

## PHARMACY POLICY STATEMENT

### Marketplace

DRUG NAME	Amevive (alefacept)
BILLING CODE	J0215 (1 unit = 0.5 mg)
BENEFIT TYPE	Medical
SITE OF SERVICE ALLOWED	Outpatient/Office
COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS	Prior Authorization Required (Non-Preferred Product) Alternative preferred products include Cosentyx, Enbrel, Humira QUANTITY LIMIT— 60 mg per 30 days
LIST OF DIAGNOSES CONSIDERED <b>NOT</b> MEDICALLY NECESSARY	<a href="#">Click Here</a>

Amevive (alefacept) is a **non-preferred** product and will only be considered for coverage under the **medical** benefit when the following criteria are met:

Members must be clinically diagnosed with one of the following disease states and meet their individual criteria as stated.

### PLAQUE PSORIASIS (PsO)

For **initial** authorization:

1. Member must be 18 years of age or older; AND
2. Medication must be prescribed by a rheumatologist or dermatologist; AND
3. Member's CD4 count is documented in chart notes, and it is greater than 250 cells/microliter; AND
4. Member has moderate to severe chronic PsO for one year or over, and it involves 10% or more of the body surface area (BSA); AND
5. Member's baseline of Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) score documented in chart notes; AND
6. Member has tried and failed to respond to treatment with at least **one** of the following:
  - a) At least 12 weeks of photochemotherapy (i.e., psoralen plus ultraviolet A therapy);
  - b) At least 12 weeks of phototherapy (i.e., UVB light therapy, Excimer laser treatments; tanning beds emit mostly UVA light and therefore would not meet this criteria);
  - c) At least a 4 week trial with topical antipsoriatic agents (i.e., anthralin, calcipotriene, coal tar, corticosteroids, tazarotene); AND
7. Member has tried and failed to respond to treatment with traditional first-line oral/systemic therapies (i.e., cyclosporine, methotrexate, acitretin) for at least 12 weeks; AND
8. Member has tried and failed treatment with at least **two** of the following: Cimzia, Cosentyx, Enbrel, Humira, Otezla and Siliq. Treatment failure requires at least for 12 weeks of therapy with each drug.
9. **Dosage allowed:** IV: 7.5 mg once weekly for 12 weeks; IM: 15 mg once weekly for 12 weeks.

***If member meets all the requirements listed above, the medication will be approved for 3 months.***

For **reauthorization**:

1. Member must be in compliance with all other initial criteria; AND
2. Chart notes have been provided that show the member has shown improving signs and symptoms of disease; AND
3. Member's CD4 count is greater than 250 cells/microliter; AND
4. PASI score improvement of 50% from baseline documented in chart notes.



*If member meets all the reauthorization requirements above, the medication will be approved for additional 12 months.*

**CareSource considers Amevive (alefacept) not medically necessary for the treatment of the following disease states based on a lack of robust clinical controlled trials showing superior efficacy compared to currently available treatments:**

- Active infections
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Asthma
- Cellulitis
- Crohn’s Disease
- Dissecting scalp cellulitis
- For use in combination with other TNF-inhibitors (i.e., Humira, Kineret, Enbrel, Remicade)
- Giant-cell arteritis
- Infectious uveitis
- Lupus perino
- Osteoarthritis
- Psoriatic arthritis
- Recurrent pregnancy loss
- Relapsing polychondritis
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Sarcoidosis
- Sciatica
- Spondyloarthritis (other than ankylosing spondylitis)
- Takayasu’s arteritis
- Vogt-Koyanagi

DATE	ACTION/DESCRIPTION
07/18/2017	New policy for Amevive created.
02/26/2019	Humira trial removed from criteria; Cimzia, Cosentyx, Otezla and Siliq added to trial agents list. “Immunosuppressant therapies” changed to “treatment of traditional first-line oral/systemic” therapies.
01/19/2020	Updated alternative preferred products and trial agents to match Ohio Department of Medicaid Unified Preferred Drug List.
11/17/2021	Annual review, no changes

References:

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3. Hsu S, Papp KA, Lebwohl MG, et al. Consensus guidelines for the management of plaque psoriasis. Arch Dermatol. 2012 Jan;148(1):95-102.
4. Amevive. Lexi-Drugs. Lexicomp. Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc. Riverwoods, IL. Available at: <http://online.lexi.com>. Accessed May 24, 2017.

5. Krueger GG, Papp KA, Stough DB, et al. A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase III study evaluating efficacy and tolerability of 2 courses of alefacept in patients with chronic plaque psoriasis. *J Am Acad Dermatol* 2002;47:821-833.
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7. Gottlieb AB, et al. Safety observations in 12095 patients with psoriasis enrolled in an international registry (PSOLAR): experience with infliximab and other systemic and biologic therapies. *J Drugs Dermatol*. 2014 Dec;13(12):1441-8.
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10. Smith CH, et al. British Association of Dermatologists guidelines for biologic therapy for psoriasis 2017. *Br J Dermatol*. 2017;177(3):628.

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