

PHARMACY COVERAGE GUIDELINE

ENTYVIO® (vedolizumab) IV or SQ

This Pharmacy Coverage Guideline (PCG):

- Provides information about the reasons, basis, and information sources we use for coverage decisions
- Is not an opinion that a drug (collectively “Service”) is clinically appropriate or inappropriate for a patient
- Is not a substitute for a provider’s judgment (Provider and patient are responsible for all decisions about appropriateness of care)
- Is subject to all provisions e.g. (benefit coverage, limits, and exclusions) in the member’s benefit plan; and
- Is subject to change as new information becomes available.

Scope

- This PCG applies to Commercial and Marketplace plans
- This PCG does not apply to the Federal Employee Program, Medicare Advantage, Medicaid or members of out-of-state Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Plans

Instructions & Guidance

- To determine whether a member is eligible for the Service, read the entire PCG.
- This PCG is used for FDA approved indications including, but not limited to, a diagnosis and/or treatment with dosing, frequency, and duration.
- Use of a drug outside the FDA approved guidelines, refer to the appropriate Off-Label Use policy.
- The “Criteria” section outlines the factors and information we use to decide if the Service is medically necessary as defined in the Member’s benefit plan.
- The “Description” section describes the Service.
- The “Definition” section defines certain words, terms or items within the policy and may include tables and charts.
- The “Resources” section lists the information and materials we considered in developing this PCG
- **We do not accept patient use of samples as evidence of an initial course of treatment, justification for continuation of therapy, or evidence of adequate trial and failure.**
- Information about medications that require prior authorization is available at www.azblue.com/pharmacy. You must fully complete the [request form](#) and provide chart notes, lab workup and any other supporting documentation. The prescribing provider must sign the form. Fax the form to BCBSAZ Pharmacy Management at (602) 864-3126 or email it to Pharmacyprecert@azblue.com.

Criteria:

- **Criteria for initial therapy:** Entyvio (vedolizumab) is considered **medically necessary** and will be approved when **ALL** the following criteria are met:
1. Prescriber is a physician specializing in the patient’s diagnosis or is in consultation with a Gastroenterologist
 2. Individual is 18 years of age or older
 3. Individual has a confirmed diagnosis of **ONE** of the following:
 - a. Moderately to severely active Crohn’s disease (CD)
 - b. Moderate to severe active ulcerative colitis (UC)
 4. **For Crohn’s disease:** Individual meets **ALL** of the following:

ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/16/2023 | ARCHIVE DATE: | LAST REVIEW DATE: 11/21/2024 | LAST CRITERIA REVISION DATE: 05/15/2025

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- a. Diagnosis of moderate to severe active Crohn disease is confirmed with **ONE** of the following:
 - i. **At least 5** of the following signs and symptoms:
 1. Crampy abdominal pain
 2. Chronic intermittent diarrhea (with or without blood)
 3. Fatigue
 4. Weight loss
 5. Anemia
 6. Perianal disease (e.g., anal fissures, anorectal abscess)
 7. Fistulas
 8. Elevated serum C-reactive protein and/or fecal calprotectin
 9. Extraintestinal manifestations such as arthritis or arthropathy, eye and skin disorders, biliary tract involvement, and kidney stones
 - ii. Crohn's disease activity index > 220
 - b. Individual has documented failure (used for ≥ 3 consecutive months), contraindication or intolerance to the **ONE or more** of the following: [Note: This criterion is waived if the individual already has tried an FDA-approved Crohn's disease biologic]:
 - i. Azathioprine
 - ii. 6-mercaptopurine
 - iii. Methotrexate
 - iv. Oral corticosteroids
 - c. Individual has documented failure (used for ≥ 3 consecutive months), contraindication, intolerance, or is not a candidate for **TWO or more** of the following preferred agents:
 - i. Adalimumab product
 - ii. Cimzia
 - iii. Rinvoq
 - iv. Skyrizi
 - v. Ustekinumab product
 - d. Individual is switching to Entyvio SQ injections after **ONE** of the following:
 - i. Currently established on Entyvio IV infusions
 - ii. Has received two doses of Entyvio IV infusions for induction
5. **For ulcerative colitis:** Individual meets **ALL** of the following:
- a. Diagnosis of moderate to severe ulcerative colitis is confirmed with **ONE** of the following:
 - i. **At least 5** of the following signs and symptoms
 1. Bloody diarrhea
 2. Bowel movements 4-6 or more times per day
 3. Colicky abdominal pain
 4. Urgency
 5. Tenesmus
 6. Fever
 7. Fatigue
 8. Weight loss
 9. Anemia
 10. Elevated serum C-reactive protein or erythrocyte sedimentation rate
 11. Elevated fecal calprotectin
 - ii. American College of Gastroenterology Ulcerative Colitis activity index rating of moderate to severe disease

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- b. Individual has documented failure (used for ≥ 3 consecutive months), contraindication, intolerance, or is not a candidate for the following **ONE or more** of the following [Note: This criterion is waived if the individual already has tried an FDA-approved Ulcerative Colitis biologic]:
 - i. Azathioprine
 - ii. 6-mercaptopurine
 - iii. Oral corticosteroids
 - c. Individual has documented failure (used for ≥ 3 consecutive months), contraindication, intolerance, or is not a candidate for **TWO or more** of the following preferred agents:
 - i. Adalimumab product
 - ii. Rinvoq
 - iii. Simponi
 - iv. Skyrizi
 - v. Tremfya
 - vi. Ustekinumab product
 - vii. Xeljanz or Xeljanz XR
 - d. Individual is switching to Entyvio SQ injections after **ONE** of the following:
 - i. Currently established on Entyvio IV infusions
 - ii. Has received two doses of Entyvio IV infusions for induction
6. Individual has **NONE** of the following:
- a. Active serious infections, including clinically important localized infections or sepsis when initiating or continuing therapy
 - b. Untreated latent or active tuberculosis [Note any treatment for latent infection has been initiated prior to Entyvio (vedolizumab) therapy]
 - c. Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy
 - d. Concurrent use of live vaccines
7. Individual has evidence of up-to-date immunizations according to current immunization guidelines prior to initiation of Entyvio (vedolizumab)
8. Agent will not be used in combination with another biological immunomodulators or other potent immunosuppressants (e.g., adalimumab, Adbry, azathioprine, cyclosporine, Dupixent, infliximab, rituximab, Enbrel, Otezla, Vtama, Sotyktu, Xolair, or JAK inhibitors (Cibinqo, Olumiant, Opzelura, Rinvoq, Rinvoq LQ, Xeljanz IR, XR, solution), etc.)

Initial approval duration: 6 months

- **Criteria for continuation of coverage (renewal request):** Entyvio (vedolizumab) is considered **medically necessary** and will be approved when **ALL** the following criteria are met (**samples are not considered for continuation of therapy**):

1. Individual continues to be seen by a physician specializing in the patient's diagnosis or is in consultation with a Gastroenterologist
2. Individual's condition has responded while on therapy with response defined as the following:
 - a. For Crohn's Disease, **ONE** of the following:
 - i. **AT LEAST** a 20% improvement in signs and symptoms of Crohn's disease

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- ii. Decrease in Crohn's disease activity index of more than 70 from baseline or a Crohn's disease activity index of < 150 (in remission)
- b. For Ulcerative Colitis, **ONE** of the following:
 - i. **AT LEAST** a 20% improvement in signs and symptoms of Ulcerative Colitis
 - ii. American College of Gastroenterology Ulcerative Colitis activity index rating of mild disease or disease in remission
- 3. Individual has been adherent with the medication
- 4. Individual has not developed any contraindications or other significant adverse drug effects that may exclude continued use such as:
 - a. Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML)
 - b. Anaphylaxis or serious infusion-related reaction
 - c. Jaundice or other evidence of liver injury
- 5. Individual has **NONE** of the following:
 - a. Active serious infections, including clinically important localized infections or sepsis when initiating or continuing therapy
 - b. Untreated latent or active tuberculosis [Note any treatment for latent infection has been initiated prior to Entyvio (vedolizumab) therapy]
 - c. Concurrent use of live vaccines
- 6. Agent will not be used in combination with another biological immunomodulators or other potent immunosuppressants (e.g., Cimzia, adalimumab, Infliximab, Omvoh, Rinvoq, rituximab, Simponi, Skyrizi, Stelara, Tysabri, Velsipity, Zeposia, etc.)

Renewal duration: 12 months

- Criteria for a request for non-FDA use or indication, treatment with dosing, frequency, or duration outside the FDA-approved dosing, frequency, and duration, refer to one of the following Pharmacy Coverage Guideline:

1. **Off-Label Use of Non-Cancer Medications**

2. **Off-Label Use of Cancer Medications**

Benefit Type:

Pharmacy Benefit:
ENTYVIO SQ

Medical Benefit:
ENTYVIO IV

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Coding:

HCPCS: J3380

Description:

Entyvio (vedolizumab) is a monoclonal antibody that binds to integrin $\alpha_4\beta_7$ for the treatment of ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. Blocking integrin $\alpha_4\beta_7$ results in gut-selective anti-inflammatory activity.

Measurements of serum concentrations of vedolizumab and antibodies to vedolizumab have been investigated as a method to determine if an individual has developed antibodies to vedolizumab. Prometheus® Laboratories Inc. Anser™ VDZ test is one test that measures serum concentrations of vedolizumab and antibodies to vedolizumab.

Definitions:

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) MedWatch Forms for FDA Safety Reporting
[MedWatch Forms for FDA Safety Reporting | FDA](#)

Crohn's Disease Activity Index:

Sum each factor after adjustment with a weighting factor

| Clinical or laboratory variable | Weighting factor | Factor Sum |
|--|------------------|------------|
| Number of liquid or soft stools each day for seven days | x 2 | |
| Abdominal pain (graded 0 = none, 1 = mild, 2 = moderate, 3 = severe) each day for 7 days | x 5 | |
| General well-being (assessed from 0 = well, 1 = slightly under par, 2 = poor, 3 = very poor, 4 = terrible) each day for 7 days | x 7 | |
| Presence of complications† | x 20 | |
| Taking Lomotil (diphenoxylate/atropine) or opiates for diarrhea (0 = No, 1 = Yes) | x 30 | |
| Presence of an abdominal mass (0 = none, 2 = questionable, 5 = definite) | x 10 | |
| Hematocrit of < 0.47 in men and < 0.42 in women | x 6 | |
| Percentage deviation from standard weight $[1 - (\text{ideal}/\text{observed})] \times 100$ | x 1 | |
| † Complications: one point each is added for each: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the presence of joint pains (arthralgia) or frank arthritis inflammation of the iris or uveitis presence of erythema nodosum, pyoderma gangrenosum, or aphthous ulcers anal fissures, fistulae or abscesses other fistulae fever during the previous week | | |
| Total CDAI | | |

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Remission of CD: CDAI < 150
Moderate CD: CDAI 220-450
Severe CD: CDAI > 450
CD response: decrease in CDAI of > 70

Ulcerative Colitis Activity:

| American College of Gastroenterology Ulcerative Colitis Activity Index | | | | |
|---|-----------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| | Remission | Mild | Moderate-severe | Fulminant |
| Stools (no./d) | Formed | < 4 | > 6 | > 10 |
| Blood in stools | None | Intermittent | Frequent | Continuous |
| Urgency | None | Mild, occasional | Often | Continuous |
| Hemoglobin | Normal | Normal | < 75% of normal | Transfusion needed |
| ESR | < 30 | < 30 | > 30 | > 30 |
| CRP (mg/L) | Normal | Elevated | Elevated | Elevated |
| Fecal calprotectin (mg/g) | < 150-200 | > 150-200 | > 150-200 | > 150-200 |
| Endoscopy (Mayo sub-score) | 0-1 | 1 | 2-3 | 3 |
| UCEIS | 0-1 | 2-4 | 5-8 | 7-8 |
| The above factors are general guides for disease activity. With the exception of remission, a patient does not need to have all the factors to be considered in a specific category. CRP, C-reactive protein; ESR, erythrocyte sedimentation rate; UCEIS, Ulcerative Colitis Endoscopic Index of Severity. | | | | |

| Endoscopic Assessment of Disease Activity | | |
|--|-------------|------------|
| Endoscopic Features | UCEIS Score | Mayo Score |
| Normal | 0 | 0 |
| Erythema, decreased vascular pattern, mild friability | 1-3 | 1 |
| Marked erythema, absent vascular pattern, friability, erosions | 4-6 | 2 |
| Spontaneous bleeding, ulceration | 7-8 | 3 |

Immunomodulator therapies:

- Azathioprine
- 6-mercaptopurine
- Methotrexate

Resources:

Entyvio (vedolizumab). Prescribing information. Takeda Pharmaceuticals America, Inc.; 05/2024, at DailyMed
<https://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/>. Accessed August 23, 2024.

Al Hashash J, Regueiro M. Medical management of moderate to severe Crohn disease. In: UpToDate, Kane SV, Robson, KM (Eds), UpToDate, Waltham, MA.: Available at <http://uptodate.com>. Literature current through Sept 2024. Topic last updated September 09, 2024. Accessed October 03, 2024.

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Peppercorn MA, Kane SV. Clinical manifestations, diagnosis, and prognosis of Crohn disease in adults. In: UpToDate, Al Hashash J, Robson, KM (Eds), UpToDate, Waltham, MA.: Available at <http://uptodate.com>. Literature current through September 2024. Topic last updated September 16, 2024. Accessed October 03, 2024.

Cohen RD, Stein AC. Management of moderate to severe ulcerative colitis in adults. In: UpToDate, Kane SV, Robson, KM (Eds), UpToDate, Waltham, MA.: Available at <http://uptodate.com>. Literature current through September 2024. Topic last updated August 20, 2024. Accessed October 03, 2024.

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Feuerstein JD, Ho EY, Schmidt E, et al. American Gastroenterological Association Institute Clinical Guidelines Committee. AGA clinical practice guidelines on the medical management of moderate to severe luminal and perianal fistulizing Crohn's disease. *Gastroenterology*. 2021;160(7):2496-2508. doi:10.1053/j.gastro.2021.04.022. Re-evaluated October 03, 2024.

Feuerstein JD, Isaacs KL, Schneider Y, et al. AGA Clinical Practice Guidelines on the management of moderate to severe ulcerative colitis. *Gastroenterology*. 2020;148:1450-1461. Re-evaluated October 03, 2024.

Lichtenstein GR, Loftus EV, Isaacs KL, et al. ACG guideline: management of Crohn's disease in adults. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2018;113(4):481-517. Re-evaluated October 03, 2024.