



Australian Government

Department of Human Services

medicare

Guide to prescribing biological agents

PBS

Initial/change applications

MOA		Presentation		Rheumatoid arthritis	Ank spond	Psoriatic arthritis	JIA < 18	JIA > 18	sJIA
T-cell co-stimulation modulator	Abatacept Orencia® 250mg	Powder per vial	Qty	< 60 kg 2 vials	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
				60 - 100 kg 3 vials					
				> 100 kg 4 vials					
	Rpt	4							
	Freq	Weeks 0,2, 4, then every 4 weeks with mtx							
	Abatacept Orencia® 125mg	Prefilled syringe	Qty	4					
Rpt			3						
Freq			Weekly with mtx						
TNF α antagonist	Adalimumab Humira® 20 mg in 0.4 mL	Prefilled syringe	Qty	Not available	Not available	Not available	> 15 kg and < 30 kg 2 inj	Not available	Not available
			Rpt				3		
			Freq				once fortnightly		
	Adalimumab Humira® 40mg in 0.8 mL	Prefilled syringe	Qty	2 inj	\geq 30 kg 2 inj	2 inj			
			Rpt	3	3	3			
			Freq	Once fortnightly	Once fortnightly	once fortnightly			
	Adalimumab Humira® 40mg in 0.8 mL	Prefilled pen	Qty	2 pens	\geq 30 kg 2 pens	2 pens			
			Rpt	3	3	3			
			Freq	Once fortnightly	Once fortnightly	once fortnightly			
TNF α antagonist	Certolizumab Cimzia® 200 mg	Prefilled syringe	Qty	2	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
			Rpt	5					
			Freq	2 inj weeks 0,2,4, then 1 inj every 2 weeks or 2 inj every 4 weeks					

MOA		Presentation		Rheumatoid arthritis	Ank spond	Psoriatic arthritis	JIA < 18	JIA > 18	sJIA	
TNF α antagonist	Etanercept Enbrel® 25 mg	Injection set	Qty	2 sets			Not avail	Not avail	Not available	
			Rpt	3						
			Freq	Twice weekly						
	Etanercept Enbrel® 50 mg	4 prefilled syringes	Qty	1 pack		Not avail				1 pack
			Rpt	3						
			Freq	Once weekly						
	Etanercept Enbrel® 50 mg	4 prefilled autoinjectors	Qty	1 pack		Not avail				1 pack
			Rpt	3						
			Freq	Once weekly						
TNF α antagonist	Golimumab Simponi® 50mg	Prefilled syringe	Qty	1		Not available	Not available			
			Rpt	3						
			Freq	Every 4 weeks with mtx	Every 4 weeks					
		Prefilled pen	Qty	1				Not available		
			Rpt	3						
			Freq	Every 4 weeks with mtx	Every 4 weeks					
TNF α antagonist	Infliximab Remicade® 100 mg	Powder per vial	Qty	x vials @ 3 mg/kg	x vials @ 5 mg/kg	x vials @ 5 mg/kg	Not available	Not available		
			Rpt	3						
			Freq	Weeks 0,2,6,14 with mtx	Weeks 0,2,6,12	Weeks 0,2,6,14				
Chimeric anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody	Rituximab Mabthera®	I.V. solution 500 mg in 50 mL	Qty	2		Not available	Not available			
			Rpt	1						
			Freq	Weeks 0,2 with mtx						
Interleukin-6 inhibitor	Tocilizumab Actemra®**	I.V. solution 80 mg/4mL 200mg/10mL 400mg/20mL	Qty	** (see below)		Not available	# (see below) 3 < 30 kg 12 mg/kg ≥ 30 kg 8 mg/kg every 2 weeks			
			Rpt	3						
			Freq	8 mg/kg every 4 weeks						
	** The quantity of vials is based on the weight of the patient to provide for a single infusion using the most cost effective combination. A separate prescription for each strength vial is required.				# The quantity of vials is based on the weight of the patient to provide for two infusions using the most cost effective combination. A separate prescription for each strength vial is required.					

Continuing applications

MOA		Presentation		Rheumatoid arthritis	Ankylosing spondylitis	Psoriatic arthritis	JIA < 18	JIA > 18	sJIA	
T-cell co-stimulation modulator	Abatacept Orencia® 250mg	Powder per vial	Qty	< 60 kg 2 vials	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	
				60 - 100 kg 3 vials						
				> 100 kg 4 vials						
	Rpt	5								
	Freq	Every 4 weeks with mtx								
	Abatacept Orencia® 125mg	Prefilled syringe	Qty	4						
Rpt			5							
Freq			Weekly with mtx							
TNF α antagonist	Adalimumab Humira® 20mg in 0.4 mL	Prefilled syringe	Qty	Not available			> 15 kg and < 30 Kg 2 inj	Not available	Not available	
			Rpt				5			
			Freq				once fortnightly			
	Adalimumab Humira® 40mg in 0.8 mL	Prefilled syringe	Qty	2 inj			\geq 30 Kg 2 inj	2 inj	Not available	
			Rpt	5			5	5		
			Freq	Once fortnightly			Once fortnightly	once fortnightly		
	Adalimumab Humira® 40mg in 0.8 mL	Prefilled pen	Qty	2 pens			\geq 30 Kg 2 pens	2 pens	Not available	
			Rpt	5			5	5		
			Freq	Once fortnightly			Once fortnightly	once fortnightly		
	TNF α antagonist	Certolizumab Cimzia® 200 mg	Prefilled syringe	Qty	2	Not available			Not available	Not available
				Rpt	5					
				Freq	1 inj every 2 weeks or 2 inj every 4 weeks					
TNF α antagonist	Etanercept Enbrel® 25 mg	Injection set	Qty	2 sets			Not avail	Not available	Not available	
			Rpt	5						
			Freq	Twice weekly						
	Etanercept Enbrel® 50 mg	4 prefilled syringes	Qty	1 pack						1 pack
			Rpt	5						5
			Freq	Once weekly						Once weekly
	Etanercept Enbrel® 50 mg	4 prefilled autoinjectors	Qty	1 pack						1 pack
			Rpt	5						5
			Freq	Once weekly						Once weekly
TNF α antagonist	Golimumab Simponi® 50mg	Prefilled syringe	Qty	1			Not available	Not available		
			Rpt	5						
			Freq	Every 4 weeks with mtx	Every 4 weeks					
		Prefilled pen	Qty	1						
			Rpt	5						
			Freq	Every 4 weeks with mtx	Every 4 weeks					

MOA		Presentation		Rheumatoid arthritis	Ankylosing spondylitis	Psoriatic arthritis	JIA < 18	JIA > 18	sJIA
TNF α antagonist	Infliximab Remicade® 100mg	Powder per vial	Qty	x vials @ 3 mg/kg	x vials @ 5 mg/kg	x vials @ 5 mg/kg	Not available		Not available
			Rpt	2	3	2			
			Freq	8 weekly with mtx	6 weekly	8 weekly			
Chimeric anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody	Rituximab Mabthera®	I.V. solution 500 mg in 50 mL	Qty	2	Not available				Not available
			Rpt	1					
			Freq	Weeks 0,2 with mtx					
Interleukin-6 inhibitor	Tocilizumab Actemra®**	I.V. solution 80 mg/4mL 200mg/10mL 400mg/20mL	Qty	** (see below)	Not available				# (see below)
			Rpt	5					5
			Freq	8 mg/kg every 4 weeks					< 30 kg 12 mg/kg ≥ 30 kg 8 mg/kg every 2 weeks
** The quantity of vials is based on the weight of the patient to provide for a single infusion using the most cost effective combination. A separate prescription for each strength vial is required.					# The quantity of vials is based on the weight of the patient to provide for two infusions using the most cost effective combination. A separate prescription for each strength vial is required.				