



**Stelara (ustekinumab)
Pyzchiva* (ustekinumab-ttwe)
Selarsdi* (ustekinumab-aekn)**

*These medications are included in this policy but are not available on the market as of yet

Pre - PA Allowance

None

Prior-Approval Requirements

Diagnoses

Patient must have **ONE** of the following:

1. Moderate to severe plaque psoriasis (PsO)
 - a. 6 years of age or older
 - b. Inadequate treatment response, intolerance, or contraindication to either conventional systemic therapy (see Appendix 1) or phototherapy
 - i. If the patient is intolerant or contraindicated to one therapy then the patient must have an inadequate treatment response, intolerance, or contraindication to the other treatment option
 - c. Prescriber will not exceed the FDA labeled maintenance dose of **ONE** of the following:
 - i. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6-17 years of age and less than 60 kg weight – 0.75 mg/kg every 12 weeks
 - ii. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6-17 years of age 60 kg to 100 kg weight and adult patients less than or equal to 100 kg weight – 45 mg every 12 weeks
 - iii. Subcutaneous administration: Patients greater than 100 kg weight – 90 mg every 12 weeks
 - d. Blue Focus **only**: Patient **MUST** have tried **ONE** of the preferred products [Enbrel (all ages) or Humira (age 12+ only)] if adjudicated through the pharmacy benefit unless the patient has a valid medical exception (e.g., inadequate treatment response, intolerance, contraindication)
2. Active psoriatic arthritis (PsA)
 - a. 6 years of age or older
 - b. Inadequate treatment response, intolerance or contraindication to a 3-month trial of at least **ONE** conventional DMARD (see Appendix 1)



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- c. Prescriber will not exceed the FDA labeled maintenance dose of **ONE** of the following:
 - i. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 18 years of age or older - 45 mg every 12 weeks
 - ii. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6 years of age or older, weight greater than 100 kg, with concurrent moderate to severe plaque psoriasis – 90 mg every 12 weeks
 - iii. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6-17 years of age and less than 60 kg weight - 0.75 mg/kg every 12 weeks
 - iv. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6-17 years of age and greater than or equal to 60 kg weight - 45 mg every 12 weeks
 - d. Age 12+, Blue Focus **only**: Patient **MUST** have tried **ONE** of the preferred products (Enbrel or Humira) if adjudicated through the pharmacy benefit unless the patient has a valid medical exception (e.g., inadequate treatment response, intolerance, contraindication)
3. Moderate to severely active Crohn's disease (CD)
- a. 18 years of age or older
 - b. Inadequate treatment response, intolerance or contraindication to at least **ONE** conventional therapy option (see Appendix 2)
 - c. Prescriber will initiate dosing with a single intravenous infusion with **ONE** of the following:
 - i. IV infusion: 55 kg or less – 260 mg
 - ii. IV infusion: >55 kg to 85 kg – 390 mg
 - iii. IV infusion: More than 85 kg – 520 mg
 - d. Prescriber will not exceed the FDA labeled maintenance dose of the following:
 - i. Subcutaneous administration: 90 mg every 8 weeks
 - e. Blue Focus **only**: Patient **MUST** have tried the preferred product (Humira) if adjudicated through the pharmacy benefit unless the patient has a valid medical exception (e.g., inadequate treatment response, intolerance, contraindication)
4. Moderate to severely active ulcerative colitis (UC)
- a. 18 years of age or older
 - b. Inadequate treatment response, intolerance, or contraindication to at least **ONE** conventional therapy option (see Appendix 2)



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- c. Prescriber will initiate dosing with a single intravenous infusion with **ONE** of the following:
 - i. IV infusion: 55 kg or less – 260 mg
 - ii. IV infusion: >55 kg to 85 kg – 390 mg
 - iii. IV infusion: More than 85 kg – 520 mg
- d. Prescriber will not exceed the FDA labeled maintenance dose of the following:
 - i. Subcutaneous administration: 90 mg every 8 weeks
- e. Blue Focus **only**: Patient **MUST** have tried the preferred product (Humira) if adjudicated through the pharmacy benefit unless the patient has a valid medical exception (e.g. inadequate treatment response, intolerance, contraindication)

AND ALL of the following for **ALL** diagnoses:

1. Result for latent TB infection is negative **OR** result was positive for latent TB and patient completed treatment (or is receiving treatment) for latent TB
2. Absence of active infection [including tuberculosis and hepatitis B virus (HBV)]
3. **NOT** to be used in combination with any other biologic DMARD or targeted synthetic DMARD (see Appendix 1)
4. **NOT** given concurrently with live vaccines

Prior - Approval Limits

Quantity

Diagnosis	Strength	Quantity
Plaque psoriasis (PsO)	<u>Weight ≤100kg</u> 45 mg SC vial/syringe <u>Weight > 100kg</u> 90 mg SC syringe	5 units per 365 days (dosed initially, 4 weeks later, then every 12 weeks)
Psoriatic arthritis (PsA)	45 mg SC vial/syringe <u>Concurrent moderate to severe plaque psoriasis and weight > 100kg</u>	



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	90 mg SC syringe	
Crohn's disease (CD)	130 mg IV vial 90 mg SC syringe	<u>Weight ≤55kg</u> (2 IV vials) + 1 SC syringe per 56 days
Ulcerative colitis (UC)		<u>Weight > 55kg to 85kg</u> (3 IV vials) + 1 SC syringe per 56 days <u>Weight > 85kg</u> (4 IV vials) + 1 SC syringe per 56 days

Duration 12 months

Prior – Approval *Renewal* Requirements

Diagnoses

Patient must have **ONE** of the following:

1. Plaque psoriasis (PsO)
 - a. 6 years of age or older
 - b. Prescriber will not exceed the FDA labeled maintenance dose of **ONE** of the following:
 - i. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6-17 years of age and less than 60 kg weight – 0.75 mg/kg every 12 weeks
 - ii. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6-17 years of age and 60 kg to 100 kg weight and adult patients less than or equal to 100 kg weight – 45 mg every 12 weeks
 - iii. Subcutaneous administration: Patients greater than 100 kg weight – 90 mg every 12 weeks
 - c. Blue Focus **only**: Patient **MUST** have tried **ONE** of the preferred products [Enbrel (all ages) or Humira (age 12+ only)] if adjudicated through the pharmacy benefit unless the patient has a valid medical exception (e.g. inadequate treatment response, intolerance, contraindication)



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2. Psoriatic arthritis (PsA)
 - a. 6 years of age or older
 - b. Prescriber will not exceed the FDA labeled maintenance dose of **ONE** of the following:
 - i. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 18 years of age or older - 45 mg every 12 weeks
 - ii. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6 years of age or older, weight greater than 100 kg, with concurrent moderate to severe plaque psoriasis – 90 mg every 12 weeks
 - iii. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6-17 years of age and less than 60 kg weight - 0.75 mg/kg every 12 weeks
 - iv. Subcutaneous administration: Patients 6-17 years of age and greater than or equal to 60 kg weight - 45 mg every 12 weeks
 - c. Age 12+, Blue Focus **only**: Patient **MUST** have tried **ONE** of the preferred products (Enbrel or Humira) if adjudicated through the pharmacy benefit unless the patient has a valid medical exception (e.g. inadequate treatment response, intolerance, contraindication)
3. Crohn's disease (CD)
 - a. 18 years of age or older
 - b. Prescriber will not exceed the FDA labeled maintenance dose of the following:
 - i. Subcutaneous administration: 90 mg every 8 weeks
 - c. Blue Focus **only**: Patient **MUST** have tried the preferred product (Humira) if adjudicated through the pharmacy benefit unless the patient has a valid medical exception (e.g. inadequate treatment response, intolerance, contraindication)
4. Ulcerative colitis (UC)
 - a. 18 years of age or older
 - b. Prescriber will not exceed the FDA labeled maintenance dose of the following:
 - i. Subcutaneous administration: 90 mg every 8 weeks
 - c. Blue Focus **only**: Patient **MUST** have tried the preferred product (Humira) if adjudicated through the pharmacy benefit unless the patient has a valid medical exception (e.g. inadequate treatment response, intolerance, contraindication)



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AND ALL of the following for **ALL** diagnoses:

1. Condition has improved or stabilized with Stelara
2. Absence of active infection [including tuberculosis and hepatitis B virus (HBV)]
3. **NOT** to be used in combination with any other biologic DMARD or targeted synthetic DMARD (see Appendix 1)
4. **NOT** given concurrently with live vaccines

Prior - Approval *Renewal* Limits

Quantity

Diagnosis	Strength	Quantity
Plaque psoriasis (PsO)	<u>Weight ≤100kg</u> 45 mg SC vial/syringe <u>Weight > 100kg</u> 90 mg SC syringe	1 unit per 84 days
Psoriatic arthritis (PsA)	45 mg SC vial/syringe <u>Concurrent moderate to severe plaque psoriasis and weight > 100kg</u> 90 mg SC syringe	
Crohn's disease (CD)	90 mg SC syringe	1 SC syringe per 56 days
Ulcerative colitis (UC)		

Duration 18 months

Appendix 1 - List of DMARDs

Conventional disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs)

Generic Name	Brand Name
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azathioprine	Azasan, Imuran
cyclophosphamide	Cytosan
cyclosporine	Neoral, Gengraf, Sandimmune
hydroxychloroquine	Plaquenil
leflunomide	Arava
methotrexate	Rheumatrex, Trexall
mycophenolate	Cellcept
sulfasalazine	Azulfidine, Sulfazine

Biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs)

Generic Name	Brand Name
abatacept	Orencia
adalimumab	Humira
anakinra	Kineret
bimekizumab-bkzx	Bimzelx
brodalumab	Siliq
certolizumab	Cimzia
etanercept	Enbrel
golimumab	Simponi/Simponi Aria
guselkumab	Tremfya
infliximab	Remicade
ixekizumab	Taltz
risankizumab-rzaa	Skyrizi
rituximab	Rituxan
sarilumab	Kevzara
secukinumab	Cosentyx
spesolimab-sbzo	Spevigo
tildrakizumab-asmn	Ilumya
tocilizumab	Actemra
ustekinumab	Stelara
vedolizumab	Entyvio

Targeted synthetic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs)

Generic Name	Brand Name
apremilast	Otezla
baricitinib	Olumiant
deucravacitinib	Sotyktu
tofacitinib	Xeljanz/XR



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upadactinib	Rinvoq
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Appendix 2 – List of Conventional Therapies

Conventional Therapy Options for CD	
1. Mild to moderate disease – induction of remission:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Oral budesonide, oral mesalamine b. Alternatives: metronidazole, ciprofloxacin
2. Mild to moderate disease – maintenance of remission:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Azathioprine, mercaptopurine b. Alternatives: oral budesonide, methotrexate intramuscularly (IM)
3. Moderate to severe disease – induction of remission:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prednisone, methylprednisolone intravenously (IV) b. Alternatives: methotrexate IM
4. Moderate to severe disease – maintenance of remission:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Azathioprine, mercaptopurine b. Alternative: methotrexate IM
5. Perianal and fistulizing disease – induction of remission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Metronidazole ± ciprofloxacin
6. Perianal and fistulizing disease – maintenance of remission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Azathioprine, mercaptopurine b. Alternative: methotrexate IM

Conventional Therapy Options for UC	
1. Mild to moderate disease – induction of remission:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Oral mesalamine (e.g., Asacol, Lialda, Pentasa), balsalazide, olsalazine b. Rectal mesalamine (e.g., Canasa, Rowasa) c. Rectal hydrocortisone (e.g., Colocort, Cortifoam) d. Alternatives: prednisone, azathioprine, mercaptopurine, sulfasalazine
2. Mild to moderate disease – maintenance of remission:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Oral mesalamine, balsalazide, olsalazine, rectal mesalamine b. Alternatives: azathioprine, mercaptopurine, sulfasalazine
3. Severe disease – induction of remission:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prednisone, hydrocortisone IV, methylprednisolone IV b. Alternatives: cyclosporine IV, tacrolimus, sulfasalazine
4. Severe disease – maintenance of remission:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Azathioprine, mercaptopurine b. Alternative: sulfasalazine



**BlueCross
BlueShield**

Federal Employee Program.

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5. Pouchitis:

- a. Metronidazole, ciprofloxacin
- b. Alternative: rectal mesalamine