

UnitedHealthcare Pharmacy  
Clinical Pharmacy Programs

Program Number	2024 P 1415-2
Program	Prior Authorization/Notification
Medications	Tezspire™ (tezepelumab-ekko)* *This program applies to the prefilled pen for self-administration.
P&T Approval Date	7/2023, 7/2024
Effective Date	10/1/2024

**1. Background:**

Tezspire (tezepelumab) is indicated for the add-on maintenance treatment of adult and pediatric patients aged 12 years and older with severe asthma.

Limitations of use:

Tezspire is not indicated for relief of acute bronchospasm of status asthmaticus.

**2. Coverage Criteria<sup>a</sup>:**

**A. Severe Asthma**

**1. Initial Authorization**

a. **Tezspire** will be approved based on **one** of the following criteria:

(1) **All** of the following:

(a) Patient has been established on therapy with Tezspire under an active UnitedHealthcare medical benefit prior authorization for the treatment of severe asthma

-AND-

(b) Documentation of positive clinical response to Tezspire therapy

-AND-

(c) Tezspire is being used as add-on maintenance therapy

-AND-

(d) Patient is not receiving Tezspire in combination with **any** of the following:

- i. Anti-interleukin 5 therapy [e.g., Cinqair (reslizumab), Fasentra (benralizumab), Nucala (mepolizumab)]
- ii. Anti-IgE therapy [e.g., Xolair (omalizumab)]
- iii. Anti-interleukin 4 therapy [e.g., Dupixent (dupilumab)]

-OR-

(2) **All** of the following:

(a) Diagnosis of severe asthma

-AND-

(b) Tezspire is being used as add-on maintenance therapy

-AND-

(c) Patient is not receiving Tezspire in combination with **any** of the following:

- i. Anti-interleukin 5 therapy [e.g., Cinqair (reslizumab), Fasentra (benralizumab), Nucala (mepolizumab)]
- ii. Anti-IgE therapy [e.g., Xolair (omalizumab)]
- iii. Anti-interleukin 4 therapy [e.g., Dupixent (dupilumab)]

**Authorization will be issued for 12 months.**

## 2. **Reauthorization**

a. **Tezspire** will be approved based on **all** of the following criteria:

(1) Documentation of positive clinical response to Tezspire therapy

-AND-

(2) Tezspire is being used as add-on maintenance therapy

-AND-

(3) Patient is not receiving Tezspire in combination with **any** of the following:

- (a) Anti-interleukin 5 therapy [e.g., Cinqair (reslizumab), Fasentra (benralizumab), Nucala (mepolizumab)]
- (b) Anti-IgE therapy [e.g., Xolair (omalizumab)]
- (c) Anti-interleukin 4 therapy [e.g., Dupixent (dupilumab)]

**Authorization will be issued for 12 months.**

<sup>a</sup> State mandates may apply. Any federal regulatory requirements and the member specific benefit plan coverage may also impact coverage criteria. Other policies and utilization management programs may apply.

**3. Additional Clinical Programs:**

- Notwithstanding Coverage Criteria, UnitedHealthcare may approve initial and re-authorization based solely on previous claim/medication history, diagnosis codes (ICD-10) and/or claim logic. Use of automated approval and re-approval processes varies by program and/or therapeutic class.
- Supply limitations may be in place.
- Medical Necessity may be in place.
- The single-dose vial and pre-filled syringe for administration by a healthcare professional is typically covered under the medical benefit. Please refer to the United Healthcare Medical Benefit Drug Policy: “Tezspire™ (tezepelumab-ekko).”

**3. References:**

1. Tezspire™ [package insert]. Thousand Oakes, CA: Amgen Inc.; May 2023.

Program	Prior Authorization/Notification - Tezspire (tezepelumab)
<b>Change Control</b>	
7/2023	New program.
7/2024	Annual review. Specified existing prior authorization for under the medical benefit. Updated reference.