



## Rheumatology Prior Authorization Guidelines

*In general, the following criteria need to be met to obtain prior authorization approval for immunological disease state. In general, the following criteria need to be met to obtain prior authorization approval. In the event of a prior authorization denial, recommended formulary alternatives will be provided to the prescriber based upon the patient's insurance coverage. If a prior authorization and recommended formulary alternatives are denied, our team can provide appeal support services.*

- Patients previous trial and failure with step therapy requirements of the following:
  - RA: DMARD (Methotrexate) as monotherapy or in combination with another DMARD (Methotrexate + Sulfasalazine)
- Patient is contraindicated or intolerant to any of the step therapy requirements. This must be provided through supporting documentation in the chart notes or laboratory tests. (e.g. Methotrexate is contraindicated in patients with active liver disease or female patients who are pregnant)
- Patients chart notes or medical history that outlines signs and symptoms of the disease
  - Number of joints affected and location for RA patients
- TB test results required for any Biologic that is being prescribed. The TB test results must be negative.
- Patient must not have an active infection, or actively being treated for an infection when a Biologic is prescribed.
- In the event an oral medication is prescribed, such as Xeljanz®, documentation must indicate the patient has had a trial and failure with a self-injectable or a contraindication to a self-injectable medication.
- If a patient has more than one diagnosis, the primary ICD10 code will need to indicated. All other ICD10 codes will be provided as supportive documentation to insurance (e.g. A patient can be diagnosed with Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis at any given time)

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