



Division: Pharmacy Policy	Subject: Prior Authorization Criteria
Original Development Date: Original Effective Date: Revision Date:	May 8, 2018

FASENRA™ (benralizumab)

LENGTH OF AUTHORIZATION: Initial: SIX MONTHS Continuation: ONE YEAR

CLINICAL NOTES: Fasenra™ is an interleukin-5 receptor alpha-directed cytolytic monoclonal antibody (IgG1, kappa) indicated for the add-on maintenance treatment of patients with severe asthma aged 12 years and older, and with an eosinophilic phenotype.

REVIEW CRITERIA:

INITIAL REVIEW:

- Patient is 12 years of age or older.
- Prescribed or in consultation with an allergist, pulmonologist, or immunologist.
- Verified diagnosis of severe persistent asthma; must be an eosinophilic phenotype.
- Must have a blood eosinophil count of ≥ 150 cells/mcL within the past six weeks while on oral corticosteroid or ≥ 300 cells/mcL within the past year (submit documentation).
- Must have adherence to optimized medication therapy regimen, yet uncontrolled:
 - Hospitalization for asthma within the past year; OR
 - Two occurrences in the past year requiring systemic corticosteroids (oral or parenteral) to control exacerbations of asthma; OR
 - Daily use of corticosteroids with inability to taper off the medication.
- Trial of high dose inhaled corticosteroids and one of the following:
 - Inhaled long acting beta 2-agonist
 - theophylline
 - leukotriene receptor antagonist

CONTINUATION OF THERAPY:

- Patient has met initial review requirements
- Improvement of asthma while on current regimen including Fasenra™ through:
 - A reduction in the frequency or severity of symptoms or exacerbations; OR
 - A reduction in the daily maintenance oral corticosteroid dose; OR
 - A reduction in the number of rescued medications; OR
 - A reduction in the number of hospitalizations or emergency room visits.

DOSING:

The recommended dosage of Fasenra™ is 30mg administered subcutaneously once every 4 weeks into the upper arm, abdomen or thigh for the first three doses, followed by once every 8 weeks thereafter. It is administered by a healthcare provider.