SPECIALTY GUIDELINE MANAGEMENT
ORENcia (abatacept)

POLICY

I. INDICATIONS

The indications below including FDA-approved indications and compendial uses are considered a covered benefit provided that all the approval criteria are met and the member has no exclusions to the prescribed therapy.

FDA-Approved Indications
1. Moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis in adults
2. Moderately to severely active polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis in patients 2 years of age or older
3. Active psoriatic arthritis in adults

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and are not a covered benefit.

II. CRITERIA FOR INITIAL APPROVAL

A. Moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis (RA)
   1. Authorization of 24 months may be granted for members who have previously received Orencia or any other biologic DMARD or targeted synthetic DMARD (e.g., Xeljanz) indicated for the treatment of moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis.
   2. Authorization of 24 months may be granted for treatment of moderately to severely active RA when any of the following criteria is met:
      a. Member has experienced an inadequate response to at least a 3-month trial of methotrexate despite adequate dosing (i.e., titrated to 20 mg/week).
      b. Member has an intolerance or contraindication to methotrexate (see Appendix).

B. Moderately to severely active polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (pJIA)
   1. Authorization of 24 months may be granted for members who have previously received Orencia or Actemra.
   2. Authorization of 24 months may be granted for treatment of active pJIA when any of the following criteria is met:
      a. Member has experienced an inadequate response to at least a 3-month trial of a TNF inhibitor.
      b. Member has intolerance or contraindication to a TNF inhibitor.

C. Active psoriatic arthritis (PsA)
   Authorization of 24 months may be granted for treatment of active psoriatic arthritis (PsA).
III. CONTINUATION OF THERAPY

Authorization of 24 months may be granted for all members (including new members) who meet all initial authorization criteria and achieve or maintain positive clinical response after at least 3 months of therapy with Orencia as evidenced by low disease activity or improvement in signs and symptoms of the condition.

IV. OTHER

For all indications: Member has a pretreatment tuberculosis (TB) screening with a TB skin test or an interferon gamma release assay (e.g., QFT-GIT, T-SPOT.TB).

Note: Members who have received Orencia or any other biologic DMARD or targeted synthetic DMARD (e.g., Xeljanz) are exempt from requirements related to TB screening in this Policy.

V. APPENDIX: Examples of Contraindications to Methotrexate

1. Alcoholism, alcoholic liver disease or other chronic liver disease
2. Breastfeeding
3. Blood dyscrasias (e.g., thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, significant anemia)
4. Elevated liver transaminases
5. History of intolerance or adverse event
6. Hypersensitivity
7. Interstitial pneumonitis or clinically significant pulmonary fibrosis
8. Myelodysplasia
9. Pregnancy or planning pregnancy (male or female)
10. Renal impairment
11. Significant drug interaction

VI. REFERENCES