

**tocilizumab (Actemra)**  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

**Indications for Prior Authorization**

- adults with moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis who have failed tumor necrosis factor therapies as listed below.

**Patients must meet the following criteria for the indications above.**

Patient must fail Anti-TNF therapy with adalimumab (Humira) and etanercept (Enbrel) and infliximab (Remicade).

Failure is defined as patient not in remission **or** has clinically significant adverse reaction to Enbrel **and** Humira **and** Remicade.

**Dosing**

**Tocilizumab 4 mg/Kg is given by IV infusion over 60 minutes every four weeks. The dose may be increased to 8 mg/Kg based on clinical response.**

**Tocilizumab should not be initiated in patients with an absolute neutrophil count (ANC) below 2000/mm<sup>3</sup>, platelet count below 100,000/mm<sup>3</sup>, or who have ALT or AST above 1.5 times the normal range.**

**Dosing exceeding 800 mg per infusion are not recommended.**

**Tocilizumab may be used alone or in combination with methotrexate or other disease modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs).**

**Approval Period**

Initial approval 6 months to assess patient's response.  
Renew for one year if patient has clinical response.

**Risk of Tuberculosis and Serious Infection**

Patients should be evaluated for latent tuberculosis infection with a TB skin test. Treatment of latent tuberculosis infection should be initiated prior to therapy with golimumab.

**Do not administer live vaccines or attenuated vaccines concurrently with golimumab.**

**Patients should be routinely monitored for elevated liver enzymes, elevated low-density lipoprotein (LDL), hypertension, and gastrointestinal perforations.**