Original Effective Date: 02/01/2013
Current Effective Date: 11/29/2023
Last P&T Approval/Version: 10/25/2023
Next Review Due By: 10/2024
Policy Number: C10424-A

Stelara (ustekinumab)

PRODUCTS AFFECTED

Stelara (ustekinumab)

COVERAGE POLICY

Coverage for services, procedures, medical devices and drugs are dependent upon benefit eligibility as outlined in the member's specific benefit plan. This Coverage Guideline must be read in its entirety to determine coverage eligibility, if any. This Coverage Guideline provides information related to coverage determinations only and does not imply that a service or treatment is clinically appropriate or inappropriate. The provider and the member are responsible for all decisions regarding the appropriateness of care. Providers should provide Molina Healthcare complete medical rationale when requesting any exceptions to these guidelines.

Documentation Requirements:
Molina Healthcare reserves the right to require that additional documentation be made available as part of its coverage determination; quality improvement; and fraud; waste and abuse prevention processes. Documentation required may include, but is not limited to, patient records, test results and credentials of the provider ordering or performing a drug or service. Molina Healthcare may deny reimbursement or take additional appropriate action if the documentation provided does not support the initial determination that the drugs or services were medically necessary, not investigational, or experimental, and otherwise within the scope of benefits afforded to the member, and/or the documentation demonstrates a pattern of billing or other practice that is inappropriate or excessive.

DIAGNOSIS:
Moderate to severe plaque psoriasis (Ps), Active psoriatic arthritis (PsA), Moderately to severely active Crohn’s disease (CD), Ulcerative colitis (UC)

REQUIRED MEDICAL INFORMATION:
This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. If a drug within this policy receives an updated FDA label within the last 180 days, medical necessity for the member will be reviewed using the updated FDA label information along with state and federal requirements, benefit being administered and formulary preferencing. Coverage will be determined on a case-by-case basis until the criteria can be updated through Molina Healthcare, Inc. clinical governance. Additional information may be required on a case-by-case basis to allow for adequate review. When the requested drug product for coverage is dosed by weight, body surface area or other member specific measurement, this data element is required as part of the medical necessity review. The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee has determined that the drug benefit shall be a mandatory generic and that generic drugs will be dispensed whenever available.

FOR ALL INDICATIONS:

1. (a) Prescriber attests, or clinical reviewer has found, member has had a negative TB screening* or TB test (if indicated)** result within the last 12 months for initial and continuation of therapy

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requests
*MOLINA REVIEWER NOTE: TB SCREENING assesses patient for future or ongoing TB exposure or risk and includes reviewing if they have been exposed to tuberculosis, if they have resided or traveled to areas of endemic tuberculosis, if patient resides or works in a congregate setting (e.g., correctional facilities, long-term care facilities, homeless shelters), etc.
**MOLINA REVIEWER NOTE: TB SKIN TEST (TST, PPD) AND TB BLOOD TEST (QuantiFERON TB Gold, T-Spot) are not required or recommended in those without risk factors for tuberculosis
OR
(b) For members who have a positive test for latent TB, provider documents member has completed a treatment course (a negative chest x-ray is also required every 12 months) OR that member has been cleared by an infectious disease specialist to begin treatment
AND

2. Prescriber attests member has been evaluated and screened for the presence of hepatitis B virus (HBV) prior to initiating treatment
AND
3. Member is not on concurrent treatment or will not be used in combination with TNF-inhibitor, biologic response modifier or other biologic DMARDs, Janus kinase Inhibitors, or Phosphodiesterase 4 inhibitor (i.e., apremilast, tofacitinib, baricitinib) as verified by prescriber attestation, member medication fill history, or submitted documentation
AND
4. Prescriber attests member does not have an active infection, including clinically important localized infections
AND
5. IF THIS IS A NON-FORMULARY/NON-PREFERRED PRODUCT: Documentation of trial/failure of or intolerance to a majority (not more than 3) of the preferred formulary/PDL alternatives for the given diagnosis. Submit documentation including medication(s) tried, dates of trial(s) and reason for treatment failure(s).

A. PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS (PsA):
1. Documentation of active psoriatic arthritis
AND
2. Documentation of prescriber baseline disease activity evaluation and goals for treatment to be used to evaluate efficacy of therapy at renewal [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]
AND
3. (a) Documented treatment failure, serious side effects or clinical contraindication to a minimum 3-month trial of ONE of the following: Leflunomide, Methotrexate, Sulfasalazine, Cyclosporine
OR
(b) Documentation member has severe psoriatic arthritis [erosive disease, elevated markers of inflammation, long term damage that interferes with function, highly active disease that causes a major impairment in quality of life, active PsA at many sites including dactylitis, enthesitis, function-limiting PsA at a few sites or rapidly progressive disease]
OR
(c) Documentation member has severe psoriasis [PASI ≥12, BSA of >5-10%, significant involvement in specific areas (e.g., face, hands or feet, nails, intertriginous areas, scalp), impairment of physical or mental functioning with lower amount of surface area of skin involved]
AND
4. Documentation of treatment failure, serious side effects or clinical contraindication to a trial (>3 months) of ONE FORMULARY OR PREFERRED TNF-inhibitor NOTE: Contraindications to TNF treatment include congestive heart failure, previous serious infections, recurrent infections, or demyelinating disease

B. CHRONIC PLAQUE PSORIASIS:
1. Documented diagnosis of moderate to severe psoriasis (BSA ≥ 3% OR < 3% body surface area with plaque psoriasis that involves sensitive areas of the body or areas that would significantly

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impact daily function (e.g., face, neck, hands, feet, genitals)
AND

2. (a) Documentation of treatment failure, serious side effects, or clinical contraindication to TWO of the following systemic therapies for ≥ 3 months: Methotrexate (oral or IM at a minimum dose of 15 mg/week), cyclosporine, acitretin, azathioprine, hydroxyurea, leflunomide, mycophenolate mofetil, or tacrolimus

   OR

   (b) Documentation of treatment failure to Phototherapy for ≥3 months with either psoralens with ultraviolet A (PUVA) or ultraviolet B (UVB) radiation (provider to submit documentation of duration of treatment, dates of treatment, and number of sessions; contraindications include type 1 or type 2 skin, history of photosensitivity, treatment of facial lesions, presence of premalignant lesions, history of melanoma or squamous cell carcinoma, or physical inability to stand for the required exposure time)
   AND
3. Documentation of prescriber baseline disease activity evaluation and goals for treatment to be used to evaluate efficacy of therapy at renewal [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]

C. CROHN'S DISEASE:

1. Documentation of a diagnosis of Crohn's Disease
   AND
2. Member has one or more high risk feature:
   i. Diagnosis at a younger age (<30 years old)
   ii. History of active or recent tobacco use
   iii. Elevated C-reactive protein and/or fecal calprotectin levels
   iv. Deep ulcers on colonoscopy
   v. Long segments of small and/or large bowel involvement
   vi. Perianal disease
   vii. Extra-intestinal manifestations
   viii. History of bowel resections

   AND
3. (a) Documentation of treatment failure, serious side effects or clinical contraindication to an adequate trial (>3 months) of ONE immunomodulator (e.g., azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurine, methotrexate) up to maximally indicated doses
   OR
   (b) Prescriber provides documented medical justification that supports the inability to use immunomodulators
   i. Inability to induce short-term symptomatic remission with a 3-month trial of systemic glucocorticoids
   ii. High-risk factors for intestinal complications may include: Initial extensive ileal, ileocolonic, or proximal GI involvement, Initial extensive perianal/severe rectal disease, Fistulizing disease (e.g., perianal, enterocutaneous, and rectovaginal fistulas), Deep ulcerations, Penetrating, stricturing or stenosis disease and/or phenotype, Intestinal obstruction, or abscess
   iii. High risk factors for postoperative recurrence may include: Less than 10 years duration between time of diagnosis and surgery, Disease location in the ileum and colon, Perianal fistula, Prior history of surgical resection, Use of corticosteroids prior to surgery

   AND
4. Documentation of prescriber baseline disease activity evaluation and goals for treatment to be used to evaluate efficacy of therapy at renewal [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]
   AND
5. FOR INITIAL SC THERAPY: The member has received a single induction dose with Stelara IV within 2 months of initiating therapy with Stelara SC

D. ULCERATIVE COLITIS:

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1. Documentation of ulcerative colitis diagnosis with evidence of moderate to severe disease activity
   AND
2. (a) Documentation of treatment failure, serious side effects or clinical contraindication to a 2-month trial of one systemic agent (e.g., 6-mercaptopurine, azathioprine, cyclosporine, tacrolimus, or a corticosteroid such as prednisone, methylprednisolone) for ulcerative colitis or will continue to take concurrently.
   NOTE: A previous trial of a biologic (e.g., an adalimumab product [e.g., Humira], Simponi SC [golimumab SC injection], or Entyvio [vedolizumab IV infusion]) also counts as a trial of one systemic agent for UC
   OR
   b) The member has pouchitis AND has tried therapy with an antibiotic (e.g., metronidazole, ciprofloxacin), probiotic, corticosteroid enema [for example, Cortenema® (hydrocortisone enema, generics)], or topical mesalamine
   AND
3. Documentation of prescriber baseline disease activity evaluation and goals for treatment to be used to evaluate efficacy of therapy at renewal [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]
   AND
4. FOR INITIAL SC THERAPY: The member has received a single induction dose with Stelara IV within 2 months of initiating therapy with Stelara SC

CONTINUATION OF THERAPY:

A. ALL INDICATIONS:

1. Adherence to therapy at least 85% of the time as verified by the prescriber or member medication fill history OR adherence less than 85% of the time due to the need for surgery or treatment of an infection, causing temporary discontinuation
   AND
2. Prescriber attests to or clinical reviewer has found no evidence of intolerable adverse effects or drug toxicity
   AND
3. Documentation of positive clinical response as demonstrated by low disease activity and/or improvements in the condition's signs and symptoms [DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED]
   AND
4. (a) Prescriber attests, or clinical reviewer has found, member has had a negative TB screening* or TB test (if indicated)** result within the last 12 months for initial and continuation of therapy requests
   *MOLINA REVIEWER NOTE: TB SCREENING assesses patient for future or ongoing TB exposure or risk and includes reviewing if they have been exposed to tuberculosis, if they have resided or traveled to areas of endemic tuberculosis, if patient resides or works in a congregate setting (e.g., correctional facilities, long-term care facilities, homeless shelters), etc.
   **MOLINA REVIEWER NOTE: TB SKIN TEST (TST, PPD) AND TB BLOOD TEST (QuantiFERON TB Gold, T-Spot) are not required or recommended in those without risk factors for tuberculosis
   OR
   (b) For members who have a positive test for latent TB, provider documents member has completed a treatment course (a negative chest x-ray is also required every 12 months) OR that member has been cleared by an infectious disease specialist to begin treatment

DURATION OF APPROVAL:

Initial authorization: 6 months, Continuation of therapy: 12 months

PRESCRIBER REQUIREMENTS:

CROHN'S DISEASE/ULCERATIVE COLITIS: Prescribed by or in consultation with a board-certified gastroenterologist or colorectal surgeon

PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS (PsA): Prescribed by or in consultation with a board-certified rheumatologist or dermatologist

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CHRONIC PLAQUE PSORIASIS: Prescribed by or in consultation with a board-certified dermatologist [If prescribed in consultation, consultation notes must be submitted with initial request and reauthorization requests]

AGE RESTRICTIONS:

Plaque Psoriasis, Psoriatic Arthritis: 6 years and older

All other indications: 18 Years of age or older

QUANTITY:

Plaque Psoriasis in adults: ≤100kg: 45 mg administered subcutaneously initially and 4 weeks later, followed by 45 mg administered subcutaneously every 12 weeks, >100kg: 90 mg administered subcutaneously initially and 4 weeks later, followed by 90 mg administered subcutaneously every 12 weeks
Plaque Psoriasis pediatrics (6 years of age through 17 years of age) = Weight based dosing is recommended at the initial dose, 4 weeks later, then every 12 weeks thereafter; < 60kg: 0.75mg/kg, 60kg-100kg: 45mg, > 100kg: 90 mg
Psoriatic Arthritis in adults: 45 mg administered subcutaneously initially and 4 weeks later, followed by 45 mg administered subcutaneously every 12 weeks
Psoriatic Arthritis with moderate-to-severe Psoriasis in adults >100 kg: 90 mg administered subcutaneously initially and 4 weeks later, followed by 90 mg administered subcutaneously every 12 weeks
Psoriatic Arthritis pediatrics (6 years of age through 17 years of age) = Weight based dosing is recommended at the initial dose, 4 weeks later, then every 12 weeks thereafter; < 60kg: 0.75mg/kg, >60kg: 45mg, > 100kg with co-existent moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis: 90 mg Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis Initial:
Single IV infusion using weight-based dosing: up to 55kg= 260 mg (2 vials), > 55 to 85kg= 390mg (3 vials), > 85kg= 520mg (4 vials)
Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis Maintenance of Remission:
90 mg subcutaneously 8 weeks after IV induction, then 90mg every 8 weeks thereafter

When requests for off-label dosing, dose escalation, or dose intensification are received, requests will be reviewed for evidence that current or standard dosing is not adequate to produce a therapeutic level of drug (eg, pharmacokinetic failure), clinical failure or significant loss of response is present, and the requested dosing is established as safe and effective for the condition. There are certain situations where no additional amount of drug is likely to produce or recapture clinical effect because the condition is no longer responsive to the drug (e.g., pharmacodynamic failure) or the drug cannot reach the site of activity at sufficient levels. The following items will assist reviewers in determining if the requested dosing is medically necessary:

- *FDA or compendium-supported dosing and therapeutic monitoring recommendations for the drug*
- *Member claims/adherence history*
- *Clinical documentation of the member's response to current or standard dosing regimens (disease activity indices if commonly used in clinical practice or documentation to approximate them may be necessary to demonstrate the response)*
- *In conjunction with documented clinical failure or loss of response or wearing off of effect, test results that demonstrate failure of current or standard dosing to reach established treatment thresholds (e.g., established therapeutic monitoring recommendations)*
- *If applicable, documentation showing the member does not have conditions which make achieving a therapeutic level of drug unlikely even with dose intensification (e.g., dose intensification may be futile due to the presence of anti-drug antibodies, protein losing enteropathy, nephrotic syndrome, severe drug excretion or malabsorption issues, etc.)*
- *In certain situations, documentation, or peer-to-peer determination that re-induction cannot be tried to recapture response as an alternative to long term dose escalation or intensification*

PLACE OF ADMINISTRATION:

The recommendation is that injectable medications in this policy will be for pharmacy benefit coverage and patient self-administered.

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The recommendation is that infused medications in this policy will be for pharmacy or medical benefit coverage administered in a place of service that is a non-inpatient hospital facility-based location.

DRUG INFORMATION

ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION:
Subcutaneous, Intravenous

DRUG CLASS:
Interleukin Antagonists, Antipsoriatics - Systemic

FDA-APPROVED USES:
Indicated for the treatment of:
Adult patients with:
- moderate to severe plaque psoriasis (Ps) who are candidates for phototherapy or systemic therapy
- active psoriatic arthritis (PsA)
- moderately to severely active Crohn's disease (CD)
- moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis.

Pediatric patients 6 years and older with:
- moderate to severe plaque psoriasis, who are candidates for phototherapy or systemic therapy
- active psoriatic arthritis

COMPENDIAL APPROVED OFF-LABELED USES:
None

NOTE TO REVIEWER: *Requests for the following indications should be reviewed for approval through Molina Off-Label policy (see Background for additional information): Immunotherapy related diarrhea or colitis*

APPENDIX

APPENDIX:
Reserved for State specific information. *Information includes, but is not limited to, State contract language, Medicaid criteria and other mandated criteria.*

State Specific Information
State Marketplace
Texas (Source: Texas Statutes, Insurance Code)
"Sec. 1369.654. PROHIBITION ON MULTIPLE PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS.
(a) A health benefit plan issuer that provides prescription drug benefits *may not require an enrollee to receive more than one prior authorization annually* of the prescription drug benefit for *a prescription drug prescribed to treat an autoimmune disease, hemophilia, or Von Willebrand disease*.
(b) This section does not apply to:
(1) opioids, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, or carisoprodol;
(2) prescription drugs that have a typical treatment period of less than 12 months;
(3) drugs that:
(A) have a boxed warning assigned by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use; and
(B) must have specific provider assessment; or
(4) the use of a drug approved for use by the United States Food and Drug Administration in a manner other than the approved use."

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BACKGROUND AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

BACKGROUND:

Stelara is indicated for the treatment of those ≥ 12 years of age with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis who are candidates for phototherapy or systemic therapy, for adult patients ≥ 18 years of age with active psoriatic arthritis (PsA) alone or in combination with methotrexate (MTX), and for moderate to severe active Crohn's Disease, in patients who have failed or were intolerant to immunomodulators or corticosteroids, but never failed a tumor necrosis factor inhibitor (TNFi), or in patients who failed or were intolerant to at least on TNFi. Stelara is a human immunoglobulin G (IgG) 1κ monoclonal antibody against the p40 subunit of the interleukin (IL)-12 and IL-23 cytokines, which are involved in inflammatory and immune responses. It is administered by subcutaneous (SC) injection under the supervision of a physician, although with proper training patients may self-inject. Stelara for intravenous IV infusion is indicated for the treatment of adults ≥ 18 years of age with moderate to severe active Crohn's disease, in patients who have failed or were intolerant to immunomodulators or corticosteroids, but never failed a tumor necrosis factor inhibitor (TNFi), or in patients who failed or were intolerant to at least one TNFi. It is a human immunoglobulin G (IgG) 1κ monoclonal antibody against the p40 subunit of the interleukin (IL)-12 and IL- 23 cytokines, which are involved in inflammatory and immune responses. In Crohn's disease, a single weight-based dose is administered by IV infusion. Following induction therapy with the IV product, the recommended maintenance is Stelara for subcutaneous (SC) injection, given as a 90 mg SC injection administered 8 weeks after the initial IV dose, then once every 8 weeks (Q8W) thereafter.

AGA Guidelines Moderate to Severe Ulcerative Colitis

Recommendations from the recent 2020 guideline update include:

- In adult outpatients with moderate to severe UC who are naïve to biologic agents, the AGA suggests using infliximab or vedolizumab rather than adalimumab, for induction of remission.
- Updated FDA recommendations (July 26, 2019) on indications for use of tofacitinib in UC recommends its use only after failure of or intolerance to TNF-a antagonists.
- In adult outpatients with moderate to severe UC who have previously been exposed to infliximab, particularly those with primary nonresponse, the AGA suggests using ustekinumab or tofacitinib rather than vedolizumab or adalimumab for induction of remission.
- In adult outpatients with moderate to severe UC, the AGA suggests against using methotrexate monotherapy for induction or maintenance of remission
- In adult outpatients with active moderate to severe UC, the AGA suggests using biologic monotherapy (TNF-a antagonists, vedolizumab, or ustekinumab) or tofacitinib rather than thiopurine monotherapy for induction of remission.
- In adult outpatients with moderate to severe UC, the AGA suggests combining TNF-a antagonists, vedolizumab or ustekinumab with thiopurines or methotrexate rather than biologic monotherapy.
- In adult outpatients with moderate to severe UC who have achieved remission with biologic agents and/or immunomodulators or tofacitinib, the AGA suggests against continuing 5-ASA for induction and maintenance of remission.

<u>Immunotherapy related diarrhea or colitis</u>

Recent NCCN guidelines include use of ustekinumab for moderate and severe diarrhea and colitis (grade 2 and above) related to immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy. If no response to treatment with steroids, consider adding infliximab or vedolizumab. For infliximab and/or vedolizumab refractory colitis, consider tofacitinib or ustekinumab. Refer to NCCN guidelines for management of immunotherapy related toxicities.

CONTRAINDICATIONS/EXCLUSIONS/DISCONTINUATION:

All other uses of Stelara (ustekinumab) are considered experimental/investigational and therefore, will follow Molina's Off- Label policy Contraindications to Stelara (ustekinumab) include: hypersensitivity to ustekinumab or to any of the excipients, concurrent use of live vaccines.

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OTHER SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None

CODING/BILLING INFORMATION

Note: 1) This list of codes may not be all-inclusive. 2) Deleted codes and codes which are not effective at the time the service is rendered may not be eligible for reimbursement

HCPCS CODE	DESCRIPTION
J3358	Ustekinumab, for intravenous injection, 1mg

AVAILABLE DOSAGE FORMS:
Stelara SOLN 130MG/26ML IV soln
Stelara SOLN 45MG/0.5ML
Stelara SOSY 45MG/0.5ML prefilled syringe
Stelara SOSY 90MG/ML prefilled syringe

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SUMMARY OF REVIEW/REVISIONS	DATE
REVISION- Notable revisions: Required Medical Information Continuation of Therapy Quantity Place of Administration Drug Class FDA-Approved Uses Background Coding/Billing Information Available Dosage Forms	Q4 2023
REVISION- Notable revisions: Required Medical Information Continuation of Therapy Prescriber Requirements Age Restrictions Quantity FDA-Approved Uses Compendial Approved Off-Labeled Uses Background Contraindications/Exclusions/Discontinuation References	Q4 2022
Q2 2022 Established tracking in new format	Historical changes on file

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