

Medical Policy

Stelara® (ustekinumab)	
MEDICAL POLICY NUMBER	MED_Clin_Ops-101
CURRENT VERSION EFFECTIVE DATE	1/1/2024
APPLICABLE PRODUCT AND MARKET	Individual Family Plan: ALL Small Group: ALL Medicare Advantage: ALL <i>*Policy applies to all markets where IFP, SG, or MA plans are offered</i>

Brand New Day/Central Health Medicare Plan develops policies and makes coverage determinations using credible scientific evidence including but not limited to MCG™ Health Guidelines, the ASAM Criteria™, and other third party sources, such as peer-reviewed medical literature generally recognized by the relevant medical community, physician specialty society recommendations, and expert opinion as relevant to supplement those sources. Brand New Day/Central Health Medicare Plan Medical Policies, MCG™ Guidelines, and the ASAM Criteria™ are not intended to be used without the independent clinical judgment of a qualified health care provider considering the individual circumstances of each member's case. The treating health care providers are solely responsible for diagnosis, treatment, and medical advice. Members may contact Brand New Day/Central Health Medicare Plan Customer Service at the phone number listed on their member identification card to discuss their benefits more specifically. Providers with questions about this Brand New Day/Central Health Medicare Plan Medical Policy may contact the Health Plan. Brand New Day/Central Health Medicare Plan policies and practices are compliant with federal and state requirements, including mental health parity laws.

If there is a difference between this policy and the member specific plan document, the member benefit plan document will govern. For Medicare Advantage members, Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), govern. Refer to the CMS website at <http://www.cms.gov> for additional information.

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the clinical review criteria that support the determination of medical necessity for Stelara® (ustekinumab) therapy.

POLICY

Prior Authorization and Medical Review is required.

Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis: Coverage will be provided for 8 weeks initially and may be renewed in 6-month intervals thereafter. All Other Indications: Coverage for Stelara will be provided for 6 months and may be renewed.

- Max Units (per dose and over time):
 - o Plaque Psoriasis (PsO) & Psoriatic Arthritis with co-existing:

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- Subcutaneous Loading (J3357): 90 billable units at weeks 0 & 4; maintenance dosing 12 weeks later
- Subcutaneous Maintenance (J3357): 90 billable units every 12 weeks
- Psoriatic Arthritis
 - Subcutaneous Loading (J3357): 45 billable units at weeks 0 & 4; maintenance dosing 12 weeks later
 - Subcutaneous Maintenance (J3357): 45 billable units every 12 weeks
- Crohn's Disease & Ulcerative Colitis
 - Intravenous Induction (J3358): 520 billable units
 - Subcutaneous Maintenance (J3357): 90 billable units 8 weeks after induction & every 8 weeks thereafter

Initial

- A. Patient is 18 years of age or older, unless otherwise specified; **AND**
- B. Provider has assessed baseline disease severity utilizing an objective measure/tool; **AND**
- C. Patient is up to date with all vaccinations, in accordance with current vaccination guidelines, prior to initiating therapy; **AND**
- D. Patient has been evaluated and screened for the presence of latent TB (tuberculosis) infection prior to initiating treatment and will receive ongoing monitoring for presence of TB during treatment; **AND**
- E. Patient does not have an active infection, including clinically important localized infections; **AND**
- F. Patient will not receive live vaccines during therapy; **AND**
- G. Patient is not on concurrent treatment with another TNF-inhibitor, biologic response modifier or other non-biologic agent (i.e., apremilast, tofacitinib, baricitinib, upadacitinib, etc.); **AND**

Crohn's Disease (CD)

- A. Patient has a documented diagnosis of moderate to severe active disease; **AND**
- B. Patient has a documented trial and failure, contraindication, or ineffective response at maximum tolerated doses to a minimum 3-month trial of corticosteroids or immunomodulators (e.g. azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurine, or methotrexate).

Ulcerative Colitis (UC)

- A. Patient has a documented diagnosis of moderate to severe UC; **AND**
- B. Patient has a documented trial and failure, contraindication, or ineffective response at maximum tolerated doses to a minimum 3-month trial of corticosteroids or immunomodulators (e.g., azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurine, or methotrexate).

Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA)

- A. Patient is at least 6 years of age **AND**
- B. Patient has a documented diagnosis of moderate to severe active disease; **AND**
 - a. For patients with predominantly axial disease OR active enthesitis, patient has had a trial and failure of at least a 4-week trial of ONE non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent (NSAID), unless use is contraindicated; **OR**

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- b. For patients with peripheral arthritis or dactylitis, patient has had a trial and failure of at least a 3-month trial of ONE oral disease-modifying anti-rheumatic agent (DMARD) such as methotrexate, azathioprine, sulfasalazine, hydroxychloroquine, etc.

Plaque Psoriasis

- A. Patient is at least 6 years of age; **AND**
- B. Patient has a documented diagnosis of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis for at least 6 months with at least ONE of the following:
 - a. Involvement of at least 3% of body surface area (BSA); **OR**
 - b. Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) score of 10 or greater; **OR**
 - c. Incapacitation or serious emotional consequences due to plaque location (i.e. hands, feet, head and neck, genitalia, etc.) or with intractable pruritis; **AND**
- C. Patient did not respond adequately (or is not a candidate) to a 4-week minimum trial of topical agents (i.e., anthralin, coal tar preparations, corticosteroids, emollients, immunosuppressives, keratolytics, retinoic acid derivatives, and/or vitamin D analogues); **AND**
- D. Patient did not respond adequately (or is not a candidate) to a 3-month minimum trial of at least ONE non-biologic systemic agent (i.e., immunosuppressives, retinoic acid derivatives, and/or methotrexate); **AND**
- E. Patient did not respond adequately (or is not a candidate*) to a 3-month minimum trial of phototherapy (i.e., psoralens with UVA light [PUVA] or UVB with coal tar or dithranol)

*Examples of contraindications to phototherapy (PUVA or UVB) include the following:

- Xeroderma pigmentosum
- Pregnancy or lactation (PUVA only)
- Lupus Erythematosus
- History of one of the following: photosensitivity diseases (e.g., chronic actinic dermatitis, solar urticaria), melanoma, non-melanoma skin cancer, extensive solar damage (PUVA only), or treatment with arsenic or ionizing radiation
- Immunosuppression in an organ transplant patient (UVB only)
- Photosensitizing medications (PUVA only)
- Severe liver, renal, or cardiac disease (PUVA only)

Renewal

- A. Patient continues to meet the Initial criteria; **AND**
- B. Absence of unacceptable toxicity from the drug. Examples of unacceptable toxicity include: severe hypersensitivity reactions, serious infection, cardiotoxicity/heart failure, lupus-like syndrome, demyelinating disease, cytopenias, development of malignancies, Hepatitis B reactivation, etc.; **AND**

Crohn's Disease

- A. Disease response as indicated by improvement in signs and symptoms compared to baseline such as endoscopic activity, number of liquid stools, presence and severity of abdominal pain, presence of abdominal mass, body weight compared to IBW, hematocrit, presence of extra intestinal complications, use of anti-diarrheal drugs, tapering of corticosteroids or discontinuation of corticosteroid therapy, and/or an improvement on a disease activity scoring

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tool [e.g. an improvement on the Crohn’s Disease Activity Index (CDAI) score or the Harvey-Bradshaw Index score].

Ulcerative Colitis

- A. Disease response as indicated by improvement in signs and symptoms compared to baseline such as stool frequency, rectal bleeding, and/or endoscopic activity, tapering or discontinuation of corticosteroid therapy, normalization of C-reactive protein (CRP) or fecal calprotectin (FC), and/or an improvement on a disease activity scoring tool [e.g., an improvement on the Ulcerative Colitis Endoscopic Index of Severity (UCEIS) score or the Mayo Score].

Psoriatic Arthritis

- A. Disease response as indicated by improvement in signs and symptoms compared to baseline such as the number of tender and swollen joint counts and/or an improvement on a disease activity scoring tool [e.g. defined as an improvement in at least 2 of the 4 Psoriatic Arthritis Response Criteria (PsARC), 1 of which must be joint tenderness or swelling score, with no worsening in any of the 4 criteria.]

Plaque Psoriasis

- A. Disease response as indicated by improvement in signs and symptoms compared to baseline such as redness, thickness, scaliness, and/or the amount of surface area involvement (a total BSA involvement $\leq 1\%$), and/or an improvement on a disease activity scoring tool [e.g. a 75% reduction in the PASI score from when treatment started (PASI 75) or a 50% reduction in the PASI score (PASI 50) and a four-point reduction in the DLQI from when treatment started].

LIMITATIONS/EXCLUSIONS

1. Any indication other than those listed above due to insufficient evidence of therapeutic value

DEFINITIONS

- A. STELARA (ustekinumab) injection, for subcutaneous or intravenous use. Initial U.S. Approval: 2009
 - a. STELARA (ustekinumab) injection is a sterile, preservative-free, colorless to light yellow solution and may contain a few small translucent or white particles. It is supplied as individually packaged, single-dose prefilled syringes or single-dose vials.

CODING

Applicable NDC Codes	
57894-0060-03	Stelara 45 mg single-dose vial (SDV)
57894-0060-02	Stelara 45 mg prefilled (PF) syringe
57894-0061-03	Stelara 90 mg prefilled (PF) syringe
57894-0054-27	Stelara 130 mg (5 mg/mL) single-dose vial (SDV)

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Applicable Procedure Code	
J3357	Ustekinumab, for subcutaneous injection, 1 mg; 1 billable unit = 1 mg
J3358	Ustekinumab, for intravenous injection, 1 mg; 1 billable unit = 1 mg

Subcutaneous (J3357)

Applicable ICD-10 Codes	
K50.00	Crohn's disease of small intestine without complications
K50.011	Crohn's disease of small intestine with rectal bleeding
K50.012	Crohn's disease of small intestine with intestinal obstruction
K50.013	Crohn's disease of small intestine with fistula
K50.014	Crohn's disease of small intestine with abscess
K50.018	Crohn's disease of small intestine with other complication
K50.019	Crohn's disease of small intestine with unspecified complications
K50.10	Crohn's disease of large intestine without complications
K50.111	Crohn's disease of large intestine with rectal bleeding
K50.112	Crohn's disease of large intestine with intestinal obstruction
K50.113	Crohn's disease of large intestine with fistula
K50.114	Crohn's disease of large intestine with abscess
K50.118	Crohn's disease of large intestine with other complication
K50.119	Crohn's disease of large intestine with unspecified complications
K50.80	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine without complications
K50.811	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with rectal bleeding
K50.812	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with intestinal obstruction
K50.813	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with fistula
K50.814	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with abscess
K50.818	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with other complication
K50.819	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with unspecified complications
K50.90	Crohn's disease, unspecified, without complications
K50.911	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with rectal bleeding
K50.912	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with intestinal obstruction
K50.913	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with fistula

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Applicable ICD-10 Codes	
K50.914	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with abscess
K50.918	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with other complication
K50.919	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with unspecified complications
K51.00	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis without complications
K51.011	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with rectal bleeding
K51.012	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with intestinal obstruction
K51.013	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with fistula
K51.014	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with abscess
K51.018	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with other complication
K51.019	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with unspecified complications
K51.20	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis without complications
K51.211	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with rectal bleeding
K51.212	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with intestinal obstruction
K51.213	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with fistula
K51.214	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with abscess
K51.218	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with other complication
K51.219	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with unspecified complications
K51.30	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis without complications
K51.311	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with rectal bleeding
K51.312	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with intestinal obstruction
K51.313	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with fistula
K51.314	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with abscess
K51.318	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with other complication
K51.319	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with unspecified complications
K51.50	Left sided colitis without complications
K51.511	Left sided colitis with rectal bleeding
K51.512	Left sided colitis with intestinal obstruction
K51.513	Left sided colitis with fistula

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Applicable ICD-10 Codes	
K51.514	Left sided colitis with abscess
K51.518	Left sided colitis with other complication
K51.519	Left sided colitis with unspecified complications
K51.80	Other ulcerative colitis without complications
K51.811	Other ulcerative colitis with rectal bleeding
K51.812	Other ulcerative colitis with intestinal obstruction
K51.813	Other ulcerative colitis with fistula
K51.814	Other ulcerative colitis with abscess
K51.818	Other ulcerative colitis with other complication
K51.819	Other ulcerative colitis with unspecified complications
K51.90	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified, without complications
K51.911	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with rectal bleeding
K51.912	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with intestinal obstruction
K51.913	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with fistula
K51.914	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with abscess
K51.918	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with other complication
K51.919	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with unspecified complications
K52.1	Toxic gastroenteritis and colitis
L40.0	Psoriasis vulgaris
L40.50	Arthropathic psoriasis, unspecified
L40.51	Distal interphalangeal psoriatic arthropathy
L40.52	Psoriatic arthritis mutilans
L40.53	Psoriatic spondylitis
L40.59	Other psoriatic arthropathy
R19.7	Diarrhea, unspecified

Intravenous (J3358)

Applicable ICD-10 Codes	
K50.00	Crohn's disease of small intestine without complications

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Applicable ICD-10 Codes	
K50.011	Crohn's disease of small intestine with rectal bleeding
K50.012	Crohn's disease of small intestine with intestinal obstruction
K50.013	Crohn's disease of small intestine with fistula
K50.014	Crohn's disease of small intestine with abscess
K50.018	Crohn's disease of small intestine with other complication
K50.019	Crohn's disease of small intestine with unspecified complications
K50.10	Crohn's disease of large intestine without complications
K50.111	Crohn's disease of large intestine with rectal bleeding
K50.112	Crohn's disease of large intestine with intestinal obstruction
K50.113	Crohn's disease of large intestine with fistula
K50.114	Crohn's disease of large intestine with abscess
K50.118	Crohn's disease of large intestine with other complication
K50.119	Crohn's disease of large intestine with unspecified complications
K50.80	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine without complications
K50.811	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with rectal bleeding
K50.812	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with intestinal obstruction
K50.813	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with fistula
K50.814	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with abscess
K50.818	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with other complication
K50.819	Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with unspecified complications
K50.90	Crohn's disease, unspecified, without complications
K50.911	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with rectal bleeding
K50.912	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with intestinal obstruction
K50.913	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with fistula
K50.914	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with abscess
K50.918	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with other complication
K50.919	Crohn's disease, unspecified, with unspecified complications
K51.00	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis without complications
K51.011	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with rectal bleeding
K51.012	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with intestinal obstruction
K51.013	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with fistula

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Applicable ICD-10 Codes	
K51.014	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with abscess
K51.018	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with other complication
K51.019	Ulcerative (chronic) pancolitis with unspecified complications
K51.20	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis without complications
K51.211	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with rectal bleeding
K51.212	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with intestinal obstruction
K51.213	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with fistula
K51.214	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with abscess
K51.218	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with other complication
K51.219	Ulcerative (chronic) proctitis with unspecified complications
K51.30	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis without complications
K51.311	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with rectal bleeding
K51.312	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with intestinal obstruction
K51.313	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with fistula
K51.314	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with abscess
K51.318	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with other complication
K51.319	Ulcerative (chronic) rectosigmoiditis with unspecified complications
K51.50	Left sided colitis without complications
K51.511	Left sided colitis with rectal bleeding
K51.512	Left sided colitis with intestinal obstruction
K51.513	Left sided colitis with fistula
K51.514	Left sided colitis with abscess
K51.518	Left sided colitis with other complication
K51.519	Left sided colitis with unspecified complications
K51.80	Other ulcerative colitis without complications
K51.811	Other ulcerative colitis with rectal bleeding
K51.812	Other ulcerative colitis with intestinal obstruction
K51.813	Other ulcerative colitis with fistula
K51.814	Other ulcerative colitis with abscess
K51.818	Other ulcerative colitis with other complication
K51.819	Other ulcerative colitis with unspecified complications

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Applicable ICD-10 Codes	
K51.90	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified, without complications
K51.911	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with rectal bleeding
K51.912	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with intestinal obstruction
K51.913	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with fistula
K51.914	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with abscess
K51.918	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with other complication
K51.919	Ulcerative colitis, unspecified with unspecified complications
K52.1	Toxic gastroenteritis and colitis
R19.7	Diarrhea, unspecified

EVIDENCE BASED REFERENCES

1. Product Information: STELARA(R) subcutaneous injection, intravenous injection, ustekinumab subcutaneous injection, intravenous injection. Janssen Biotech Inc (per FDA), Horsham, PA, 2020.

POLICY HISTORY

Original Effective Date	1/1/2022	
Revised Date	01/01/2023	Updated Psoriatic Arthritis indication to include patients 6 years or older.
P&T Committee Endorsement	3/21/2022 2/28/2023	