Washington State Health Care Authority

Antiasthmatic Monoclonal Antibodies – Anti-IgE Antibodies

Medical policy no. 44.60.30.AA-3 Effective Date: 8/1/2024

Related medical policies:

Policy Number	Policy Title
44.60.40	Antiasthmatic Monoclonal Antibodies- IL-5 Antagonists

Note: *New-to-market drugs included in this class based on the Apple Health Preferred Drug List are non-preferred and subject to this prior authorization (PA) criteria. Non-preferred agents in this class require an inadequate response or documented intolerance due to severe adverse reaction or contraindication to at least TWO preferred agents. If there is only one preferred agent in the class documentation of inadequate response to ONE preferred agent is needed. If a drug within this policy receives a new indication approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), medical necessity for the new indication will be determined on a case-by-case basis following FDA labeling.*

To see the list of the current Apple Health Preferred Drug List (AHPDL), please visit: https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/billers-and-providers/apple-health-preferred-drug-list.xlsx

Medical necessity

Drug	Medical Necessity
omalizumab (XOLAIR®)	**omalizumab (XOLAIR®)** may be considered medically necessary in patients who meet the criteria described in the clinical policy below. If all criteria are not met, the clinical reviewer may determine there is a medically necessary need and approve on a case-by-case basis. The clinical reviewer may choose to use the reauthorization criteria when a patient has been previously established on therapy and is new to Apple Health.

Clinical policy:

Clinical Criteria	
Moderate to severe persistent allergic asthma omalizumab (XOLAIR®)	Omalizumab (XOLAIR) may be approved when all the following documented criteria are met: 1. Patient is 6 years of age or older; **AND** 2. Prescribed by, or in consultation with, a physician specializing in allergy, pulmonology, immunology, or ENT (ear, nose, throat); **AND** 3. Not used in combination with another monoclonal antibody indicated for the treatment of asthma (e.g., benralizumab, dupilumab, mepolizumab, reslizumab, etc.); **AND** 4. Patient has a confirmed allergy showing reactivity to a perennial aeroallergen; **AND**

	5. Patient has a serum total IgE level, measured before the start of treatment, of either: a. ≥ 30 IU/mL and ≤ 700 IU/mL in patients age ≥ 12 years; **OR** b. ≥ 30 IU/mL and ≤ 1300 IU/mL in patients aged 6 to <12 years; **AND** 6. Patient has **MODERATE** asthma as defined by <u>one</u> of the following: a. Documentation of functional impairment due to poor asthma control or exacerbations (e.g. limitation of activities of daily living, nighttime awakenings > 1x/week but not nightly); **OR** b. SABA (e.g. albuterol, levalbuterol) use for symptom control occurs daily; **OR** c. Lung function (percent predicted FEV1) >60%, but <80%; **OR** 7. Patient has **SEVERE** asthma as defined by one of the following: a. Documentation of functional impairment due to poor asthma control or exacerbations (e.g. limitation of activities of daily living, nighttime awakenings often 7x/week); **OR** b. SABA (e.g. albuterol, levalbuterol) use for symptom control occurs several times per day; **OR** c. Lung function (percent predicted FEV1) <60%; **AND** 8. Patient remains uncontrolled with either of the following medications used separately or simultaneously within the last year: a. A maximally tolerated inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) **AND** long-acting beta agonist (LABA) (used as separate or combination products) [e.g., budesonide, fluticasone, mometasone, salmeterol, fluticasone/salmeterol, fluticasone/vilanterol, mometasone/formoterol, budesonide/formoterol]; **OR** b. ICS **AND** long-acting muscarinic antagonist [LAMA] {e.g. tiotropium}; **OR** c. ICS **AND** leukotriene receptor antagonist [e.g. montelukast] If ALL criteria are met, the request will be authorized for **12 months.**
	Criteria (Reauthorization) Omalizumab (XOLAIR) may be approved when all the following documented criteria are met: 1. Initial authorization criteria #3 continues to be met; **AND** 2. Patient will continue maintenance asthma therapy [e.g. ICS + LABA, ICS + LAMA, ICS + leukotriene receptor antagonist]

	3. Documentation is submitted showing improvement or stability of disease symptoms (e.g., reduced asthma exacerbations, FEV1, reduced hospitalizations) If ALL criteria are met, the request will be authorized for **12 months.**
Chronic spontaneous urticaria (CSU) omalizumab (XOLAIR®)	Omalizumab (XOLAIR) may be approved when all the following documented criteria are met: 1. Patient is 12 years of age or older; **AND** 2. Prescribed by, or in consultation with, a dermatologist or a physician specializing in allergy, pulmonology, immunology, or ENT (ear, nose, throat); **AND** 3. Not used in combination with another monoclonal antibody indicated for the treatment of urticaria; **AND** 4. Underlying cause of the patient's condition is NOT considered to be any other allergic condition(s) or other form(s) of urticaria; **AND** 5. Provider attests that the patient has been evaluated for triggers and is being managed to avoid triggers (e.g., NSAIDs, psychological stress, dietary habits); **AND** 6. Baseline assessments using one of the following assessment tools are completed: a. Urticaria activity score (UAS7); **OR** b. Angioedema activity score (AAS); **OR** c. Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI); **OR** d. Angioedema Quality of Life (AE-QoL); **OR** e. Chronic Urticaria Quality of Life Questionnaire (CU-Q2oL); **AND** 7. Patient had an inadequate response to a second-generation H1-antihistamine product (two -week minimum trial, see appendix below for list of agents); **AND** 8. Patient had an inadequate response to at least **one** of the following, unless contraindicated (one-month minimum trial): a. Dose increase of second-generation H1-antihistamine at the maximally tolerated dose*****; **OR** b. Add-on therapy with a leukotriene antagonist (e.g., montelukast, zafirlukast, etc.); **OR** c. Add-on therapy with another H1-antihistamine***;OR** d. Add-on therapy with a H2-antagonist (e.g. ranitidine, etc.) If ALL criteria are met, the request will be authorized for **12 months.** **Criteria (Reauthorization)** Omalizumab (XOLAIR) may be approved when all the following documented criteria are met:

	1. Initial authorization criteria #3 continues to be met; **AND** 2. Documentation is submitted showing reassessment of baseline measurements demonstrating disease stability or a positive clinical response If ALL criteria are met, the request will be authorized for **12 months.**
Chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyposis (CRSwNP) omalizumab (XOLAIR®)	Omalizumab (XOLAIR) may be approved when all the following documented criteria are met: 1. Patient is 18 years of age or older; **AND** 2. Prescribed by, or in consultation with, a physician specializing in allergy, pulmonology, immunology, or ENT (ear, nose, throat); **AND** 3. Not used in combination with another monoclonal antibody indicated for the treatment of rhinosinusitis with nasal polyposis (e.g., dupilumab, mepolizumab, etc.); **AND** 4. Diagnosis of bilateral sinonasal polyposis as evidenced by an endoscopy, rhinoscopy or computed tomography (CT); **AND** 5. Patient has at least **two** of the following symptoms: a. Nasal blockage, obstruction, or congestion b. Purulent nasal discharge c. Facial pain or pressure d. Reduction or loss of smell; **AND** 6. Documentation of current persistent symptomatic nasal polyps despite maximal treatment with ALL the following within the last year unless ineffective, not tolerated, or contraindicated: a. Intranasal corticosteroid; **AND** b. Oral systemic corticosteroid; **AND** 7. Intranasal corticosteroid will be continued with the use of omalizumab (Xolair), unless contraindicated. If ALL criteria are met, the request will be authorized for **12 months.**
	Criteria (Reauthorization) Omalizumab (XOLAIR) may be approved when all the following documented criteria are met: **1.** Initial authorization criteria #3 and #7 continues to be met; **AND** 2. Documentation is submitted showing improvement or stability of disease symptoms (e.g., improvement in nasal congestion/obstruction severity, reduction in nasal polyps) If ALL criteria are met, the request will be authorized for **12 months.**

Dosage and quantity limits

Drug	Indication	Approved Dosing	Dosage Form
Xolair	Allergic asthma	75 to 375 mg administered subcutaneously by a health care provider every 2 or 4 weeks. Determine dose (mg) and dosing frequency by serum total IgE level (IU/mL), measured before the start of treatment, and body weight (kg). See tables below.	• 75 mg/0.5mL prefilled syringe • 150 mg/mL prefilled syringe • 150 mg vial • 300 mg/2mL prefilled syringe
	Chronic spontaneous urticaria (CSU)	150 or 300 mg administered subcutaneously by a health care provider every 4 weeks. Dosing is not dependent on serum IgE (free or total) level or body weight.	• 150 mg/mL prefilled syringe • 150 mg vial • 300 mg/2mL prefilled syringe
	Chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyposis (CRSwNP)	75 to 600 mg SC administered subcutaneously by a health care provider every 2 or 4 weeks. Determine dose (mg) and dosing frequency by serum total IgE level (IU/mL), measured before the start of treatment, and body weight (kg). See tables below.	• 75 mg/0.5mL prefilled syringe • 150 mg/mL prefilled syringe • 150 mg vial • 300 mg/2mL prefilled syringe

Coding:

HCPCS Code	Description
J2357	Injection, omalizumab, 5 mg

Background:

Moderate to severe persistent allergic asthma

Asthma is a chronic respiratory condition caused by inflammation of the airways, where inflammation triggers airway narrowing and subsequent difficulty breathing. The etiology of asthma is unclear though epidemiology has attributed genetic susceptibility, race, host factors (i.e., obesity, nutrition, infection, allergic sensitization), and environmental exposures to increased disease burden. Of the approximately 339 million individuals with asthma globally (25 million in the United States), up to 10% have severe asthma. Per the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) guidelines first line treatment includes ICS-formoterol inhalers. In those with poor control, such as moderate to severe asthma, patients may require high dose inhaled corticosteroids (ICS), or continuous to near continuous oral glucocorticoids to maintain asthma control. Biologic therapies have been developed to target pathways involved with asthma phenotypes (i.e., allergic asthma and eosinophilic asthma). Allergic asthma is associated with allergic rhinitis, atrophy, and elevated immunoglobulin E (IgE) levels and impacts nearly-half of all asthma patients. Biologics to target these mediators include IL-5, anti-IL-5R, anti-IL-4R anti-IL-13, and anti-IgE therapies.

The safety and efficacy of omalizumab were evaluated in three randomized, double-bind, placebo-controlled, multicenter trials. The trials enrolled patients 12-76 years old with moderate to severe persistent asthma for at least a year and a positive allergy skin test to a perennial aeroallergen. At screening, patients in studies 1 and 2 had a FEV1 between 40% and 80% predicted whereas in study 3 there was no restriction on screening FEV1 and LABAs were allowed. All patients were symptomatic and currently treated with ICS and SABAs. Each study had a run-in period to achieve a stable conversion to a common ICS (for studies 1 and 2 the ICS was beclomethasone

dipropionate and study 3 the ICS was fluticasone propionate), followed by randomization to omalizumab or placebo. In study 3, patients were stratified by use of ICS only or ICS with concomitant oral corticosteroids. All patients were required to have a baseline IgE between 30 and 700 IU/mL and a body weight not more than 150 kg. The maximum omalizumab dose per 4 weeks was 750 mg. Exacerbations in all three studies were defined as a worsening of asthma that required treatment with systemic corticosteroids or a doubling of the baseline ICS dose. The primary endpoint for studies 1 and 2 were the number of exacerbations. In studies 1 and 2, omalizumab was shown to have up to a 75% decrease in exacerbations versus placebo in the ICS-stable phase and up to a 50% decrease in exacerbations vs placebo in the ICS-reduction phase. In study 3, the number of exacerbations in the omalizumab group was similar to that of the control group. In the ICS-stable phase, 15.9% of patients in the omalizumab + ICS group experienced ≥ 1 exacerbation vs 15% of those in the placebo + ICS. In the ICS-reduction phase, 22.2% of patients taking omalizumab + ICS group experienced ≥ 1 exacerbation vs. 26.7% of patients in the placebo + ICS group.

Chronic spontaneous urticaria (CSU)
CSU is defined by the presence of recurrent urticaria (also called hives or wheals), angioedema, or both, for a period of six weeks or longer. Urticaria needs to be differentiated from other medical conditions where wheals, angioedema or both can occur, for example anaphylaxis, auto-inflammatory syndromes, urticarial vasculitis, or bradykinin-mediated angioedema including hereditary angioedema (HAE). There are several theories regarding the pathogenesis of CIU, none of which have been conclusively established. EAACI/GA²LEN/EDF/WAO guidelines recommend various therapies for the management of CSU including H1-antihistamines, leukotriene receptor antagonists, cyclosporin, and omalizumab.

The safety and efficacy of omalizumab for the treatment of CSU was determined in two placebo-controlled, multiple dose clinical trials of 24 weeks duration and 12 weeks duration. Patients received omalizumab 75 mg, 150 mg, or 300 mg or placebo by subcutaneous injection every 4 weeks in addition to baseline H1 antihistamine therapy for 24 or 12 weeks, followed by a 16-week washout observation period. Disease severity was measured by weekly urticaria activity score (UAS7). All patients were required to have a UAS7 of ≥ 16, and a weekly itch severity score of ≥ 8 for a week prior to randomization, despite having used an H1 antihistamine for at least 2 weeks. At baseline, the mean weekly itch severity scores ranged between 13.7 and 14.5. In both trials, patients who received omalizumab 150 or 300 mg had greater decreases from baseline in weekly itch severity scores and weekly hive count scores than placebo at week 12. The 75 mg dose did not demonstrate evidence of efficacy.

Chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyposis (CRSwNP)
Chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS) is broadly defined as an inflammatory disorder of the paranasal sinuses and linings of the nasal passages that lasts 12 weeks or longer. CRS may present abruptly, begin as a nonspecific upper respiratory infection or acute sinusitis that fails to resolve, or develop slowly and insidiously over months or years. CRS with nasal polyps (CRSwNP) is characterized by the presence of bilateral nasal polyps in the middle meatus. Nasal polyps are translucent, yellowish-gray to white, glistening masses composed of gelatinous inflammatory material, which may form in the nasal cavity or paranasal sinuses. The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (AAAAI), American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (ACAAI), and Joint Council of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (JCAAI) 2014 guidelines recommend short-term treatment with oral steroids in patients with CRSwNP "because it decreases nasal polyp size and symptoms". Additionally, guidelines recommend both intranasal corticosteroids and omalizumab for treatment of CRSwNP.

The safety and efficacy of omalizumab was evaluated in two, randomized, multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trials that enrolled patients with CRSwNP with inadequate response to nasal corticosteroids. Patients received omalizumab or placebo subcutaneous every two or four weeks for 24 weeks followed by a four-week follow-up period. All patients received background nasal mometasone during both the treatment period and during the five week run-in period. Patients were required to have evidence of bilateral polyps as determined by a nasal polyp score (NPS) ≥ 5 with NPS ≥ 2 in each nostril, despite use of nasal mometasone during the run-in period. Patients were also required to have a weekly average of nasal congestion score (NSC) > 1. The co-primary endpoints in in both trials were NPS and average daily NCS at week 24. Individuals who received omalizumab had a statistically significant greater improvement from baseline at week 24 in NPS and weekly average NCS than patients who received placebo.

References

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6. Zuberbier T, Aberer W, Asero R, et al. The EAACI/GA2LEN/EDF/WAO guideline for the definition, classification, diagnosis and management of urticaria. Allergy. 2018;73(7):1393-1414.
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History

Approved Date	Effective Date	Version	Action and Summary of Changes
02/28/2024	08/01/2024	44.60.30.AA-3	Approved by DUR Board - Policy renumbered to new nomenclature - CRSwNP indication added
10/16/2019	05/01/2020	44.60.30-2	Approved by DUR Board General formatting updates were made from 09/24/2019-01/27/2020
02/21/2018	07/01/2018	44.60.30-1	New policy created

Appendix

*H1 Antihistamine Products (not all inclusive)		
• desloratadine	• clemastine • diphenhydramine	• brompheniramine • dexchlorpheniramine

• cetirizine • levocetirizine • loratadine	• chlorpheniramine • hydroxyzine • cyproheptadine	• carbinoxamine

Asthma Dose Recommendations

Omalizumab Doses Administered Every 2 or 4 Weeks (mg) for Pediatric Patients Ages of 6 to <12 Years

Pre-treatment IgE (IU/mL)	Dosing Freq.	Body Weight (kg)									
		20-25	>25-30	>30-40	>40-50	>50-60	>60-70	>70-80	>80-90	>90-125	>125-150
30-100	Every 4 Weeks	75	75	75	150	150	150	150	150	300	300
>100-200		150	150	150	300	300	300	300	300	225	300
>200-300		150	150	225	300	300	300	225	225	300	375
>300-400		225	225	300	225	225	225	300	300		
>400-500		225	300	225	225	225	225	375	375		
>500-600		300	300	225	300	300	300				
>600-700		300	225	225	300	300					
>700-900	Every 2 Weeks	225	225	300	375						
>900-1100		225	300	375							
>1100-1200		300	300								
>1200-1300		300	375								

Omalizumab Doses Administered Every 2 or 4 Weeks (mg) for Patients 12 Years of Age and Older

Pre- treatment IgE (IU/mL)	Dosing Freq.	Body Weight (kg)			
		30 to 60	> 60 to 70	> 70 to 90	> 90 to 150
30-100	Every 4 Weeks	150	150	150	300
>100-200		300	300	300	225
>200-300		300	225	225	300
>300-400	Every 2 weeks	225	225	300	
>400-500		300	300	375	
>500-600		300	375		
>600-700		375			

Chronic Rhinosinusitis with Nasal Polyposis Dosing Recommendations (CRSwNP)

Omalizumab Doses Every 2 or 4 Weeks* for Adult Patients with CRSwNP

Pre-treatment IgE (IU/mL)	Dosing Freq.	Body Weight (kg)							
		>30-40	>40-50	>50-60	>60-70	>70-80	>80-90	>90-125	>125-150
30-100	Every 4 Weeks	75	150	150	150	150	150	300	300
>100-200		150	300	300	300	300	300	450	600
>200-300		225	300	300	450	450	450	600	375
>300-400		300	450	450	450	600	600	450	525
>400-500		450	450	600	600	375	375	525	600
>500-600		450	600	600	375	450	450	600	
>600-700		450	600	375	450	450	525		
>700-800	Every 2 Weeks	300	375	450	450	525	600		
>800-900		300	375	450	525	600			

>900-1000		375	450	525	600	Do Not Dose
>1000-1100		375	450	600		
>1100-1200		450	525	600		
>1200-1300		450	525			
>1300-1500		525	600			