Overview
Simponi Aria is a tumor necrosis factor (TNF) blocker indicated for the treatment of adult patients with moderately to severely active Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) in combination with methotrexate.

Coverage Guidelines
Authorization may be granted when the following criteria are met:
1. Member has a diagnosis of RA, AS or PsA AND
2. Prescriber has provided documentation of ONE of the following*:
   a. Inadequate response, adverse reaction, or contraindication to at least ONE traditional DMARD (hydroxychloroquine, methotrexate, sulfasalazine)
   b. Inadequate response or adverse reaction to ONE biologic DMARD that is FDA-approved for the requested indication
   AND
3. Dosing is appropriate (see appendix A) AND
4. Prescriber provides clinical rationale for use of requested agent instead of Enbrel and Humira (i.e. member has had an inadequate response, adverse reaction, or contraindication to Humira AND Enbrel.)

*DMARD trial is not required in members with active ankylosing spondylitis or psoriatic arthritis with axial (spine) involvement (including sacroiliitis) whose condition is not sufficiently controlled with NSAIDs.

Continuation of Therapy
Reauthorization requires physician documentation indicating a positive response to therapy.
Limitations
1. Initial approvals will be for 6 months.
2. Reauthorizations will be for 12 months.

Appendix

Dosing

| Simoni Aria (golimumab for infusion) | Rheumatoid arthritis (moderate-severe): 2 mg/kg IV at weeks 0 and 4, then every 8 weeks in combination with methotrexate |

References
1. Simoni Aria (golimumab) [prescribing information]. Horsham, PA: Janssen Biotech Inc; May 2018.

Review History
02/22/10 – Reviewed
04/05/10 – Effective
02/28/11 – Reviewed
02/27/12 – Reviewed
02/25/13 – Reviewed
01/13/14 – Reviewed and revised (Simoni Aria update; 08/26/13 file & plan decision wt-based QL applied to PA)
02/23/15 – Reviewed
02/22/16 – Reviewed
02/27/17 – Reviewed and revised (adopted SGM& ST) in P&T Meeting
03/01/18 – Reviewed (adopted MH RS)
02/20/19 – Reviewed in P&T Meeting

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