

Policy Title:	Cinqair (reslizumab) (Intravenous)		
		Department:	PHAPHA
Effective Date:	01/01/2020		
Review Date:	12/18/2019, 1/29/2020, 4/29/2021, 01/27/2022, 01/05/2023, 2/16/2023		
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Purpose: To support safe, effective and appropriate use of Cinqair (reslizumab).

Scope: Medicaid, Commercial, Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP)

Policy Statement:

Cinqair (reslizumab) is covered under the Medical Benefit when used within the following guidelines. Use outside of these guidelines may result in non-payment unless approved under an exception process.

Procedure:

Coverage of Cinqair (reslizumab) will be reviewed prospectively via the prior authorization process based on criteria below.

Initial Criteria:

- Member is 18 years of age or older; AND
- Cinqair is prescribed by, or in consultation with, a pulmonologist or allergist/immunologist; AND
- Member has documentation of severe asthma (see Appendix); AND
- Member has asthma with an eosinophilic phenotype with documentation of blood eosinophil count of at least 400 cells per microliter within 4 weeks of starting therapy; AND
- Member is adherent to current treatment with both of the following medications at optimized doses for at least 3 months:
 - Inhaled corticosteroid; AND
 - Additional controller medication (long-acting beta₂-agonist, long-acting muscarinic antagonists, leukotriene modifier), unless contraindicated or not tolerated
 AND
- Member has inadequate asthma control with two or more exacerbations in the previous year requiring additional medical treatment (e.g., oral corticosteroids, emergency department or urgent care visits, or hospitalizations); AND
- Member will use Cinqair as add-on maintenance treatment; AND
- For MMP members only they have had a failure, intolerance or contraindication to all of the following: Nucala, and Xolair; AND
- For Commercial and Medicaid members only they must have a had a failure, intolerance or contraindication to all of the following: Nucala, Fasenra, and Xolair; AND

- Member will not use Cinqair concomitantly with other biologics (e.g., Dupixent, Fasenra, Nucala, Xolair); AND
- Baseline measurement of at least one of the following for assessment of clinical status:
 - Use of systemic corticosteroids
 - Use of inhaled corticosteroids
 - Number of hospitalizations, ER visits, or unscheduled visits to healthcare provider due to asthma condition
 - Forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV1); AND
 - Will not be used for treatment of eosinophilic conditions (e.g., allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis/mycosis, Churg-Strauss syndrome, hypereosinophilic syndrome, etc.) or relief of acute bronchospasm, or status asthmaticus

MMP members who have previously received this medication within the past 365 days are not subject to Step Therapy Requirements.

Continuation of Therapy Criteria:

- Member is 18 years of age or older; AND
- Cinqair is prescribed by, or in consultation with, a pulmonologist or allergist/immunologist; AND
- Member is tolerating treatment; AND
- Absence of unacceptable toxicity from the drug. Examples of unacceptable toxicity include: malignancy, parasitic (helminth) infection, and anaphylaxis (e.g., dyspnea, decreased oxygen saturation, wheezing, vomiting, skin and mucosal involvement, urticaria), etc.; **AND**
- Treatment has resulted in clinical benefit:
 - Documentation that asthma control has improved/stabilized on Cinqair treatment from baseline as demonstrated by a decrease in one of the following:
 - Use of systemic corticosteroids
 - Two-fold or greater decrease in inhaled corticosteroid use for at least 3 days
 - Hospitalizations
 - ER visits
 - Unscheduled visits to healthcare provider; OR
 - Improvement from baseline in forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV1)
- Member will use Cinqair as add-on maintenance treatment; AND
- Member will not use Cinqair concomitantly with other biologics (e.g., Dupixent, Fasenra, Nucala, Xolair)

Coverage durations:

- Initial coverage: 6 months
- Continuation of therapy coverage: 12 months

*** Requests will also be reviewed to National Coverage Determination (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) if applicable.***

Dosage/Administration:

Indication	Dose	Maximum dose (1 billable unit = 1 mg)
Severe Asthma with an eosinophilic phenotype	3 mg/kg via intravenous infusion every 4 weeks	345 billable units every 4 weeks

Appendix:

Components of Severity for Classifying Asthma as Severe may include any of the following (not all inclusive):

- Symptoms throughout the day
- Nighttime awakenings, often 7x/week
- Short-acting beta agonist (SABA) use for symptom control occurs several times per day
- Extremely limited normal activities
- Lung function (percent predicted FEV1) <60%
- Exacerbations requiring oral systemic corticosteroids are generally more frequent and intense relative to moderate asthma

Investigational use: All therapies are considered investigational when used at a dose or for a condition other than those that are recognized as medically accepted indications as defined in any one of the following standard reference compendia: American Hospital Formulary Service Drug information (AHFS-DI), Thomson Micromedex DrugDex, Clinical Pharmacology, Wolters Kluwer Lexi-Drugs, or Peer-reviewed published medical literature indicating that sufficient evidence exists to support use. Neighborhood does not provide coverage for drugs when used for investigational purposes.

Applicable Codes:

Below is a list of billing codes applicable for covered treatment options. The below tables are provided for reference purposes and may not be all-inclusive. Requests received with codes from

tables below do not guarantee coverage. Requests must meet all criteria provided in the procedure section.

The following HCPCS/CPT codes are:

HCPCS/CPT Code	Description
J2786	Injection, reslizumab, 1 mg

References:

1. Cinqair [package insert]. Frazer, PA; Teva Respiratory, LLC; June 2020 . Accessed November 2022.
2. National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP). Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of asthma. Expert Panel Report 3. Bethesda, MD: National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI); August 2007.
3. Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA). Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention. 2018 Update. Available from: <http://www.ginasthma.org>. Accessed April 2018.
4. Castro M, Zangrilli J, Wechsler ME, et al. Reslizumab for inadequately controlled asthma with elevated blood eosinophil counts: results from two multicentre, parallel, double blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trials. *Lancet Respir Med* 2015;3:355-66.
5. Chung KF, Wenzel SE, Brozek JL, et al. International ERS/ATS Guidelines on Definition, Evaluation, and Treatment of Severe Asthma. *Eur Respir J* 2014; 43: 343-373