Field Name	Field Description
Prior Authorization	Specialty Biological Agents for Ankylosing Spondylitis and Non-
Group Description	Radiographic Axial Spondyloarthritis
Drugs	PREFERRED BIOLOGICAL AGENTS:
	Infliximab
	NON-PREFERRED BIOLOGICAL AGENTS:
	Avsola (infliximab-axxq)
	Simponi Aria (golimumab)
	Remicade (infliximab)
	Renflexis (infliximab-abda)
	Inflectra (infliximab-dyyb)
	Or any newly marketed agent
Covered Uses	Medically accepted indications are defined using the following
	sources: the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Micromedex,
	American Hospital Formulary Service (AHFS), United States
	Pharmacopeia Drug Information for the Healthcare Professional (USP
	DI), the Drug Package Insert (PPI), or disease state specific standard of
	care guidelines.
Exclusion Criteria	N/A
Required Medical	N/A
Information	N/A
Age Restrictions	According to package insert
Prescriber	Prescribed by, or in consultation with, a rheumatologist
Restrictions	
Coverage Duration	If all of the conditions are met, the request will be approved for 12
	month duration.
Other Criteria	Initial Authorization:
	• The member has a diagnosis of ankylosing spondylitis or non- radiographic axial spondyloarthritis
	• The medication is being prescribed at an appropriate
	compendia/guideline/FDA approved dose (for age and weight)
	• The member has an adequate trial with two different nonsteroidal
	anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and is consistent with pharmacy
	claims/medical record data/chart notes/physician attestation OR
	Member has a documented medical reason (e.g. allergy,
	intolerance, contraindication) for not trying two different NSAIDs to manage their condition.
	• If the request is for a non-preferred biological agent, documented
	(consistent with medical record data, OR for new members to the
	health plan consistent with medical chart history) trial and failure
	of a preferred product or medical reason as to why patient is unable to utilize the preferred biological agent.
	Reauthorization:

	1. The medication is being prescribed at a compendia/guideline/FDA-approved dosage.
	 The member has been receiving the medication and documentation was provided that the prescriber has evaluated the member and recommends continuation of therapy (clinical benefit).
	Continuation of Therapy:
	 Members with history (within the past 90 days) of a non-preferred biological are not required to try two different NSAIDs or two preferred biological agents prior to receiving the non-preferred agent.
	• Members with history (within the past 90 days) of a preferred biological agent are not required to try two different NSAIDs prior to receiving the preferred biological agent.
	Medical Director/Clinical reviewer must override criteria when, in his/her professional judgment, the requested item is medically necessary.
Revision/Review	
Date 8/2023	