

09-J0000-44

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Subject: Omalizumab (Xolair[®])

THIS MEDICAL COVERAGE GUIDELINE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION, CERTIFICATION, EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS, OR A GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT, NOR DOES IT SUBSTITUTE FOR OR CONSTITUTE MEDICAL ADVICE. ALL MEDICAL DECISIONS ARE SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PATIENT AND PHYSICIAN. BENEFITS ARE DETERMINED BY THE GROUP CONTRACT, MEMBER BENEFIT BOOKLET, AND/OR INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIBER CERTIFICATE IN EFFECT AT THE TIME SERVICES WERE RENDERED. THIS MEDICAL COVERAGE GUIDELINE APPLIES TO ALL LINES OF BUSINESS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN THE PROGRAM EXCEPTIONS SECTION.

Dosage/ Administration	Position Statement	Billing/Coding	Reimbursement	Program Exceptions	Definitions
Related Guidelines	Other	References	Updates		

DESCRIPTION:

Xolair[®] (Omalizumab) is a recombinant DNA-derived humanized IgG1k murine monoclonal antibody that selectively binds to human IgE. Omalizumab inhibits the binding of IgE to the high-affinity IgE receptor on the surface of mast cells and basophils, which limits the degree of release of mediators of the allergic response.

Omalizumab is a treatment option limited to patients with elevated serum levels of IgE. Its current indication is for patients with severe allergic asthma who are uncontrolled on inhaled glucocorticosteroids (ICS), although the dose of concurrent treatment has varied in different studies. Improved asthma control is reflected by fewer symptoms, less need for reliever medications and fewer exacerbations. Additionally, omalizumab is indicated for treatment of chronic idiopathic urticarial who remain symptomatic despite H1 antihistamine treatment.

A 2012 Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention Report recommends consideration of a trial of omalizumab for allergic patients with an elevated IgE not controlled on high dose inhaled glucocorticosteroids and a long acting B₂ -agonist and who continue to have exacerbations.

Recommendations included in a 2014 practice parameter from the Joint Task Force on Practice Parameters (JTFPP) for the diagnosis and management of acute and chronic urticaria provides a step-based approach to the treatment of chronic urticaria. Omalizumab is included in the Step 4 care approach when chronic urticaria has been refractory to treatment with potent antihistamines and leukotriene receptor antagonists.

POSITION STATEMENT:

Site of Care: If omalizumab (Xolair) is administered in a hospital-affiliated outpatient setting, additional requirements may apply depending on the member's benefit. Refer to [09-J3000-46: Site of Care Policy for Select Specialty Medications](#).

Initiation of omalizumab (Xolair) **meets the definition of medical necessity** for members diagnosed with either of the following conditions when **ALL** associated criteria are met:

1. Moderate to severe persistent asthma
 - a. Member has a positive skin test or in vitro reactivity to a perennial aeroallergen – laboratory documentation must be provided
 - b. Member's baseline pretreatment serum total IgE is between 30 IU/mL and 1500 IU/mL – laboratory documentation must be provided
 - c. Member's symptoms remain uncontrolled or inadequately controlled despite three months of treatment with at least **ONE** of the following:
 - i. Combination medium- or high-dose inhaled corticosteroids (Tables 5-7) **AND** long-acting beta agonist (e.g., formoterol fumarate (Foradil), salmeterol xinafoate (Serevent))
 - ii. Combination medium- or high-dose inhaled corticosteroids (Tables 5-7) **AND** leukotriene modifier (e.g., montelukast, zafirlukast)
 - iii. Combination medium- or high-dose inhaled corticosteroids (Tables 5-7) **AND** theophylline
 - iv. Combination inhaled corticosteroid/long-acting beta 2 agonist (e.g., fluticasone propionate/salmeterol (Advair), mometasone/formoterol (Dulera), budesonide/formoterol (Symbicort))
 - d. Omalizumab is prescribed by a board certified (or board eligible) allergist, immunologist, or pulmonologist
 - e. Omalizumab is not used in combination with benralizumab (Fasenra), dupilumab (Dupixent), mepolizumab (Nucala), or reslizumab (Cinqair)
 - f. Dose does not exceed FDA-approved dose and frequency:
 - i. 12 years of age and older: See [Tables 1 and 2](#)
 - ii. Less than 12 years of age: See [Table 3](#)
 - g. Omalizumab quantity does not exceed the following dose and frequency based limits per 28 days based on weight and baseline IgE level (See [Tables 1, 2, and 3](#)):
 - i. 75 mg every four weeks: one 75 mg syringe
 - ii. 150 mg every four weeks: one 150 mg syringe **OR** one 150 mg vial
 - iii. 225 mg every two weeks: two 75 mg syringes plus two 150 mg syringes
 - iv. 225 mg every four weeks: one 75 mg syringe plus one 150 mg syringe
 - v. 300 mg every two weeks: four 150 mg syringes **OR** four 150 mg vials
 - vi. 300 mg every four weeks: two 150 mg syringes **OR** two 150 mg vials
 - vii. 375 mg every two weeks: two 75 mg syringes plus four 150 mg syringes
 - h. Member is 6 years of age or older
2. Chronic idiopathic urticaria

- a. Member's symptoms remained uncontrolled or inadequately controlled despite four weeks of treatment with a second-generation antihistamine (e.g., cetirizine, fexofenadine, desloratadine) used in combination with an H2-antihistamine (e.g., ranitidine, famotidine) and a leukotriene modifier (e.g., montelukast, zafirlukast)
 - b. Omalizumab is prescribed by a board certified (or board eligible) allergist, dermatologist, or immunologist
 - c. Omalizumab is not used in combination with benralizumab (Fasenra), dupilumab (Dupixent), mepolizumab (Nucala), or reslizumab (Cinqair)
 - d. Omalizumab quantity does not exceed the following dose and frequency based limits per 28 days:
 - i. 150 mg every four weeks: one 150 mg syringe **OR** one 150 mg vial
 - ii. 300 mg every four weeks: two 150 mg syringes **OR** two 150 mg vials
 - e. Member is 12 years of age or older
3. Nasal Polyps
- a. Member's baseline pretreatment serum total IgE is between 30 IU/mL and 1500 IU/mL – laboratory documentation must be provided
 - b. Member has moderate to severe symptoms of nasal obstruction **AND** either rhinorrhea or decreased sense of smell for 12 weeks or more
 - c. Member has bilateral nasal polyps reaching below the lower border of the middle turbinate or beyond in each nostril that has been confirmed by anterior rhinoscopy, nasal endoscopy, or sinus CT scan – documentation of the imagining study must be provided
 - d. At least one of the following are met:
 - i. The member has had prior sinus surgery to remove polyps
 - ii. The member has had an inadequate response to at least 8 weeks of continuous treatment with an intranasal corticosteroid in the past 2 years
 - iii. **BOTH** of the following:
 - The member has had intolerable adverse effects, or has an FDA labeled contraindication to treatment with an intranasal corticosteroid – the specific contraindication or adverse effect(s) must be provided
 - Member is not a candidate for sinus surgery to remove polyps reason(s) for non-candidacy must be provided
 - e. The member will be using a daily intranasal corticosteroid during treatment with omalizumab, unless they have an FDA-labeled contraindication or prior intolerable adverse effects - the specific contraindication or adverse effect(s) must be provided
 - f. Omalizumab is prescribed by a board certified (or board eligible) allergist, immunologist, or otolaryngologist (ear, nose, and throat specialist)
 - g. Omalizumab is not used in combination with benralizumab (Fasenra), dupilumab (Dupixent), mepolizumab (Nucala), or reslizumab (Cinqair)
 - h. Dose does not exceed FDA-approved dose and frequency (See Table 4)
 - i. Omalizumab quantity does not exceed the following dose and frequency based limits per 28 days based on weight and baseline IgE level (See Table 4):
 - i. 75 mg every four weeks: one 75 mg syringe
 - ii. 150 mg every four weeks: one 150 mg syringe **OR** one 150 mg vial

- iii. 225 mg every two weeks: two 75 mg syringes plus two 150 mg syringes
 - iv. 225 mg every four weeks: one 75 mg syringe plus one 150 mg syringe
 - v. 300 mg every two weeks: four 150 mg syringes **OR** four 150 mg vials
 - vi. 300 mg every four weeks: two 150 mg syringes **OR** two 150 mg vials
 - vii. 375 mg every two weeks: two 75 mg syringes plus four 150 mg syringes
 - viii. 450 mg every four weeks: three 150 mg syringes **OR** three 150 mg vials
 - ix. 600 mg every four weeks: four 150 mg syringes **OR** four 150 mg vials
 - x. 450 mg every two weeks: six 150 mg syringes **OR** six 150 mg vials
 - xi. 525 mg every two weeks: eight 150 mg syringes **OR** eight 150 mg vials
 - xii. 600 mg every two weeks: eight 150 mg syringes **OR** eight 150 mg vials
- j. Member is 18 years of age or older

Approval duration: 180 days

Continuation of omalizumab (Xolair) meets the definition of **medical necessity** for members diagnosed with either of the following conditions when **ALL** associated criteria are met:

1. Moderate to severe persistent asthma
 - a. Authorization/reauthorization has been previously approved by Florida Blue or another health plan in the past two years, **OR** the member has previously met all indication-specific initiation criteria
 - b. Member has a history of beneficial clinical response to omalizumab as evidenced by one or more of the following:
 - i. Decreased frequency of exacerbations (defined as worsening of asthma that requires an increase in inhaled corticosteroid dose or treatment with systemic corticosteroids)
 - ii. Increase in predicted FEV1 or peak flow from pretreatment baseline
 - iii. Reduction in reported asthma-related symptoms, such as, asthmatic symptoms upon awakening, coughing, fatigue, shortness of breath, sleep disturbance, or wheezing
 - c. Omalizumab is prescribed by or in consultation with a board certified (or board eligible) allergist, immunologist, or pulmonologist
 - d. Omalizumab is not used in combination with benralizumab (Fasenra), dupilumab (Dupixent), mepolizumab (Nucala), or reslizumab (Cinqair)
 - e. Dose does not exceed FDA-approved dose and frequency:
 - i. 12 years of age and older: See Tables 1 and 2
 - ii. Less than 12 years of age: See Table 3
 - e. Omalizumab quantity does not exceed the following dose and frequency based limits per 28 days based on weight and baseline IgE level (See Tables 1, 2, and 3):
 - i. 75 mg every four weeks: one 75 mg syringe
 - ii. 150 mg every four weeks: one 150 mg syringe **OR** one 150 mg vial
 - iii. 225 mg every two weeks: two 75 mg syringes plus two 150 mg syringes

- iv. 225 mg every four weeks: one 75 mg syringe plus one 150 mg syringe
- v. 300 mg every two weeks: four 150 mg syringes **OR** four 150 mg vials
- vi. 300 mg every four weeks: two 150 mg syringes **OR** two 150 mg vials
- vii. 375 mg every two weeks: two 75 mg syringes plus four 150 mg syringes

2. Chronic idiopathic urticaria

- a. Authorization/reauthorization has been previously approved by Florida Blue or another health plan in the past two years, **OR** the member has previously met all indication-specific initiation criteria
- b. Omalizumab is prescribed by or in consultation with a board certified (or board eligible) allergist, dermatologist, or immunologist
- c. Omalizumab is not used in combination with benralizumab (Fasenra), mepolizumab (Nucala), or reslizumab (Cinqair)
- d. Omalizumab quantity does not exceed the following dose and frequency based limits per 28 days:
 - i. 150 mg every four weeks: one 150 mg syringe **OR** one 150 mg vial
 - ii. 300 mg every four weeks: two 150 mg syringes **OR** two 150 mg vials

3. Nasal Polyps

- a. Authorization/reauthorization has been previously approved by Florida Blue or another health plan in the past two years, **OR** the member has previously met all indication-specific initiation criteria
- b. Member has a history of beneficial clinical response to omalizumab as evidenced by a reduction in disease severity (e.g., reduction in nasal congestion, nasal polyp size, anterior or posterior rhinorrhea, sinonasal inflammation, facial pressure/pain; improved sense of smell; or reduction in corticosteroid use) – documentation from the medical record must be provided
- c. Omalizumab is prescribed by or in consultation with a board certified (or board eligible) allergist, immunologist, or otolaryngologist (ear, nose, and throat specialist)
- d. Omalizumab is not used in combination with benralizumab (Fasenra), dupilumab (Dupixent), mepolizumab (Nucala), or reslizumab (Cinqair)
- e. Dose does not exceed FDA-approved dose and frequency (See Table 4)
- f. Omalizumab quantity does not exceed the following dose and frequency based limits per 28 days based on weight and baseline IgE level (See Table 4):
 - i. 75 mg every four weeks: one 75 mg syringe
 - ii. 150 mg every four weeks: one 150 mg syringe **OR** one 150 mg vial
 - iii. 225 mg every two weeks: two 75 mg syringes plus two 150 mg syringes
 - iv. 225 mg every four weeks: one 75 mg syringe plus one 150 mg syringe
 - v. 300 mg every two weeks: four 150 mg syringes **OR** four 150 mg vials
 - vi. 300 mg every four weeks: two 150 mg syringes **OR** two 150 mg vials
 - vii. 375 mg every two weeks: two 75 mg syringes plus four 150 mg syringes
 - viii. 450 mg every four weeks: three 150 mg syringes **OR** three 150 mg vials
 - ix. 600 mg every four weeks: four 150 mg syringes **OR** four 150 mg vials
 - x. 450 mg every two weeks: six 150 mg syringes **OR** six 150 mg vials

- xi. 525 mg every two weeks: eight 150 mg syringes **OR** eight 150 mg vials
- xii. 600 mg every two weeks: eight 150 mg syringes **OR** eight 150 mg vials
- g. Member is 18 years of age or older

Approval duration: 1 year

The safety and efficacy of Xolair® in other allergic conditions and non-allergic asthma has not been established and therefore is considered **experimental or investigational** when administered for all other indications as there is insufficient clinical evidence to support its use, and specifically for the following:

1. Treatment of Mild Persistent or Mild Intermittent Asthma (see under [DEFINITIONS](#)).
2. Treatment of non-allergic asthma, allergic rhinitis, seasonal allergies, food allergies, other allergic conditions without asthma or initial first line treatment of allergic asthma.

DOSAGE/ADMINISTRATION:

THIS INFORMATION IS PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE USED AS A SOURCE FOR MAKING PRESCRIBING OR OTHER MEDICAL DETERMINATIONS. PROVIDERS SHOULD REFER TO THE MANUFACTURER’S FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION FOR DOSAGE GUIDELINES AND OTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO THIS MEDICATION BEFORE MAKING ANY CLINICAL DECISIONS REGARDING ITS USAGE.

FDA-approved

Allergic Asthma:

150 to 375 mg SC every 2 or 4 weeks; do not inject more than 150 mg per injection site
See Tables 1, 2, and 3 for appropriate dose assignment

Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria:

150 or 300 mg SC every 4 weeks
Dosing is not dependent on serum IgE level or body weight

Nasal Polyps:

75 to 600 mg SC every 2 or 4 weeks based on serum total IgE level measured before the start of treatment and by body weight
Dosing is not dependent on serum IgE level or body weight

Table 1

ADMINISTRATION EVERY 4 WEEKS				
Adults and Adolescents (12 Years of Age and Older) with Asthma				
Pre-treatment Serum IgE (IU/mL)	Body Weight			
	30-60 kg	> 60-70 kg	> 70-90 kg	> 90-150 kg
≥30-100	150 mg	150 mg	150 mg	300 mg
> 100-200	300 mg	300 mg	300 mg	
> 200-300	300 mg			
> 300			SEE TABLE 2	

Table 2

ADMINISTRATION EVERY 2 WEEKS				
Adults and Adolescents (12 Years of Age and Older) with Asthma				
Pre-treatment Serum IgE (IU/mL)	Body Weight			
	30-60 kg	> 60-70 kg	> 70-90 kg	> 90-150 kg
≥30-100	SEE TABLE 1			
> 100-200				
> 200-300	225 mg	225 mg	300 mg	
> 300-400	225 mg	225 mg	300 mg	
> 400-500	300 mg	300 mg	375 mg	
> 500-600	300 mg	375 mg		
> 600	375 mg	SEE NOTE BELOW*		

* **NOTE:** Per FDA label, there is insufficient data to recommend a dose.
Dose is not to exceed FDA labeled maximum dose and frequency

Table 3

Pediatric Patients (6 to < 12 Years of Age) with Asthma											
Pre-treatment Serum IgE (IU/mL)	Dosing Freq.	Body Weight									
		20-25 kg	>25-30 kg	>30-40 kg	>40-50 kg	>50-60 kg	>60-70 kg	>70-80 kg	>80-90 kg	>90-125 kg	>125-150 kg
Dose (mg)											
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	225	225	225	300	375
>300-400		225	225	300	225	225	225	300	300		
>400-500		225	300	225	225	300	300	375	375		
>500-600		300	300	225	300	300	375				
>600-700		300	225	225	300	375					
>700-800	Every 2 weeks	225	225	300	375						
>800-900		225	225	300	375						
>900-1000		225	300	375							
>1000-1100		225	300	375							
>1100-1200		300	300								
>1200-1300		300	375								

Insufficient Data to Recommend a Dose

Table 4

Adult Patients with Nasal Polyps									
Pre-treatment Serum IgE (IU/mL)	Dosing Freq.	Body Weight							
		>30-40 kg	>40-50 kg	>50-60 kg	>60-70 kg	>70-80 kg	>80-90 kg	>90-125 kg	>125-150 kg
Dose (mg)									
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	300	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				

Insufficient Data to

>1000-1100		375	450	600	Recommend a Dose
>1100-1200		450	525	600	
>1200-1300		450	525		
>1300-1500		525	600		

Dosing Adjustments

NOTE: Dosing in CIU is not dependent on IgE levels or body weight; the following information only applies to dosing in allergic asthma.

Total IgE levels are elevated during treatment and remain elevated for up to one year after the discontinuation of treatment. Therefore, re-testing of IgE levels during Xolair® treatment cannot be used as a guide for dose determination. Dose determination after treatment interruptions lasting less than 1 year should be based on serum IgE levels obtained at the initial dose determination. Total serum IgE levels may be re-tested for dose determination if treatment with Xolair® has been interrupted for one year or more.

Doses should be adjusted for significant changes in body weight.

Drug Availability

- Injection: 75 mg/0.5 mL and 150 mg/mL solution in a single-dose prefilled syringe
- Injection: 150 mg lyophilized powder in a single-dose vial for reconstitution

PRECAUTIONS:

Boxed Warning

- Anaphylaxis, presenting as bronchospasm, hypotension, syncope, urticaria, and/or angioedema of the throat or tongue, has been reported to occur after administration
- Anaphylaxis has occurred after the first dose but also has occurred beyond 1 year after beginning treatment.

Contraindications

- Severe hypersensitivity reaction

Precautions/Warnings

- Anaphylaxis: Administer only in a healthcare setting prepared to manage anaphylaxis that can be life-threatening and observe patients for an appropriate period of time after administration
- Malignancy: Malignancies have been observed in clinical studies
- Acute Asthma Symptoms: Do not use for the treatment of acute bronchospasm or status asthmaticus
- Corticosteroid Reductions: Do not abruptly discontinue corticosteroids upon initiation
- Fever, Arthralgia, and Rash: Stop if patients develop signs and symptoms similar to serum sickness
- Eosinophilic Conditions: Be alert to eosinophilia, vasculitic rash, worsening pulmonary symptoms, cardiac complications, and/or neuropathy, especially upon reduction of oral corticosteroids

BILLING/CODING INFORMATION:

HCPCS Coding:

J2357	injection, omalizumab, 5 mg
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ICD-10 Diagnosis Codes That Support Medical Necessity:

J33.0-J33.9	Nasal polyp
J45.40	Moderate persistent asthma, uncomplicated
J45.41	Moderate persistent asthma with (acute) exacerbation
J45.42	Moderate persistent asthma with status asthmaticus
J45.50	Severe persistent asthma, uncomplicated
J45.51	Severe persistent asthma with (acute) exacerbation
J45.52	Severe persistent asthma with status asthmaticus
J82.83	Eosinophilic asthma
L50.1	Idiopathic urticaria

REIMBURSEMENT INFORMATION:

Refer to section entitled [POSITION STATEMENT](#).

PROGRAM EXCEPTIONS:

Federal Employee Program (FEP): Follow FEP guidelines.

State Account Organization (SAO): Follow SAO guidelines.

Medicare Part D: Florida Blue has delegated to Prime Therapeutics authority to make coverage determinations for the Medicare Part D services referenced in this guideline.

Medicare Advantage Products:

No National Coverage Determination (NCD) WAS found at the time of the last guideline revised date. The following Local Coverage Determination (LCD) was reviewed on the last guideline revised date: Omalizumab (Xolair), (L33924) located at fcso.com. The Site of Care Policy for Select Specialty Medications does not apply to Medicare Advantage members.

DEFINITIONS:

FEV1: Forced expiratory volume in 1 second.

FVC: Forced vital capacity.

PEF: Peak expiratory flow.

Mild Intermittent Asthma:

Symptoms < or = to 2 times a week

Asymptomatic and normal PEF between exacerbations

Exacerbations brief (from a few hours to a few days); intensity may vary

Nighttime symptoms < or = to 2 times a month
FEV1 or PEF > or = to 80% predicted
PEF variability < 20%.

Mild Persistent Asthma:

Symptoms > 2 times a week but < 1 time a day
Exacerbations may affect activity
Nighttime symptoms > 2 times a month
FEV1 or PEF > or = to 80% predicted
PEF variability 20 to 30 %.

Moderate Persistent Asthma:

Daily symptoms
Nighttime symptoms > one time a week
Daily use of inhaled short-acting beta2-agonist
Exacerbations may affect activity
Exacerbations > or = to 2 times a week; may last days
FEV1 or PEF > 60% but less than 80% predicted
PEF variability > 30%.

Severe Persistent Asthma:

Continual symptoms (i.e., coughing, dyspnea, wheezing)
Limited physical activity
Frequent exacerbations
Frequent nighttime symptoms
FEV1 or PEF < or = 60% predicted
PEF variability > 30%.

RELATED GUIDELINES:

[Mepolizumab \(Nucala\), 09-J2000-54](#)

[Benralizumab \(Fasenra\), 09-J2000-92](#)

[Reslizumab \(Cinqair®\) IV infusion, 09-J2000-63](#)

OTHER:

Table 5 - Low, medium and high ICS doses: adults/adolescents
(GINA 2020, Box 3-6A)

Inhaled Corticosteroid	Total daily ICS dose (mcg)
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	Low	Medium	High
Beclomethasone dipropionate (pMDI, standard particle, HFA)	200-500	>500-1000	>1000
Beclomethasone dipropionate (pMDI, extrafine particle, HFA)	100-200	>200-400	>400
Budesonide (DPI)	200-400	>400-800	>800
Ciclesonide (pMDI, extrafine particle, HFA)	80-160	>160-320	>320
Fluticasone furoate (DPI)	100	100	200
Fluticasone propionate (DPI)	100-250	>250-500	>500
Fluticasone propionate (pMDI, standard particle, HFA)	100-250	>250-500	>500
Mometasone furoate (DPI)	200	200	400
Mometasone furoate (pMDI, standard particle, HFA)	200-400	200-400	>400
DPI: dry powder inhaler; HFA: hydrofluoroalkane propellant; pMDI: pressurized metered dose inhaler (non-CFC)			

Table 6 - Low, medium and high ICS doses: children 6-11 years (GINA 2020, Box 3-6B)

Inhaled Corticosteroid	Total daily ICS dose (mcg)		
	Low	Medium	High
Beclomethasone dipropionate (pMDI, standard particle, HFA)	100-200	>200-400	>400
Beclomethasone dipropionate (pMDI, extrafine particle, HFA)	50-100	>100-200	>200
Budesonide (DPI)	100-200	>200-400	>400
Budesonide (nebules)	250-500	>500-1000	>1000
Ciclesonide (pMDI, extrafine particle, HFA)	80	>80-160	>160
Fluticasone furoate (DPI)	50	50	N/A
Fluticasone propionate (DPI)	50-100	>100-200	>200
Fluticasone propionate (pMDI, standard particle, HFA)	50-100	>100-200	>200
Mometasone furoate (pMDI, standard particle, HFA)	100	100	200
DPI: dry powder inhaler; HFA: hydrofluoroalkane propellant; pMDI: pressurized metered dose inhaler (non-CFC)			

Table 7 - Low, medium and high ICS doses: children 5 years and younger (GINA 2020, Box 3-6B)

Inhaled Corticosteroid	Total daily ICS dose (mcg)		
	Low	Medium	High
Beclomethasone dipropionate (pMDI, standard particle, HFA)	100-200	>200-400	>400
Beclomethasone dipropionate (pMDI, extrafine particle, HFA)	50-100	>100-200	>200
Budesonide (nebules)	250-500	>500-1000	>1000
Ciclesonide (pMDI, extrafine particle, HFA)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fluticasone furoate (DPI)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fluticasone propionate (pMDI, standard particle, HFA)	100-200	>200-500	>500
Mometasone furoate (pMDI, standard particle, HFA)	100	100	200
DPI: dry powder inhaler; HFA: hydrofluoroalkane propellant; pMDI: pressurized metered dose inhaler (non-CFC)			

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COMMITTEE APPROVAL:

This Medical Coverage Guideline (MCG) was approved by the Florida Blue Pharmacy Policy Committee on 01/12/22.

GUIDELINE UPDATE INFORMATION:

12/15/04	New Medical Coverage Guideline.
01/01/05	Annual HCPCS code update, consisting of J2357 and C9217. Deleted miscellaneous code J3490.
01/01/06	CPT code update deleted expired code 90782, added new code 90772.
02/15/06	Reviewed. Update description, deleted precautions, deleted expired HCPCS code C9217. Deleted ICD-9 codes: 975.7, 493.82, 493.8, 493.12, 493.1, 493.11, 493.2, 493.21, 493.22, 493.9, 493.91, 493.92. Updated references and related links. Corrected FEV1 and PEF values for moderate to severe asthma definition in when services are covered as per the Heart, Lung and Blood Institute guidance.
01/01/07	MCG revised to include Medicare Part D as a program exception.
02/15/07	Reviewed. Reformatted, edited and updated websites and references.
06/15/07	Reformatted guideline; updated references.
12/15/07	Review and revision to guideline; consisting of maintaining current coverage and limitations, adding black box warning under "Dosage/Administration" section, updating references.
03/15/08	Revision to guideline; consisting of adding "moderate to high dose inhaled corticosteroid" to criteria under POSITION STATEMENT, added note regarding combination therapy trial, added tables comparing inhaled corticosteroid dosages, removed several ICD-9 codes and updated references.
01/01/09	Annual HCPCS coding update: deleted code 90772; added code 96372.
03/15/09	Review and revision; consisting of reformatting and updating references.
03/15/10	Review and revision; consisting of updating the position statement to include requirement of demonstration of asthma symptom persistence despite inhaled corticosteroids AND combination therapy with long acting beta agonists or leukotriene inhibitors and added a baseline pretreatment IgE requirement. Added additional warnings.
02/15/11	Review and revision to guideline; consisting of added additional brand drug name examples of long acting Beta 2 agonist products to the position statement. Added seasonal and food allergies to the experimental or investigational use statement. Removed extrinsic asthma status asthmaticus and acute exacerbation from the ICD-9 codes. Added ICD-10 code for allergic asthma.
02/15/12	Review and revision to guideline; consisting of adding dosage max and chronic urticarial to the exclusion list.
02/15/13	Review and revision to guideline; consisting of adding requirements for initiation of therapy and continuation of therapy.
11/15/13	Revision to guideline; consisting of reformatting position statement, adding approval duration, and updating program exceptions.
02/15/14	Review and revision to guideline; consisting of reformatting and revising position statement, dosing/administration, precautions/warning and references.
06/15/14	Revision to guideline; consisting of position statement, dosing/administration, billing/coding, references.
10/01/15	Revision consisting of update to Program Exceptions section.
11/01/15	Revision: ICD-9 codes deleted.
01/15/16	Revision: ICD10 codes updated.
03/15/16	Review and revision; consisting of position statement, description, references.
06/15/16	Revision to guideline; consisting of position statement.
07/15/16	Revision to guideline; consisting of position statement.

10/15/16	Revision to guideline; consisting of position statement and dosing.
02/15/17	Review and revision to guideline; consisting of updating references.
02/15/18	Revision to guideline; consisting of position statement, references.
02/15/19	Review and revision to guideline; consisting of updating references.
09/15/19	Revision to guidelines; consisting of updating dosing in Position Statement and Dosage/Administration based on FDA label
11/11/19	Revision to guideline consisting of adding a reference to the Site of Care Policy for Select Specialty Medications and updating the Program Exceptions.
02/15/20	Review and revision to guideline; consisting of updating references.
02/15/21	Review and revision to guideline; consisting of updating position statement, dosing, references.
11/15/21	Review and revision; consisting of position statement.
02/15/22	Review and revision; consisting of references.