PHARMACY POLICY STATEMENT **Ohio Medicaid**	
DRUG NAME	Tysabri (natalizumab)
BILLING CODE	J2323 (1 unit = 1 mg)
BENEFIT TYPE	Medical
SITE OF SERVICE ALLOWED	Outpatient Hospital (Must obtain through Specialty Pharmacy, physician/facility "Buy & Bill" is not covered)
COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS	Prior Authorization Required (Non-Preferred Product) Alternative preferred product for Crohn's Disease includes Humira QUANTITY LIMIT— 300 units/mg per 28 days
LIST OF DIAGNOSES CONSIDERED **NOT** MEDICALLY NECESSARY	Click Here

Tysabri (natalizumab) 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.

CROHN'S DISEASE (CD)

For **initial** authorization:

1. Member must be at least 18 years or older with moderately to severely active CD; AND
2. Medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist; AND
3. Member has had a documented trial and inadequate response, or intolerance to at least **one** of the following conventional therapies: a 4-week trial of a corticosteroid OR a 12-week trial of 6-mercaptopurine, azathioprine, or methotrexate. Note: Trial is not required if member is switching from another biologic agent; AND
4. Member has tried and failed a trial of an anti TNF-drug (e.g., Cimzia, Humira, Remicade) unless not tolerated or contraindicated. Note: trial of a biologic is not required if member has multiple sclerosis and CD; AND
5. Documentation has been provided showing that member has tested negative for anti-John Cunningham virus (JVC) antibody; AND
6. Medication is not being used in combination with immunosuppressants or TNF-alpha inhibitors.
7. **Dosage allowed:** 300 mg intravenous infusion once every 4 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 showing improvement in signs and symptoms of CD (defined as mucosal healing, fewer flare-ups of symptoms, improved quality of life, etc.).

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

RELAPSING-REMITTING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (RRMS), SECONDARY PROGRESSIVE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (SPMS)

For **initial** authorization:

1. Member must be 18 years of age or older; AND
2. Medication must be prescribed by, or in consultation with, or under the guidance of a neurologist; AND
3. Member has documentation in chart notes that member was tested for John Cunningham virus (JCV) with ELISA prior to initiating treatment; AND
4. Member has documented trial and failure or contraindication to at least **two** preferred multiple sclerosis agents (two injectable drugs OR two oral drugs OR one injectable and one oral drug). Treatment failure requires at least 3 months of therapy without an adequate response.
5. **Dosage allowed:** 300 mg intravenous infusion over one hour every 4 weeks.

If member meets all the requirements listed above, the medication will be approved for 12 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 improvement of signs and symptoms of disease.

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

CareSource considers Tysabri (natalizumab) 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:

- Clinically Isolated Syndrome (CIS) in Multiple Sclerosis
- Primary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis

DATE	ACTION/DESCRIPTION
05/10/2017	New policy for Tysabri created. Policy SRx-0041 archived. For diagnosis of CD: trial of Humira required. For RRMS and SPMS diagnoses trial of two formulary agents required. List of diagnoses considered not medically necessary was added.
12/06/2017	Age coverage expanded.
02/26/2019	Humira trial removed from criteria for CD.
11/23/2020	For CD: Changed the trial to only ask for 1 conventional therapy rather than 2. Also added a trial of an anti-TNF in accordance with package insert and guidelines. Changed initial auth to 3 months to observe benefit (must discontinue if no benefit after 3 months).

References:

1. Tysabri [package insert]. Cambridge, MA; Biogen, Inc.: June, 2020.
2. Sulz MC, Burri E, Michetti P, et al. Treatment Algorithms for Crohn's Disease. *Digestion*. 2020;101 Suppl 1:43-57.
3. Lichtenstein GR, Loftus EV, Isaacs KL, Regueiro MD, Gerson LB, Sands BE. ACG Clinical Guideline: Management of Crohn's Disease in Adults. *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2018;113(4):481-517.
4. Torres J, Bonovas S, Doherty G, et al. ECCO Guidelines on Therapeutics in Crohn's Disease: Medical Treatment. *J Crohns Colitis*. 2020;14(1):4-22.
5. Pimentel AM, Rocha R, Santana GO. Crohn's disease of esophagus, stomach and duodenum. *World J Gastrointest Pharmacol Ther*. 2019;10(2):35-49.
6. Terdiman JP, Gruss CB, Heidelbaugh JJ, Sultan S, Falck-Ytter YT; AGA Institute Clinical Practice and Quality Management Committee. American Gastroenterological Association Institute guideline on the use of thiopurines,

methotrexate, and anti-TNF-α biologic drugs for the induction and maintenance of remission in inflammatory Crohn's disease. *Gastroenterology*. 2013;145(6):1459-1463.
7. Regueiro M, Velayos F, Greer JB, et al. American Gastroenterological Association Institute Technical Review on the Management of Crohn's Disease After Surgical Resection. *Gastroenterology*. 2017;152(1):277-295.e3.
8. Goodin DS, Frohman EM, Garmany GP Jr, et al. Disease modifying therapies in multiple sclerosis: report of the Therapeutics and Technology Assessment Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology and the MS Council for Clinical Practice Guidelines. Neurology. 2002 Jan;58(2):169-78.

Effective date: 04/01/2021
Revised date: 11/23/2020