PHARMACY POLICY STATEMENT **Ohio Medicaid**	
DRUG NAME	Simponi Aria (golimumab)
BILLING CODE	J1602 (1 unit = 1 mg)
BENEFIT TYPE	Medical
SITE OF SERVICE ALLOWED	Outpatient Hospital
COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS	Prior Authorization Required (Non-Preferred Product) Alternative preferred products include Enbrel & Humira (if appropriate for indication) QUANTITY LIMIT— 120 units every 56 days
LIST OF DIAGNOSES CONSIDERED **NOT** MEDICALLY NECESSARY	Click Here

Simponi Aria (golimumab) 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.

ANKYLOSING SPONDYLITIS (AS)

For **initial** authorization:

1. Member must be 18 years of age or older; AND
2. Must have a documented negative TB test (i.e. tuberculosis skin test (PPD), an interferon-release assay (IGRA), or a chest x-ray) within 6 months prior to starting therapy; AND
3. Medication must be prescribed by a rheumatologist; AND
4. Member has had back pain for 3 months or more that began before the age of 45; AND
5. Current imaging results show an inflammation of one or both of the sacroiliac joints; AND
6. Member shows at least **one** of the following signs or symptoms of Spondyloarthritis:
   a) Arthritis;
   b) Elevated serum C-reactive protein;
   c) Inflammation at the tendon, ligament or joint capsule insertions;
   d) Positive HLA-B27 test;
   e) Limited chest expansion;
   f) Morning stiffness for 1 hour or more; AND
7. Member meets at least **one** of the following scenarios:
   a) Member has Axial (spinal) disease;
   b) Member has peripheral arthritis without axial involvement and has tried and failed treatment with methotrexate or sulfasalazine. Treatment failure requires at least 3 months of therapy without an adequate response; AND
8. Member has tried and failed to respond to treatment with at least **two** prescription NSAIDs taken at the maximum recommended dosages. Treatment failure requires at least 4 weeks of therapy without an adequate response; AND
9. Member has tried and failed treatment with **both** Enbrel and Humira.
10. **Dosage allowed:** 50 mg subcutaneously once a month.

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

For **reauthorization**:
1. Must have been retested for TB with a negative result within the past 12 months; AND
2. Member must be in compliance with all other initial criteria; AND
3. 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.

PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS (PsA)

For **initial** authorization:
1. Member must be 18 years of age or older; AND
2. Must have a documented negative TB test (i.e. tuberculosis skin test (PPD), an interferon-release assay (IGRA), or a chest x-ray) within 6 months prior to starting therapy; AND
3. Medication must be prescribed by a rheumatologist or dermatologist; AND
4. Member has tried and failed treatment with **both** Enbrel and Humira; AND
5. Member meets at least **one** of the following scenarios:
   a. Member has predominantly axial disease (i.e., sacroiliitis or spondylitis) as indicated by radiographic evidence;
   b. Member has shown symptoms of predominantly axial disease (i.e., sacroiliitis or spondylitis) for more than 3 months (i.e. limited spinal range of motion, spinal morning stiffness for more than 30 minutes) AND has tried and failed to respond to treatment with at least 2 prescription NSAIDs taken at the maximum recommended dosages. Treatment failure requires at least 4 weeks of therapy without an adequate response;
   c. Member has predominately non-axial disease and has tried and failed to respond to treatment with at least an 8 week trial of methotrexate and NSAID.
6. **Dosage allowed:** 50 mg subcutaneously once a month.

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

For **reauthorization**:
1. Must have been retested for TB with a negative result within the past 12 months; AND
2. Member must be in compliance with all other initial criteria; AND
3. 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.

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS (RA)

For **initial** authorization:
1. Member must be 18 years of age or older with moderate to severe active RA; AND
2. Must have a documented negative TB test (i.e. tuberculosis skin test (PPD), an interferon-release assay (IGRA), or a chest x-ray) within 6 months prior to starting therapy; AND
3. Medication must be prescribed by a rheumatologist; AND
4. Medication is being given in combination with methotrexate or with another immunosuppressive agent if the member cannot tolerate methotrexate; AND
5. Member must have tried and failed treatment with at least **two** non-biologic DMARDS (i.e. methotrexate, hydroxychloroquine, sulfasalazine, azathioprine, cyclosporine and leflunomide) or must have documented contraindication to all non-biologic DMARDS. Treatment trial duration with each non-biologic DMARD agent must have been at least 12 weeks; AND

6. Member must have tried and failed treatment with **both** Enbrel and Humira.
7. **Dosage allowed:** 2 mg/kg intravenous infusion over 30 minutes at weeks 0 and 4, then every 8 weeks.

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

For **reauthorization**:

1. Must have been retested for TB with a negative result within the past 12 months; AND
2. Member must be in compliance with all other initial criteria; AND
3. 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 Simponi Aria (golimumab) 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
- Asthma
- Cellulitis
- Crohn's disease
- Dissecting scalp cellulitis
- For use in combination with TNF-inhibitors (Enbrel, Humia, Remicade, Kineret)
- Giant-cell arteritis
- Infectious uveitis
- Lupus perino
- Osteoarthritis
- Relapsing polychondritis
- Sarcoidosis
- Sciatica
- Spondyloarthritis
- Takayasu's arteritis
- Ulcerative colitis
- Vogt-Koyanagi

DATE	ACTION/DESCRIPTION
05/10/2017	New policy for Simponi Aria created. Policy SRx-0042 archived. List of diagnoses considered not medically necessary was added.
11/13/2017	New indications of AS and PsA added.

References:

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2. National Institutes of Health, Clinicaltrials.gov. [cited 9/16/2014]; Available from: http://www.clincaltrials.gov.

3. Singh, J., et.al.,(2012). 2012 Update of the 2008 American College of Rheumatology Recommendations for the Use of Disease-Modifying Anti-rheumatic Drugs and Biologic Agents in the Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis. Arthritis Care & Research, 64(5), 625-639.
4. Rheumatoid Arthritis. Arthritis & Rheumatology (Arthritis Care & Research), 64:5, 625-639, May 2012.
5. Wolters Kluwer. Facts & Comparisons. www.factsandcomparisons.com, 2014.
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8. 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 Dec;145(6):1459-63.
9. Simponi [prescribing information]. Horsham, PA; Janssen Biotech, Inc.: January, 2014.
10. Simponi Aria [prescribing information]. Horsham, PA; Janssen Biotech, Inc.: October, 2017.
11. Higgins J, Green S, editors. Cochrane handbook for systematic reviews of interventions, Version 5.1.0 [updated March 2011]. The Cochrane Collaboration. Available from: URL:www.cochrane-handbook.org.
12. FDA Approves New Drug for Rheumatoid Arthritis; Pharmacist's Letter; March 2010; Vol: 26 Rheumatoid arthritis: the role of DMARDs. Pharmacist's Letter/Prescriber's Letter July 2012;25(2):250210.

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