1. **Background:**
Step therapy programs are utilized to encourage use of lower cost alternatives for certain therapeutic classes. This program requires a member to try two preferred products before providing coverage for Actemra® (tocilizumab). Infused medications approved for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis are not part of the criteria.

Actemra (tocilizumab) is available in both an intravenous and a subcutaneous formulation. Both forms of Actemra are indicated for the treatment of adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response to one or more disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs).\(^1\)

Humira\(^\circledast\) (adalimumab) is indicated for reducing signs and symptoms, inducing major clinical response, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function in adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis.\(^2\)

Cimzia\(^\circledast\) (certolizumab) and Simponi\(^\circledast\) (golimumab) are indicated for the treatment of adults with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis.\(^3,4\) Cimzia and Humira may be used alone or in combination with a disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD). Simponi is FDA approved for use with methotrexate in these patients.

Olumiant (baricitinib) is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response to one or more TNF antagonist therapies. Rinvoq (upadacitinib) and Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR (tofacitinib) are indicated for the treatment of adults with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an adequate response or intolerance to methotrexate.

Members currently on Actemra therapy as documented in claims history will be allowed to continue on their current therapy. Members new to therapy will be required to meet the coverage criteria below.

2. **Coverage Criteria\(^a\):**

   A. **Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)**

      1. **Actemra** will be approved based on both of the following criteria:

         a. Diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis

            -AND-
b. **One** of the following:

(1) History of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to **two** of the following preferred biologic products (Document drug, date, and duration of trial):

(a) Cimzia (certolizumab)
(b) Humira (adalimumab)
(c) Simponi (golimumab)
(d) Olumiant (baricitinib)
(e) Rinvoq (upadacitinib)
(f) Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR (tofacitinib)

-OR-

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

(a) Patient is currently on Actemra therapy

-AND-

(b) Patient has **not** received a manufacturer supplied sample at no cost in the prescriber’s office, or any form of assistance from the Genentech sponsored Actemra Access Solutions program (e.g., sample card which can be redeemed at a pharmacy for a free supply of medication) as a means to establish as a current user of Actemra*

* Patients requesting initial authorization who were established on therapy via the receipt of a manufacturer supplied sample at no cost in the prescriber’s office or any form of assistance from the Genentech sponsored Actemra Access Solutions program **shall be required** to meet initial authorization criteria as if patient were new to therapy.

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

B. **Other Diagnoses**

1. **Actemra** will be approved

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

a  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 Rules:**
   - 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 limits and/or Notification may be in place.
   - The intravenous infusion is typically covered under the medical benefit. Please refer to the United Healthcare Drug Policy for Actemra.

4. **References:**
   5. Olumiant [package insert]. Indianapolis, IN: Lilly USA, LLC; May 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Step Therapy - Actemra (tocilizumab)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change Control</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/2014</td>
<td>New step therapy program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/2015</td>
<td>Reformatted to clarify intent. Updated sample pack language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2016</td>
<td>Annual review. Updated background. Changed authorization periods from 60 months to 12 months. Added Maryland Continuation of Care. Added reference to UHC drug policy for intravenous infusions. Updated references.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/2016</td>
<td>Added Indiana and West Virginia coverage information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/2016</td>
<td>Administrative change. Added California coverage information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2017</td>
<td>Annual review. Updated coverage criteria to include manufacturer sample language (i.e., Actemra Access Solutions program); added verbiage to simplify initial authorization criteria. Updated coverage criteria to add documentation language of failure of preferred products (i.e., document drug, date and duration of trial). Updated background and references. State mandate reference language updated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2018</td>
<td>Annual review with no updated to coverage criteria. Updated references.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/2019</td>
<td>Annual review with no updates to coverage criteria. Updated references.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/2019</td>
<td>Revised step therapy medications. Updated background and references.</td>
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