Utilization Review Policy 201

POLICY: Inflammatory Conditions – Stelara Subcutaneous Prior Authorization Policy
- Stelara® (ustekinumab subcutaneous injection – Janssen Biotech)

EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/1/2023
LAST REVISION DATE: 12/08/2022

COVERAGE CRITERIA FOR: All Aspirus Medicare Plans

OVERVIEW

Stelara subcutaneous, an interleukin-12/23 blocker, is indicated for the following uses:[1]

- **Crohn's disease**, in patients ≥ 18 years of age with moderate to severe active disease.
- **Plaque psoriasis**, in patients ≥ 6 years of age with moderate to severe disease who are candidates for phototherapy or systemic therapy.
- **Psoriatic arthritis**, in patients ≥ 6 years of age with active disease.
- **Ulcerative colitis**, in patients ≥ 18 years of age with moderate to severe active disease.

Dosing

A weight-based dose is administered by subcutaneous (SC) injection under the supervision of a physician or by the patient or a caregiver. Here is the approved dosing listed in the prescribing information:

- **Crohn's disease:** Starting 8 weeks after an initial intravenous (IV) dose, the maintenance dose is 90 mg SC injection once every 8 weeks (Q8W).
- **Plaque psoriasis:**
  - Adults weighing ≤ 100 kg: 45 mg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then once every 12 weeks (Q12W) thereafter.
  - Adults weighing > 100 kg: 90 mg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then Q12W thereafter.
  - Pediatric patients ≥ 6 years of age weighing < 60 kg: 0.75 mg/kg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then Q12W thereafter.
  - Pediatric patients ≥ 6 years of age weighing 60 kg to 100 kg: 45 mg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then Q12W thereafter.
  - Pediatric patients ≥ 6 years of age weighing > 100 kg: 90 mg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then Q12W thereafter.
- **Psoriatic arthritis:**
  - Adults weighing > 100 kg with co-existent moderate to severe plaque psoriasis: 90 mg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then every Q12W thereafter.
  - All other adults: 45 mg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then Q12W thereafter.
  - Pediatric patients ≥ 6 years of age weighing < 60 kg: 0.75 mg/kg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then Q12W thereafter.
  - Pediatric patients ≥ 6 years of age weighing 60 kg to 100 kg: 45 mg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then Q12W thereafter.
  - Pediatric patients ≥ 6 years of age weighing > 100 kg with co-existent moderate to severe plaque psoriasis: 90 mg SC at Week 0, Week 4, and then Q12W thereafter.
- **Ulcerative colitis:** Starting 8 weeks after an initial IV dose, the maintenance dose is 90 mg SC Q8W.

Guidelines

Guidelines for the treatment of inflammatory conditions recommend use of Stelara subcutaneous.

- **Crohn's Disease:** The American College of Gastroenterology has guidelines for Crohn's disease (2018).[2] Stelara is a treatment option in patients who have moderate to severe disease despite treatment with another agent (e.g., corticosteroid, thiopurine, methotrexate, or tumor necrosis factor inhibitors [TNFis]).
- **Plaque Psoriasis:** Guidelines (2019) from the American Academy of Dermatology and National Psoriasis Foundation recommend Stelara as a monotherapy treatment option or in combination with other therapies for adults with moderate to severe disease.[3]
- **Psoriatic Arthritis:** Guidelines from the American College of Rheumatology (2018) recommend Stelara after other agents (e.g., TNFis) have been tried.[4] Stelara may be used in patients who have active disease despite treatment with other agents, particularly in those with concomitant inflammatory bowel disease.[4]
- **Ulcerative Colitis:** Guidelines from the American Gastroenterological Association (2020) recommend Stelara for moderate to severe ulcerative colitis.[6] Stelara is not addressed in the 2019 American College of Gastroenterology guidelines for ulcerative colitis.[5] These guidelines note that the following agents can be used for induction of remission in moderately to severely active disease: Uceris® (budesonide extended-release tablets); oral or IV systemic corticosteroids, Entyvio® (vedolizuamb IV infusion), Xeljanz® (tofacitinib tablets, extended-release tablets), or TNFis (adalimumab, Simponi® subcutaneous [golimumab SC injection], infliximab).

POLICY STATEMENT

Due to the information outlined in Article A53022 (Self-Administered Drug Exclusion List: Medical Policy Article) by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, the Stelara subcutaneous formulation is considered a self-administered product and is therefore not eligible for coverage by Medicare if administered in a healthcare setting and billed as a medical claim. Coverage may be obtained through the pharmacy benefit and billed as a Medicare Part D claim. Please note, additional prior authorization criteria may apply.

Automation: None.

RECOMMENDED AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

None.

CONDITIONS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Coverage of Stelara subcutaneous is not recommended in the following situations:

1. When administered in a healthcare setting by a healthcare professional and billed as a medical claim.

REFERENCES

1. Stelara® subcutaneous injection [prescribing information]. Horsham, PA: Janssen Biotech; July 2022.
2. Lichtenstein GR, Loftus EV, Isaacs KL, et al. ACG Clinical Guideline: management of Crohn's disease in adults. *Am J Gastroenterol.* 2018;113(4):481-517.
3. Menter A, Strober BE, Kaplan DH, et al. Joint AAD-NPF guidelines of care for the management and treatment of psoriasis with biologics. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2019;80(4):1029-1072.
4. Singh JA, Guyatt G, Ogdie A, et al. 2018 American College of Rheumatology/National Psoriasis Foundation Guideline for the treatment of psoriatic arthritis. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken).* 2019;71(1):2-29.
5. Rubin DT, Ananthakrishnan AN, Siegel CA, et al. ACG clinical guideline: ulcerative colitis in adults. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2019;114(3):384-413.
6. Feuerstein JD, Isaac s KL, Schneider Y, et al. AGA clinical practice guidelines on the management of moderate to severe ulcerative colitis. *Gastroenterology*. 2020;158:1450-1461.

7. Poddubnyy D, Hermann KG, Callhoff J, et al. Ustekinumab for the treatment of patients with active ankylosing spondylitis: results of a 28-week, prospective, open-label, proof-of-concept study (TOPAS). *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2014;73(5):817-823.
8. Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. (2022, September 30). *Self-Administered Drug Exclusion List: Medical Policy Article A53022*. https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/article.aspx?articleId=53022&DocID=A53022

HISTORY

Type of Revision	Summary of Changes	Review Date
New Policy	UCare created new Medicare only policy based on Medicare article A53022 which excludes self-administered medication from being billed under Medicare Part B as they are a Medicare Part D covered benefit.	12/08/2022