

December 20, 2013

Patience White, MD, MA
Vice President, Public Health Policy and Advocacy
Arthritis Foundation
1615 L Street NW, Suite 320
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Dr. White:

Thank you very much for contacting me. As we discussed, in 2014, the Express Scripts National Preferred Formulary will exclude Cimzia, Simponi, Simponi Aria, and Xeljanz from coverage; however, patients will be able to continue to access these medications if they are either already started and stabilized on therapy in 2013 or had previously tried one of the preferred options; typically Enbrel or Humira. Below is a summary of the key questions that you posed with, I hope, a sufficient and clear response. At Express Scripts, we appreciate the opportunity to partner and collaborate with the Arthritis Foundation.

Question: You mentioned that patients who are already started and stabilized on therapy in 2013 will be able to access in 2014. Are there any restrictions or limitations related to "started and stabilized"?

Answer: No. Any patient who is currently receiving Cimzia, Simponi, Simponi Aria, or Xeljanz in 2013 will be able to access at a covered, discounted price in 2014. Patients are not required to have taken Cimzia, Simponi, Simponi Aria, or Xeljanz for any defined period of time or to provide proof of "stabilized". Bottom line, any patient receiving one of these products in 2013 will be able to continue to access at a discounted rate in 2014.

Question: Do patients currently receiving Cimzia, Simponi, Simponi Aria, or Xeljanz in 2013 need to request a formulary exception in order to maintain coverage in 2014?

Answer: No. All current users will be able to continue to access. No further patient action is required.

Question: How much will patients specifically pay for Cimzia, Simponi, Simponi Aria, and Xeljanz in 2014?

Answer: Member copayments or out-of-pocket contributions are set by plan sponsors (typically an employer) or health plans; not Express Scripts. Simply stated, the exact member copayment truly varies from plan to plan. Generally speaking, patients who meet the formulary exception criteria will typically be able to access at a non-preferred or third-tier copayment. Patients who do not satisfy the criteria will pay 100% of the cost. Again, the exact amount will vary from plan to plan (and patient to patient).

Question: How do patients initiate the formulary exceptions process?

Answer: The best way to initiate a formulary exceptions request (i.e., to request coverage of Cimzia, Simponi, Simponi Aria, and Xeljanz) is to find your prescription drug card and to call the number highlighted under "Patient Customer Service" or a related description.

Question: How quickly are formulary exceptions processed or reviewed?

Answer: Most formulary exceptions requests are initiated and completed within one to two business days.

Question: What if my formulary exception request is rejected?

Answer: If your formulary exception request is rejected, you will receive a letter that clearly highlights the decision as well as a pathway to appeal the decision. In rare instances, the prescribing physician and patient may be able to identify situations where the preferred agents are not appropriate. The appeals process provides an avenue for physicians and patients to request and obtain immediate access to Cimzia, Simponi, Simponi Aria, or Xeljanz when clinically justifiable.

Sincerely,



Andrew Behm PharmD, CGP
Vice President, Office of Clinical Evaluation & Policy, Express Scripts