 12 months

C. All Other Indications (must meet all)**:**

1. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Currently receiving medication via Centene benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
   b. Member is currently receiving medication and is enrolled in a state and product with continuity of care regulations (*refer to state specific addendums for CC.PHARM.03A and CC.PHARM.03B);*
2. For CD, UC, AS, nr-axSpA, GCA: Request is for Rinvoq;
3. For CD, UC, AS, nr-axSpA, PsA, GCA: Member is responding positively to therapy;
4. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
5. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed (a, b, c, or d):
   a. For UC, AS, nr-axSpA, GCA: Both of the following (i and ii) (*Rinvoq*):
      i. 15 mg per day;
      ii. 1 tablet per day;
   b. For refractory, severe, or extensive UC or CD: Both of the following (i and ii) (*Rinvoq*):
      i. 30 mg per day;
      ii. 1 tablet per day;
   c. For PsA: One of the following (i or ii):
      i. Age ≥ 18 years: Both of the following (1 and 2) (*Rinvoq*):
         1) 15 mg per day;
         2) 1 tablet per day;
      ii. Age ≥ 2 to < 18 years: One of the following (1, 2, or 3):
         1) Weight 10 kg to < 20 kg: 6 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
         2) Weight 20 kg to < 30 kg: 8 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
         3) Weight ≥ 30 kg: One of the following (a or b):
            a) 12 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
            b) Both of the following (i and ii) (*Rinvoq*):
               i) 15 mg per day;
               ii) 1 tablet per day;
   d. For pJIA: One of the following (i, ii, or iii):
      i. Weight 10 kg to < 20 kg: 6 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
      ii. Weight 20 kg to < 30 kg: 8 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
      iii. Weight ≥ 30 kg, one of the following (1 or 2):
         1) 12 mg per day (*Rinvoq LQ*);
         2) Both of the following (a and b) (*Rinvoq*):
            a) 15 mg per day;
            b) 1 tablet per day.

Approval duration: 12 months

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

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
   a. For drugs on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
   b. For drugs NOT on the formulary (commercial, health insurance marketplace) or PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

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 – CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents;

B. Combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (bDMARDs) or potent immunosuppressants, including but not limited to any tumor necrosis factor (TNF) antagonists [e.g., Cimzia®, Enbrel®, Humira® and its biosimilars, Remicade® and its biosimilars, Simponi®], interleukin agents [e.g., Actemra® (IL-6RA) and its biosimilars, Arcalyst® (IL-1 blocker), Bimzelx® (IL-17A and F antagonist), Cosentyx® (IL-17A inhibitor), Ilaris® (IL-1 blocker), Ilumya™ (IL-23 inhibitor), Kevzara® (IL-6RA), Kineret® (IL-1RA), Omvoh™ (IL-23 antagonist), Siliq™ (IL-17RA), Skyrizi™ (IL-23 inhibitor), Spevigo® (IL-36 antagonist), Stelara® (IL-12/23 inhibitor) and its biosimilars, Taltz® (IL-17A inhibitor), Tremfya® (IL-23 inhibitor)], Janus kinase inhibitors (JAKi) [e.g., Cibinqo™, Olumiant™, Rinvoq™, Xeljanz®/Xeljanz® XR,], anti-CD20 monoclonal antibodies [Rituxan® and its biosimilars], selective co-stimulation modulators [Orencia®], integrin receptor antagonists [Entyvio®], tyrosine kinase 2 inhibitors [Sotyktu™], and sphingosine 1-phosphate receptor modulator [Velsipity™] because of the additive immunosuppression, increased risk of neutropenia, as well as increased risk of serious infections.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

AS: ankylosing spondylitis
CD: Crohn's disease
CDAI: clinical disease activity index
DMARD: disease-modifying antirheumatic drug
FDA: Food and Drug Administration
GCA: giant cell arteritis
JAKi: Janus kinase inhibitors
MTX: methotrexate
nr-axSpA: non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis
PsA: psoriatic arthritis
RA: rheumatoid arthritis
RAPID3: routine assessment of patient index data 3

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®)	**RA** 1 mg/kg/day PO QD or divided BID **CD** 1.5 – 2 mg/kg/day PO	3 mg/kg/day
corticosteroids	**UC*** Prednisone 40 mg – 60 mg PO QD, then taper dose by 5 to 10 mg/week Budesonide (Uceris®) 9 mg PO QAM for up to 8 weeks **CD*** *Adult:* prednisone 40 mg – 60 mg PO QD for 1 to 2 weeks, then taper daily dose by 5 mg weekly until 20 mg PO QD, and then continue with 2.5 – 5 mg decrements weekly or IV 50 – 100 mg Q6H for 1 week budesonide (Entocort EC®) 6 – 9 mg PO QD *Pediatric:* Prednisone 1 to 2 mg/kg/day PO QD **GCA*** Various	Various
Cuprimine® (d-penicillamine)	**RA*** <u>Initial dose:</u> 125 or 250 mg PO QD <u>Maintenance dose:</u> 500 – 750 mg/day PO QD	1,500 mg/day
cyclosporine (Sandimmune®, Neoral®)	**RA** 2.5 – 4 mg/kg/day PO divided BID	RA: 4 mg/kg/day
hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil®)	**RA*** <u>Initial dose:</u> 400 – 600 mg/day PO QD	600 mg/day

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
	Maintenance dose: 200 – 400 mg/day PO QD	
leflunomide (Arava®)	**RA** Initial dose (for low risk hepatotoxicity or myelosuppression): 100 mg PO QD for 3 days Maintenance dose: 20 mg PO QD **PJIA*** Weight < 20 kg: 10 mg every other day Weight 20 - 40 kg: 10 mg/day Weight > 40 kg: 20 mg/day	20 mg/day
6-mercaptopurine (Purixan®)	**CD*** 50 mg PO QD or 0.75 – 1.5 mg/kg/day PO	1.5 mg/kg/day
methotrexate (Trexall®, Otrexup™, Rasuvo®, RediTrex®, Xatmep™, Rheumatrex®)	**RA** 7.5 mg/week PO, SC, or IM or 2.5 mg PO Q12 hr for 3 doses/week **CD*** 15 – 25 mg/week IM or SC **PJIA*** 10 – 20 mg/m^2/week PO, SC, or IM	30 mg/week
NSAIDs (e.g., indomethacin, ibuprofen, naproxen, celecoxib)	**AS** Varies	Varies
Pentasa® (mesalamine)	**CD** 1,000 mg PO QID	4 g/day
Ridaura® (auranofin)	**RA** 6 mg PO QD or 3 mg PO BID	9 mg/day (3 mg TID)
sulfasalazine (Azulfidine®)	**RA** Initial dose: 500 mg to 1,000 mg PO QD for the first week. Increase the daily dose by 500 mg each week up to a maintenance dose of 2 g/day. Maintenance dose: 2 g/day PO in divided doses	3 g/day PJIA: 2 g/day

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
	PJIA* 30-50 mg/kg/day PO divided BID	
Actemra® (tocilizumab)	**RA** IV: 4 mg/kg every 4 weeks followed by an increase to 8 mg/kg every 4 weeks based on clinical response SC: Weight < 100 kg: 162 mg SC every other week, followed by an increase to every week based on clinical response Weight ≥ 100 kg: 162 mg SC every week **pJIA** • Weight < 30 kg: 10 mg/kg IV every 4 weeks or 162 mg SC every 3 weeks • Weight ≥ 30 kg: 8 mg/kg IV every 4 weeks or 162 mg SC every 2 weeks **GCA** IV: 6 mg/kg every 4 weeks in combination with a tapering course of glucocorticoids SC: 162 mg SC every week (every other week may be given based on clinical considerations)	RA: IV: 800 mg every 4 weeks SC: 162 mg every week PJIA: IV: 10 mg/kg every 4 weeks SC: 162 mg every 2 weeks GCA: IV: 6 mg/kg every 4 weeks SC: 162 mg every week
Cimzia® (certolizumab)	**nr-axSpA** Initial dose: 400 mg SC at 0, 2, and 4 weeks Maintenance dose: 200 mg SC every other week (or 400 mg SC every 4 weeks) **CD** Initial dose: 400 mg SC at 0, 2, and 4 weeks Maintenance dose: 400 mg SC every 4 weeks	400 mg every 4 weeks
Hadlima (adalimumab-bwwd), Simlandi (adalimumab-	**CD, UC** Initial dose: 160 mg SC on Day 1, then 80 mg SC on Day 15	40 mg every other week

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
ryvk),Yusimry (adalimumab-aqvh), adalimumab-aaty (Yuflyma®), adalimumab-adaz (Hyrimoz®), adalimumab-fkjp (Hulio®), adalimumab-adbm (Cyltezo®)	<u>Maintenance dose:</u> 40 mg SC every other week starting on Day 29 **RA, AS, PsA** 40 mg SC every other week **pJIA** **Cyltezo, Hadlima, Hyrimoz:** Weight 10 kg (22 lbs) to < 15 kg (33 lbs): 10 mg SC every other week **Cyltezo, Hadlima, Hulio, Yuflyma:** Weight 15 kg (33 lbs) to < 30 kg (66 lbs): 20 mg SC every other week **Cyltezo, Hadlima, Hulio, Hyrimoz, Simlandi, Yuflyma, Yusimry:** Weight ≥ 30 kg (66 lbs): 40 mg SC every other week	
Otulfi® (ustekinumab-aauz), Pyzchiva® (ustekinumab-ttwe), Selarsdi™ (ustekinumab-aekn), Steqeyma® (ustekinumab-stba), Yesintek™ (ustekinumab-kfce)	**CD, UC** <u>Weight based dosing IV at initial dose:</u> Weight ≤ 55 kg: 260 mg Weight > 55 kg to 85 kg: 390 mg Weight > 85 kg: 520 mg <u>Maintenance dose:</u> 90 mg SC every 8 weeks **PsA** Weight based dosing SC at weeks 0 and 4, followed by maintenance dose every 12 weeks *Adult:* 45 mg SC at weeks 0 and 4, followed by 45 mg every 12 weeks *Pediatrics (age 6 years to 17 years):* Weight based dosing SC at weeks 0 and 4, then every 12 weeks thereafter	CD, UC: 90 mg every 8 weeks PsA: 45 mg every 12 weeks

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
	Otulfi, Pyzchiva, Yesintek: Weight < 60 kg: 0.75 mg/kg **Otulfi, Pyzchiva, Selarsdi, Steqeyma, Yesintek:** Weight ≥ 60 kg: 45 mg	
Taltz® (ixekizumab)	**AS, nr-axSpA, PsA** Initial dose: 160 mg (two 80 mg injections) SC at week 0 Maintenance dose: 80 mg SC every 4 weeks	80 mg every 4 weeks
Xeljanz® (tofacitinib)	**AS, PsA, RA** 5 mg PO BID **pJIA** • 10 kg ≤ body weight < 20 kg: 3.2 mg (3.2 mL oral solution) PO BID • 20 kg ≤ body weight < 40 kg: 4 mg (4 mL oral solution) PO BID Body weight ≥ 40 kg: 5 mg PO BID	10 mg/day
Xeljanz XR® (tofacitinib extended-release)	**AS, PsA, RA** 11 mg PO QD	11 mg/day
Very High Potency Topical Corticosteroids		
augmented betamethasone 0.05% (Diprolene® AF) cream, ointment, gel, lotion	**AD** Apply topically to the affected area(s) BID	Varies
clobetasol propionate 0.05% (Temovate®) cream, ointment, gel, solution		
diflorasone diacetate 0.05% (Maxiflor®, Psorcon E®) cream, ointment		
halobetasol propionate 0.05% (Ultravate®) cream, ointment		

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
High Potency Topical Corticosteroids		
augmented betamethasone 0.05% (Diprolene® AF) cream, ointment, gel, lotion	**AD** Apply topically to the affected area(s) BID	Varies
diflorasone 0.05% (Florone®, Florone E®, Maxiflor®,Psorcon E®) cream		
fluocinonide acetonide 0.05% (Lidex®, Lidex E®) cream, ointment, gel, solution		
triamcinolone acetonide 0.5% (Aristocort®, Kenalog®) cream, ointment		
Medium Potency Topical Corticosteroids		
desoximetasone 0.05% (Topicort ®) cream, ointment, gel	**AD** Apply topically to the affected area(s) BID	Varies
fluocinolone acetonide 0.025% (Synalar®) cream, ointment		
mometasone 0.1% (Elocon®) cream, ointment, lotion		
triamcinolone acetonide 0.025%, 0.1% (Aristocort®, Kenalog®) cream, ointment		
Low Potency Topical Corticosteroids		
alclometasone 0.05% (Aclovate®) cream, ointment	**AD** Apply topically to the affected area(s) BID	Varies

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
desonide 0.05% (Desowen®) cream, ointment, lotion		
fluocinolone acetonide 0.01% (Synalar®) solution		
hydrocortisone 2.5% (Hytone®) cream, ointment		
Other Classes of Agents		
tacrolimus (Protopic®), pimecrolimus (Elidel®)	**AD** Children ≥ 2 years and adults: Apply a thin layer topically to affected skin BID. Treatment should be discontinued if resolution of disease occurs.	Varies
Eucrisa® (crisaborole)	**AD** Apply to the affected areas BID	Varies

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): known hypersensitivity to upadacitinib or any of the excipients in Rinvoq/Rinvoq LQ
- Boxed warning(s): serious infections, mortality, malignancy, major adverse cardiovascular events, and thrombosis

Appendix D: General Information

- Definition of MTX or DMARD Failure
  - 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.
- Examples of positive response to therapy may include, but are not limited to:
  - Reduction in joint pain/swelling/tenderness
  - Improvement in ESR/CRP levels
  - Improvements in activities of daily living

- TNF blockers:
  - Etanercept (Enbrel®), adalimumab (Humira®) and its biosimilars, infliximab (Remicade®) and its biosimilars (Avsola™, Renflexis™, Inflectra®), certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®), and golimumab (Simponi®, Simponi Aria®).

Appendix E: The 2010 ACR Classification Criteria for RA
Add score of categories A through D; a score of ≥ 6 out of 10 is needed for classification of a patient as having definite RA.

A	**Joint involvement**	Score
	1 large joint	0
	2-10 large joints	1
	1-3 small joints (with or without involvement of large joints)	2
	4-10 small joints (with or without involvement of large joints)	3
	> 10 joints (at least one small joint)	5
B	**Serology (at least one test result is needed for classification)**	
	Negative rheumatoid factor (RF) *and* negative anti-citrullinated protein antibody (ACPA)	0
	Low positive RF *or* low positive ACPA * *Low: < 3 x upper limit of normal*	2
	High positive RF *or* high positive ACPA * *High: ≥ 3 x upper limit of normal*	3
C	**Acute phase reactants (at least one test result is needed for classification)**	
	Normal C-reactive protein (CRP) and normal erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)	0
	Abnormal CRP or abnormal ESR	1
D	**Duration of symptoms**	
	< 6 weeks	0
	≥ 6 weeks	1

Appendix F: Clinical Disease Activity Index (CDAI) Score
The Clinical Disease Activity Index (CDAI) is a composite index for assessing disease activity in RA. CDAI is based on the simple summation of the count of swollen/tender joint count of 28 joints along with patient and physician global assessment on VAS (0–10 cm) Scale for estimating disease activity. The CDAI score ranges from 0 to 76.

CDAI Score	Disease state interpretation
≤ 2.8	Remission
> 2.8 to ≤ 10	Low disease activity
> 10 to ≤ 22	Moderate disease activity
> 22	High disease activity

Appendix G: Routine Assessment of Patient Index Data 3 (RAPID3) Score
The Routine Assessment of Patient Index Data 3 (RAPID3) is a pooled index of the three patient-reported ACR core data set measures: function, pain, and patient global estimate of status. Each of the individual measures is scored 0 – 10, and the maximum achievable score is 30.

RAPID3 Score	Disease state interpretation
≤ 3	Remission
3.1 to 6	Low disease activity
6.1 to 12	Moderate disease activity
> 12	High disease activity

Appendix H: Mayo Score or Modified 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

- Modified Mayo Score: developed from the full Mayo score and evaluates ulcerative colitis stage, based on three parameters: stool frequency, rectal bleeding, and endoscopic evaluation. The modified Mayo Score gives a maximum overall score of 9. The FDA currently accepts the modified Mayo Score for the assessment of disease activity in pivotal UC clinical trials.

Appendix I: 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, structuringg or stenosis disease and/or phenotype
    - Intestinal obstruction or abscess

Appendix J: Polyarticular Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis Disease Activity

According to 2019 American College of Rheumatology/Arthritis Foundation Guideline for the Treatment of Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis, disease activity (moderate/high and low) as defined by the clinical Juvenile Disease Activity score based on 10 joints (cJADAS-10) is provided as a general parameter and should be interpreted within the clinical context.
The cJADAS10 is a continuous disease activity score specific to JIA and consisting of the following three parameters totaling a maximum of 30 points:

- Physician's global assessment of disease activity measured on a 0-10 visual analog scale (VAS), where 0 = no activity and 10 = maximum activity;
- Parent global assessment of well-being measured on a 0-10 VAS, where 0 = very well and 10 = very poor;

- Count of joints with active disease to a maximum count of 10 active joints*

**ACR definition of active joint: presence of swelling (not due to currently inactive synovitis or to bony enlargement) or, if swelling is not present, limitation of motion accompanied by pain, tenderness, or both*

cJADAS-10	Disease state interpretation
≤ 1	Inactive disease
1.1 to 2.5	Low disease activity
2.51 to 8.5	Moderate disease activity
> 8.5	High disease activity

V. Dosage and Administration

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
Upadacitinib (Rinvoq)	AS, nr-axSpA, RA	15 mg PO QD	15 mg/day
	GCA	15 mg PO QD in combination with a tapering course of corticosteroids 15 mg PO QD can be used as monotherapy following discontinuation of corticosteroids	15 mg/day
	AD	Age ≥ 12 years and ≥ 40 kg but < 65 years: 15 mg PO QD; if an adequate response is not achieved, consider increasing the dosage to 30 mg PO QD Age ≥ 65 years: 15 mg PO QD	Age ≥ 12 years and ≥ 40 kg but < 65 years: 30 mg/day Age ≥ 65 years: 15 mg/day
	UC	Induction: 45 mg PO Q for 8 weeks Maintenance: 15 mg PO QD. A dosage of 30 mg PO QD may be considered for patients with refractory, severe, or extensive disease.	30 mg/day
	CD	Induction: 45 mg PO Q for 12 weeks Maintenance: 15 mg PO QD. A dosage of 30 mg PO QD may be considered for patients with refractory, severe, or extensive disease.	30 mg/day
	PsA	Age ≥ 18 years: 15 mg PO QD Age ≥ 2 years but < 18 years: Weight ≥ 30 kg: 15 mg PO QD	15 mg/day

Drug Name	Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
	pJIA	Age ≥ 2 years: Weight ≥ 30 kg: 15 mg PO QD	15 mg/day
Upadacitinib (Rinvoq LQ)	PsA	Age ≥ 2 years but < 18 years: • Weight 10 kg to < 20 kg: 3 mg (3 mL oral solution) PO BID • Weight 20 kg to < 30 kg: 4 mg (4 mL oral solution) PO BID • Weight ≥ 30 kg: 6 mg (6 mL oral solution) PO BID	12 mg/day
	pJIA	Age ≥ 2 years: • Weight 10 kg to < 20 kg: 3 mg (3 mL oral solution) PO BID • Weight 20 kg to < 30 kg: 4 mg (4 mL oral solution) PO BID • Weight ≥ 30 kg: 6 mg (6 mL oral solution) PO BID	12 mg/day

VI. Product Availability

Drug Name	Availability
Upadacitinib (Rinvoq)	Tablets, extended-release: 15 mg, 30 mg, 45 mg
Upadacitinib (Rinvoq LQ)	Oral solution: 1 mg/mL

VII. References

1. Rinvoq/Rinvoq LQ Prescribing Information. North Chicago, IL: AbbVie Inc.; April 2025. Available at: https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2025/211675s025lbl.pdf. Accessed May 12, 2025.
2. Singh JA., Saag KG, Bridges SL, et al. 2015 American College of Rheumatology guideline for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. *Arthritis Care & Research*. 68: 1–25. doi:10.1002/acr.22783.
3. Smolen JS, Landewe RB, Dergstra SA, et al. 2022 update of the EULAR recommendations for the management of rheumatoid arthritis with synthetic and biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs. Arthritis Rheumatology. 2023 January; 32:3-18. DOI:10.1136/ard-2022-223356.
4. Clinical Pharmacology [database online]. Tampa, FL: Gold Standard, Inc.; 2025. Available at: https://www.clinicalkey.com/pharmacology/. Accessed February 28, 2025.
5. Gossec L, Smolen JS, Ramiro S, et al. European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) recommendations for the management of psoriatic arthritis with pharmacological therapies: 2015 update. *Ann Rheum Dis.* 2015;0:1-12. Doi:10.1136/annrheumdis-2015-208337.
6. Singh JA, Guyatt G, Ogdie A, et al. 2018 American College of Rheumatology/National Psoriasis Foundation Guideline for the treatment of psoriatic arthritis. *American College of Rheumatology*. 2019; 71(1):5-32. Doi: 10.1002/art.40726.
7. Wollenberg A, Christen-Zäch S, Taieb A, et al. ETFAD/EADV Eczema task force 2020 position paper on diagnosis and treatment of atopic dermatitis in adults and children. J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol. 2020 Dec;34(12):2717-2744.

8. Eichenfield F, Tom WL, Chamlin SL, et al. Guidelines of Care for the Management of Atopic Dematitis. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2014 February; 70(2): 338–351.
9. Sidbury R, Alikhan A, Bercovitch L, et al. Guidelines of care for the management of atopic dermatitis in adults with topical therapies. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2023 Jul;89(1):e1-e20. doi: 10.1016/j.jaad.2022.12.029.
10. Davis DMR, Drucker AM, Alikhan A, et al. Guidelines of care for the management of atopic dermatitis in adults with phototherapy and systemic therapies. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2023 Nov 3:S0190-9622(23)02878-5. doi: 10.1016/j.jaad.2023.08.102.
11. Chu DK, Schneider L, Asiniwasis RN, et al. Atopic dermatitis (eczema) guidelines: 2023 American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology/American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Joint Task Force on Practice Parameters GRADE- and Institute of Medicine-based recommendations. Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol. 2023 Dec 18:S1081-1206(23)01455-2. doi: 10.1016/j.anai.2023.11.009.
12. Ward MM, Deodhar A, Gensler L, et al. 2019 Update of the American College of Rheumatology/Spondylitis Association of America/Spondyloarthritis Research and Treatment Network recommendations for the treatment of anklyosing spondylitis and nonradiographic axial spondyloarthritis. Arthritis & Rheumatology. 2019; 71(10):1599-1613. DOI 10.1002/ART.41042.
13. Feuerstein JD, Isaacs KL, Schneider Y, et al. AGA Clinical practice guidelines on the management of moderate to severe ulcerative colitis. Gastroenterology 2020;158:1450–1461. https://doi.org/10.1053/j.gastro.2020.01.006.
14. Rubin DT, Ananthakrishnan AN, Siegel CA, Sauer BG, Long MD. ACG Clinical Guideline: Ulcerative Colitis in Adults. Am J Gastroenterol. 2019 March;114(3):384-413. doi: 10.14309/ajg.0000000000000152.
15. 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; 160:2496-2508. https://doi.org/10.1053/j.gastro.2021.04.022.
16. Feuerstein JD, Isaacs KL, Schneider Y, et al. AGA Clinical practice guidelines on the management of moderate to severe ulcerative colitis. Gastroenterology 2020;158:1450–1461. https://doi.org/10.1053/j.gastro.2020.01.006.
17. Lichtenstein GR, Loftus EV, Isaacs KL et al. ACG Clinical Guideline: Management of Crohn's Disease in Adults. Am J Gastroenterol. 2018 Apr;113(4):481-517. doi: 10.1038/ajg.2018.27.
18. Rubin DT, Ananthakrishnan AN, Siegel CA, Sauer BG, Long MD. ACG Clinical Guideline: Ulcerative Colitis in Adults. Am J Gastroenterol. 2019 March;114(3):384-413. doi: 10.14309/ajg.0000000000000152.
19. Ulcerative Colitis: Clinical Trial Endpoints Guidance for Industry. Silver Spring, MD. Food and Drug Administration.; July 2016. Available at: https://www.fda.gov/files/drugs/published/Ulcerative-Colitis--Clinical-Trial-Endpoints-Guidance-for-Industry.pdf. Accessed February 3, 2025.
20. Naegeli AN, Hunter T, Dong Y, et al. Full, Partial, and Modified Permutations of the Mayo Score: Characterizing Clinical and Patient-Reported Outcomes in Ulcerative Colitis Patients. Crohns Colitis 360. 2021 Feb 23;3(1):otab007. doi: 10.1093/crocol/otab007. PMID: 36777063; PMCID: PMC9802037.

21. 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. doi: 10.1053/j.gastro.2024.10.001. PMID: 39572132.
22. Maz Mehrdad, Chung SA, Abril A, et al, 2021 American College of Rheumatology/Vasculitis Foundation guideline for the management of giant cell arteritis and Takayasu arteritis. *Arthritis Care & Research*. 2021; 73(8):1071-1087. DOI 10.1002/acr.24632.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
2Q 2021 annual review: added combination of bDMARDs under Section III; updated CDAI table with ">" to prevent overlap in classification of severity; references reviewed and updated.	02.23.21	05.21
Per August SDC and prior clinical guidance, for RA added Actemra to redirect options and modified to require a trial of all; for Xeljanz redirection requirements added bypass for members with cardiovascular risk and qualified redirection to apply only for member that has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers; added Legacy WellCare line of business to policy (WCG.CP.PHAR.443 to be retired).	08.25.21	11.21
2Q 2022 annual review: for RA, added redirection to Olumiant per February SDC; criteria added for new FDA indications: psoriatric arthritis, atopic dermatitis; revised Rinvoq's place in therapy after TNFi for RA and PsA per FDA labeling; RT4: added newly FDA-approved indications for UC and AS; reiterated requirement against combination use with a bDMARD or JAKi from Section III to Sections I and II; references reviewed and updated.	05.02.22	05.22
RT4: revised lower age limit for AD from 18 to 12 years per PI. Template changes applied to other diagnoses/indications and continued therapy section.	09.15.22	
RT4: criteria added for new FDA indication: nr-axSpA.	10.31.22	
Per February SDC, added Amjevita as an alternative option to Humira for UC.	02.13.23	
2Q 2023 annual review: for RA, PsA, AS, and UC, added TNFi criteria to allow bypass if member has had history of failure of two TNF blockers; updated off-label dosing for Appendix B; references reviewed and updated.	02.10.23	05.23
RT4: criteria added for new FDA indication: Crohn's disease.	05.25.23	
Per July SDC: for PsA and RA, removed criteria requiring use of Enbrel; for AS, removed criteria requiring use of Cimzia and Enbrel; for nr-axSpA, removed redirection to Cimzia; for UC, removed criteria requiring use of Simponi, Humira, and Amjevita; for PsA, RA, AS, UC, CD, added criteria requiring use of one adalimumab product and stating Yusimry, Hadlima, unbranded adalimumab-fkjp, and unbranded	07.25.23	

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
adalimumab-adaz as preferred; updated Appendix B with relevant therapeutic alternatives.		
Per December SDC, added adalimumab-adbm to listed examples of preferred adalimumab products; for RA removed redirection to Kevzara and Olumiant. For AD initial criteria, removed systemic immunosuppressant therapy step criterion per updated guideline and competitor analysis; for Appendix B, removed systemic immunosuppressant therapy therapeutic alternatives.	12.06.23	02.24
2Q 2024 annual review: removed nr-axSpA supplemental guideline information in Appendix D; added Bimzelx, Zymfentra, Omvoh, Wezlana, Sotyktu, Tofidence, and Velsipity to section III.B; references reviewed and updated.	01.22.24	05.24
RT4: for PsA, updated criteria to reflect pediatric extension to 2 years and older; added new FDA approved pJIA indication; for PsA and pJIA, added new oral solution dosage form [Rinvoq LQ].	05.10.24	06.24
Per June SDC: for RA, PsA, AS, UC, CD, pJIA, added Simlandi to listed examples of preferred adalimumab products. Per SDC: for RA, PsA, AS, UC, CD, pJIA, added unbranded adalimumab-aaty to listed examples of preferred adalimumab products.	07.23.24	08.24
2Q 2025 annual review: for UC initial criteria, added option for documentation of modified Mayo Score ≥ 5; removed redirection to preferred adalimumab products as adalimumab is not recommended due to low efficacy per 2024 AGA guidelines; revised redirection to Zeposia with bypass allowance stating member must use Zeposia unless member has had history of failure of biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drug or Janus kinase inhibitor as supported by 2024 AGA guidelines; for Appendix H, added supplemental information on modified Mayo Score; for pJIA: removed criteria for minimum cJADAS-10 score ≥ 8.5 for documentation of high disease activity and "baseline 10-joint clinical juvenile arthritis disease activity score" in initial criteria to align with competitor analysis; removed criteria for "member is responding positively to therapy as evidence by decrease in cJADAS-10 from baseline" in continued therapy; for Appendix J, added pJIA disease activity information per 2019 ACR guidelines; updated section III.B with Spevigo and biosimilar verbiage; references reviewed and updated.	01.23.25	05.25
Per April SDC: for PsA, CD, and UC, added criteria requiring use of one preferred Stelara biosimilar (Otulfi, Pyzchiva (branded), Selarsdi, Yesintek, and Steqeyma are preferred); for UC, removed criteria requiring use of preferred agent Zeposia; for UC, revised requirement to include option for step through preferred adalimumab product or preferred ustekinumab product.	04.23.25	06.25

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	P&T Approval Date
RT4: added newly approved GCA indication for Rinvoq to criteria.		

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. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. "Health Plan" means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan's affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions, and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment, or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. 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. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

Note:
For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.