	<b>Johns Hopkins HealthCare LLC</b> <b>Pharmacy Public</b> <b>Medical Management Drug Policies</b>	<i>Policy Number</i>	MMDP064
		<i>Effective Date</i>	06/01/2022
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	<i>Subject</i> <b>Actemra IV</b>	<i>Revision Date</i>	04/20/2022
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This document applies to the following Participating Organizations:

US Family Health Plan

**Keywords:** Actemra, Actemra IV


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## **I. POLICY**


- A. Actemra IV (tocilizumab) will require prior authorization for medical benefit coverage to ensure appropriate use. The process for initiating a prior authorization request can be found in policy PHARM 20.

## **II. POLICY CRITERIA**

- A. Actemra IV may be approved for patients who meet the following:
1. Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)
    - a. Documentation has been submitted showing the following:
      - I. Patient has a diagnosis of active moderate or severe RA, and one of the following:
        - Patient has previously received a biologic or targeted synthetic DMARD (e.g., Rinvoq, Xeljanz) indicated for moderately to severely active RA
        - Patient meets all the following:
          - Patient meets one of the following:
            - Patient has been tested for either of the following biomarkers and the test was positive, supported with a laboratory report:
              - Rheumatoid factor (RF)
              - Anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide (anti-CCP)
            - Patient has been tested for ALL of the following biomarkers, supported with a laboratory report:
              - RF
              - Anti-CCP
              - C-reactive protein (CRP) and/or erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)
            - Patient meets one of the following:
              - Patient has experienced an inadequate response to at least a 3-month trial of methotrexate despite adequate dosing (i.e., titrated to at least 15 mg/week)
              - Patient has had an intolerance to methotrexate, or a contraindication to its use such as one of the following:

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- Clinical diagnosis of alcohol use disorder, alcoholic liver disease or other chronic liver disease
  - Breastfeeding
  - Blood dyscrasias (e.g., thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, significant anemia)
  - Elevated liver transaminases
  - History of intolerance or adverse event
  - Hypersensitivity
  - Interstitial pneumonitis or clinically significant pulmonary fibrosis
  - Myelodysplasia
  - Pregnancy or currently planning pregnancy
  - Renal impairment
  - Significant drug interaction
2. Articular juvenile idiopathic arthritis
    - a. Documentation has been submitted showing the following:
      - I. Patient has a diagnosis of active articular juvenile idiopathic arthritis, and one of the following:
        - Patient has previously received a biologic or targeted synthetic DMARD indicated for active articular juvenile idiopathic arthritis
        - Patient meets all the following:
          - Patient has had an inadequate response to methotrexate or another non-biologic DMARD administered at an adequate dose and duration
          - Patient has the following risk factors:
            - Positive rheumatoid factor
            - Positive anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide antibodies
            - Pre-existing joint damage
          - Patient meets one of the following:
            - High-risk joints are involved (e.g., cervical spine, wrist, or hip).
            - High disease activity
            - Judged to be at high risk for disabling joint disease
  3. Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (sJIA)
    - a. Documentation has been submitted showing the following:
      - I. Patient has a diagnosis of active sJIA, and one of the following:
        - Patient has previously received a biologic indicated for active systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis
        - Patient meets one of the following:
          - Patient has an inadequate response to at least a 1-month trial of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)
          - Patient has an inadequate response to at least a 2-week trial of corticosteroids
          - Patient has an inadequate response to at least a 3-month trial of methotrexate or leflunomide
  4. Giant Cell Arteritis
    - a. Documentation has been submitted showing the patient has a diagnosis of giant cell arteritis that was confirmed by one of the following:
      - I. Temporal artery biopsy or cross-sectional imaging
      - II. Acute-phase reactant elevation (i.e., high erythrocyte sedimentation rate [ESR] and/or high serum C-reactive protein [CRP])
  5. Cytokine release syndrome

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- a. Documentation has been submitted showing Actemra IV will be used for one of the following:
  1. Treatment of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cell-induced cytokine release syndrome (CRS)
  2. Treatment of cytokine release syndrome in members with refractory CRS related to blinatumomab therapy
6. Unicentric Castleman's Disease
  - a. Documentation has been submitted showing that the patient has a diagnosis of unicentric Castleman's disease and the following:
    - I. Patient is HIV-negative
    - II. Patient is human herpesvirus-8-negative
    - III. Actemra IV will be used as monotherapy
    - IV. Actemra IV will be used as second-line therapy for relapsed or refractory disease
7. Multicentric Castleman's Disease
  - a. Documentation has been submitted showing that the patient has a diagnosis of multicentric Castleman's disease and the following: when both of
    - I. Actemra IV will be used as monotherapy
    - II. Actemra IV will be used as second-line therapy for relapsed, refractory, or progressive disease
8. Immunotherapy-related Inflammatory Arthritis
  - a. Documentation has been submitted showing the following:
    - I. Patient has a diagnosis of severe or refractory immunotherapy-related inflammatory arthritis
    - II. Patient has had inadequate response to corticosteroids and anti-inflammatory agents
9. Graft versus Host disease
  - a. Documentation has been submitted showing the following:
    - I. Patient has a diagnosis of acute graft versus host disease
    - II. Patient meets one of the following:
      - Patient has experienced an inadequate response to systemic corticosteroids
      - Patient has an intolerance or contraindication to corticosteroids

### **III. AUTHORIZATION PERIOD/LIMITATIONS**

- A. Initial approval will be limited to 12 months of therapy
  1. Caveat: Approval for Cytokine release syndrome will limited to one month of therapy
- B. Continuation of therapy may be approved based on indication:
  1. Moderately to severely active RA:
    - a. Continuation of therapy may be approved in 12-month intervals with documentation showing the patient has achieved or maintained a positive clinical response as evidenced by:
      - I. disease activity improvement of at least 20% from baseline in tender joint count, swollen joint count, pain, or disability
  2. Active articular juvenile idiopathic arthritis:
    - a. Continuation of therapy may be approved in 12-month intervals with documentation showing the patient has achieved or maintained a positive clinical response as evidenced by:
      - I. low disease activity, or improvement in any of the following from baseline:
        - Number of joints with active arthritis (e.g., swelling, pain, limitation of motion)
        - Number of joints with limitation of movement
        - Functional ability
  3. Active Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (sJIA):

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- a. Continuation of therapy may be approved in 12-month intervals with documentation showing the patient has achieved or maintained a positive clinical response as evidenced by:
  - I. low disease activity, or improvement in any of the following from baseline:
    - Number of joints with active arthritis (e.g., swelling, pain, limitation of motion)
    - Number of joints with limitation of movement
    - Functional ability
    - Systemic symptoms (e.g., fevers, evanescent skin rashes)
4. Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA):
  - a. Continuation of therapy may be approved in 12-month intervals with documentation showing the patient has achieved or maintained a positive clinical response as evidenced by:
    - I. low disease activity, or improvement in any of the following from baseline:
      - Headaches
      - Scalp tenderness
      - Tenderness and/or thickening of superficial temporal arteries
      - Constitutional symptoms (e.g., weight loss, fever, fatigue, night sweats)
      - Jaw and/or tongue claudication
      - Acute visual symptoms (e.g., amaurosis fugax, acute visual loss, diplopia)
      - Symptoms of polymyalgia rheumatica (e.g., shoulder and/or hip girdle pain)
      - Limb claudication
5. Cytokine release syndrome, immunotherapy-related inflammatory arthritis, and Graft versus Host Disease:
  - a. Continuation of therapy may be approved for the same duration as the initial approval for patients still meeting the criteria noted above
6. Unicentric and Multicentric Castleman's Diseases
  - a. Continuation of therapy may be approved in 12-month intervals with documentation showing the patient is continuing to tolerate the regimen and there has not been disease progression while on treatment

#### **IV. EXCLUSIONS**

- A. Actemra IV will not be covered for the following:
  1. Systemic Sclerosis-Associated Interstitial Lung Disease (SSc-ILD) as this indication is only FDA-approved for the subcutaneous formulation of Actemra
  2. Any uses or other indications that are not FDA-approved, or guideline-supported


#### **V. RECOMMENDED DOSAGE**

Please refer to the FDA-approved prescribing information, or clinical guidelines, for indication-specific dosing details.

#### **VI. CODES**

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Note: The following CPT/HCPCS codes are included below for informational purposes. Inclusion or exclusion of a CPT/HCPCS code(s) below does not signify or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement. The member's specific benefit plan determines coverage.

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Medication	HCPCS/CPT Code
Injection, tocilizumab, 1 mg	J3262

## VII. REFERENCES

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## VIII. APPROVALS

Signature on file at JHHC

DATE OF REVISION	SUMMARY OF CHANGE
04/20/2022	Policy Creation

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