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 preferred products before providing coverage for Enbrel (etanercept). Infused medications for any of the conditions referenced in this document are not part of the criteria.

Enbrel and Humira® (adalimumab) are indicated for reducing signs and symptoms, inducing major clinical response, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function in patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis.² ³ Cimzia® (certolizumab) and Simponi® (golimumab) are indicated for the treatment of adults with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis.¹ ⁴ Actemra® (tocilizumab) 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 disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs).³ Simponi® XR (tofacitinib) is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to methotrexate.⁶ Humira, Cimzia, Actemra, Xeljanz, and Enbrel may be used alone or in combination with a DMARD.¹ ² ³ ⁵ ⁶ Simponi is FDA approved for use with methotrexate in these patients.⁴ 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.¹² Rinvoq (upadacitinib) is indicated for the treatment of adults with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis (RA) who have had an adequate response or intolerance to methotrexate.¹³ Orencia (abatacept) is indicated for moderately to severely active RA in adults and may be used as monotherapy or concomitantly with DMARDs other than TNF antagonists.¹¹

Enbrel and Humira are indicated for reducing signs and symptoms in patients with active ankylosing spondylitis.² ³ Simponi, Cimzia, and Cosentyx (secukinumab) are indicated for the treatment of adult patients with active ankylosing spondylitis.¹ ² ⁴ ⁹

Enbrel is indicated for reducing signs and symptoms, inhibiting the progression of structural damage of active arthritis, and improving physical function in patients with psoriatic arthritis.² Humira is indicated for reducing signs and symptoms, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function of adult patients with active psoriatic arthritis.³ Simponi, Cimzia, Cosentyx, and Orencia (abatacept) are
indicated for the treatment of adult patients with active psoriatic arthritis.\textsuperscript{1,4,9,11} Stelara\textsuperscript{®} (ustekinumab) is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with active psoriatic arthritis.\textsuperscript{5} It can be used alone or in combination with methotrexate (MTX). Humira, Enbrel, and Simponi may be used alone or in combination with a DMARD.

Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with active psoriatic arthritis who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to methotrexate or other DMARDs.\textsuperscript{6}

Enbrel is indicated for the treatment of patients 4 years or older with chronic moderate to severe plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy.\textsuperscript{2}

Humira is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy, and when other systemic therapies are medically less appropriate.\textsuperscript{3}

Stelara and Cimzia are indicated for the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis who are candidates for phototherapy or systemic therapy.\textsuperscript{1,5}

Tremfya\textsuperscript{®} (guselkumab) is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy.\textsuperscript{8}

Cosentyx\textsuperscript{®} (secukinumab) and Skyrizi (risankizumab) are indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in adult patients who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy.\textsuperscript{9,10}

Although Humira and Enbrel are also indicated for reducing signs and symptoms of moderately to severely active polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA), patients with JIA will not be subject to the step therapy criteria.\textsuperscript{2,3}

Members currently on Enbrel 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. \textbf{Coverage Criteria}\textsuperscript{8}:

\begin{table}
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|p{10cm}|}
\hline
\textbf{A. Rheumatoid Arthritis} \\
\hline
\textbf{1. Enbrel} will be approved based on both of the following criteria: \\
\textbf{a.} Diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis \\
\textbf{-AND-} \\
\textbf{b.} One of the following: \\
\textbf{(1) Both} of the following: \\
\textbf{(a) History of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to two of the following preferred biologic products (Document drug, date, and duration of trial):} \\
\textbf{i.} Cimzia (certolizumab) \\
\textbf{ii.} Humira (adalimumab) \\
\textbf{iii.} Simponi (golimumab) \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}

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iv. Olumiant (baricitinib)
v. Rinvoq (upadacitinib)
vi. Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR (tofacitinib)

-AND-

(b) History of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to both of the following preferred products (Document drug, date, and duration of trial):

i. Actemra (tocilizumab)
ii. Ocrevus (abatacept)

-OR-

(2) Both of the following:

(a) Patient is currently on Enbrel 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 Amgen sponsored Enbrel Support™ 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 Enbrel*

*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 Amgen sponsored Enbrel Support™ program shall be required to meet initial authorization criteria as if patient were new to therapy.

Authorization will be issued for 12 months.

B. Ankylosing Spondylitis

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

   a. Diagnosis of ankylosing spondylitis

   -AND-

   b. One of the following:

      (1) Both of the following:

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

             i. Cimzia (certolizumab)
             ii. Humira (adalimumab)
             iii. Simponi (golimumab)
(b) History of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to Cosentyx (secukinumab) (Document drug, date, and duration of trial)

-OR-

(2) Both of the following:

(a) Patient is currently on Enbrel 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 Amgen sponsored Enbrel Support™ 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 Enbrel*

*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 Amgen sponsored Enbrel Support™ program shall be required to meet initial authorization criteria as if patient were new to therapy.

Authorization will be issued for 12 months.

C. Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA)

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

   a. Diagnosis of psoriatic arthritis

-AND-

   b. One of the following:

(1) Both of the following:

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

      i. Cimzia (certolizumab)
      ii. Humira (adalimumab)
      iii. Simponi (golimumab)
      iv. Stelara (ustekinumab)

-AND-

   (b) History of failure, contraindication, or intolerance to two of the following (Document drug, date, and duration of trial):
i. Cosentyx (secukinumab)  
ii. Orenzia (abatacept)  
iii. Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR (tofacitinib)

-OR-

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

(a) Patient is currently on Enbrel 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 Amgen sponsored Enbrel Support™ 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 Enbrel*

*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 Amgen sponsored Enbrel Support™ program shall be required to meet initial authorization criteria as if patient were new to therapy.

Authorization will be issued for 12 months.

D. **Plaque Psoriasis**

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

   a. Diagnosis of plaque psoriasis

   -AND-

   b. **One** of the following:

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

         (a) Humira (adalimumab)  
         (b) Stelara (ustekinumab)  
         (c) Tremfya (guselkumab)  
         (d) Cosentyx (secukinumab)  
         (e) Cimzia (certolizumab)  
         (f) Skyrizi (risankizumab)

   -OR-

   (2) Patient is between 4 and 17 years old

   -OR-
(3) **Both** of the following:

(a) Patient is currently on Enbrel 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 Amgen sponsored Enbrel Support™ 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 Enbrel*

*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 Amgen sponsored Enbrel Support™ program **shall be required** to meet initial authorization criteria as if patient were new to therapy.

Authorization will be issued for 12 months.

E. **Other Diagnoses**

1. Enbrel 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.

4. **References:**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Step Therapy - Enbrel (etanercept)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change Control</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<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. Changed the authorization period from 60 months to 12 months. Added Maryland Continuation of Care. Updated references.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/2016</td>
<td>Added Indiana and West Virginia coverage information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/2016</td>
<td>Administrative change. Added California coverage information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2017</td>
<td>Updated background to reflect new indication for Enbrel in patients age 4 and above with plaque psoriasis. Update PA criteria for plaque psoriasis to allow patients between 4 and 17 years of age to bypass the step therapy requirement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2017</td>
<td>Annual review. Updated coverage criteria to include manufacturer sample language (i.e., Enbrel Support™ 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 formatting, background and references. State mandate reference language updated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/2017</td>
<td>Updated background and clinical criteria for RA requiring trials of, or contraindications to, Actemra and Xeljanz prior to Enbrel approval for RA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/2018</td>
<td>Updated criteria requiring trials of, or contraindications to 3 of 4 preferred agents for plaque psoriasis. Added Tremfya and Cosentyx as additional agents for plaque psoriasis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/2019</td>
<td>Annual review. Updated background and criteria adding Cimzia to list of preferred products for the treatment of plaque psoriasis. Updated references.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/2019</td>
<td>Revised step therapy medications. Updated background and references.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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