Clinical Policy: Secukinumab (Cosentyx)

Reference Number: PA.CHIP.PHAR.261
Effective Date: 01/2026
Last Review Date: 10/2025

Description
Secukinumab (Cosentyx®) is an interleukin-17A (IL-17A) antagonist.

FDA Approved Indication(s)
Cosentyx is indicated for the treatment of:

- Moderate to severe plaque psoriasis (PsO) in patients 6 years and older who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy
- Active psoriatic arthritis (PsA) in patients 2 years of age and older
- Adults with active ankylosing spondylitis (AS)
- Adults with active non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (nr-axSpA) with objective signs of inflammation
- Active enthesitis-related arthritis (ERA) in patients 4 years of age and older
- Adults with moderate to severe hidradenitis suppurativa (HS)

Policy/Criteria
Provider must submit documentation (such as office chart notes, lab results or other clinical information) supporting that the member has met all approval criteria.

It is the policy of PA Health & Wellness® that Secukinumab (Cosentyx) is **medically necessary** when the following criteria are met:

I. Initial Approval Criteria

A. Axial Spondyloarthritis (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of AS or nr-axSpA;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Failure of at least TWO non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) at up to maximally indicated doses, each used for ≥ 4 weeks unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
5. For AS, member meets ALL* of the following, each used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a and b, *see Appendix D*):
   a. Failure of one adalimumab product (e.g., *Hadlima™, Simlandi®, Yusimry™, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab-adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*), unless the member has had a history of failure of two TNF blockers;
   b. If member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers, failure of Xeljanz®/Xeljanz XR®, unless member has cardiovascular risk and benefits do not outweigh the risk of treatment;
   **Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products and Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR*
6. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);

7. Dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):
   a. SC: 150 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks;
   b. IV: 6 mg/kg at week 0, followed by maintenance dose 1.75 mg/kg every 4 weeks.

   Approval duration: 6 months

B. Enthesitis-related Arthritis (must meet all)**:**
1. Diagnosis of ERA;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a rheumatologist;
3. Age ≥ 4 years and < 18 years;
4. Failure of at least TWO non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) at up to maximally indicated doses, each used for ≥ 4 weeks unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
5. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of MTX at up to maximally indicated doses;
   b. Member has intolerance or contraindication to MTX (*see Appendix D*), and failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of at least ONE conventional disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (e.g., sulfasalazine, leflunomide) at up to maximally indicated doses, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;
6. If disease is polyarticular (≥ 5 joints ever involved), failure of Actemra®, used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or both are contraindicated;
   **Prior authorization may be required for Actemra*
7. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
8. Dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):
   a. Weight > 15 kg and < 50 kg: 75 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 75 mg every 4 weeks;
   b. Weight ≥ 50 kg: 150 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks.

   Approval duration: 6 months

C. Plaque Psoriasis (must meet all)**:**
1. Diagnosis of moderate-to-severe PsO as evidenced by involvement of one of the following (a or b):
   a. ≥ 3% of total body surface area;
   b. Hands, feet, scalp, face, or genital area;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a dermatologist or rheumatologist;
3. Age ≥ 6 years;
4. Member meets one of the following (a, b, or c):
   a. Failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of methotrexate (MTX) at up to maximally indicated doses;
   b. Member has intolerance or contraindication to MTX (*see Appendix D*), and failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of cyclosporine or acitretin at up to maximally indicated doses, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or both are contraindicated;
   c. Member has intolerance or contraindication to MTX, cyclosporine, and acitretin, and

failure of phototherapy, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced;

5. For age ≥ 18 years, member meets ONE of the following, unless contraindicated or clinically significant adverse effects are experienced (a or b, *see Appendix D*):
   a. Failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of one* adalimumab product (e.g., *Hadlima, Simlandi, Yusimry, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab- adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*);
   b. History of failure of two TNF blockers;
   **Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products*
6. Failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of one ustekinumab product (e.g. *Otulfi®, Pyzchiva® (branded), Steqeyma®, Yesintek™ are preferred*), unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
   **Prior authorization may be required for ustekinumab products*
7. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
8. Dose does not exceed the following:
   a. Age ≥ 18 years: 300 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 300 mg every 4 weeks;
   b. Age 6 to 17 years and weight < 50 kg: 75 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 75 mg every 4 weeks;
   c. Age 6 to 17 years and weight ≥ 50 kg: 150 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks.

Approval duration: 6 months

D. Psoriatic Arthritis (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of PsA;
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a dermatologist or rheumatologist;
3. Age ≥ 2 years;
4. For members ≥ 18 years, failure of ALL* of the following, each used for ≥ 3 consecutive months, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated (a, b, and c, *see Appendix D*):
   a. One adalimumab product (e.g., *Hadlima, Simlandi, Yusimry, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab-adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*), unless the member has had a history of failure of two TNF blockers;
   b. Otezla®;
   c. If member has not responded or is intolerant to one or more TNF blockers, Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR, unless member has cardiovascular risk and benefits do not outweigh the risk of treatment;
   **Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products, Otezla, and Xeljanz/Xeljanz XR*
5. For members ≥ 6 years, failure of a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of one ustekinumab product (e.g. *Otulfi®, Pyzchiva® (branded), Steqeyma®, Yesintek™ are preferred*), unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated;
   **Prior authorization may be required for ustekinumab products*
6. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
7. Dose does not exceed one of the following (a or b):

a. PsA alone (i or ii):
   i. Adults (1 or 2):
      1. SC: 150 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks;
      2. IV: 6 mg/kg at week 0, followed by maintance dose 1.75 mg/kg every 4 weeks;
   ii. Pediatric (1 or 2):
      1. Weight > 15 kg and < 50 kg, SC: 75 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 75 mg every 4 weeks;
      2. Weight ≥ 50 kg, SC: 150 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks;

b. PsA with PsO and ≥ 18 years: 300 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 300 mg every 4 weeks.

Approval duration: 6 months

E. Hidradenitis Suppurativa (must meet all)**:**

1. Diagnosis of HS:
2. Prescribed by or in consultation with a dermatologist, rheumatologist, or gastroenterologist;
3. Age ≥ 18 years;
4. Documentation of Hurley stage II or stage III (*see Appendix D*);
5. Failure of one adalimumab product* (e.g., *Hadlima, Simlandi, Yusimry, adalimumab-aaty, adalimumab-adaz, adalimumab-adbm, and adalimumab-fkjp are preferred*), unless the member has had a history of failure of two TNF blockers;
   **Prior authorization may be required for adalimumab products*
6. Failure of at least TWO of the following, each tried for ≥ 3 consecutive months from different therapeutic classes, at up to maximally indicated doses, unless clinically significant adverse effects are experienced or all are contraindicated:
   a. Systemic antibiotic therapy (e.g., clindamycin, minocycline, doxycycline, rifampin);
   b. Oral retinoids (e.g., acitretin, isotretinoin);
   c. Hormonal treatment (e.g., estrogen-containing combined oral contraceptives, spironolactone);
7. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
8. Dose does not exceed 300 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 300 mg every 4 weeks.

   Approval duration: 6 months

F. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2)**:**

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
   a. For drugs on the PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
   b. For drugs NOT on the PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed

under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

II. Continued Therapy

A. All Indications in Section I (must meet all)**:**

1. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. Currently receiving medication via Fidelis benefit or member has previously met initial approval criteria;
   b. Member is currently receiving medication and is enrolled in a state and product with continuity of care regulations (*refer to state specific addendums for CC.PHARM.03A and CC.PHARM.03B);*
2. Member meets one of the following (a or b):
   a. For HS: At least a 25% reduction in inflammatory nodules and abscesses;
   b. For all other indications: Member is responding positively to therapy;
3. Member does not have combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs or Janus kinase inhibitors (*see Section III: Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized*);
4. If request is for a dose increase, new dose does not exceed one of the following (a, b, c, d, or e):
   a. PsO alone (i, ii, or iii):
      i. Age ≥ 18 years: 300 mg every 4 weeks;
      ii. Age 6 to 17 years and weight < 50 kg: 75 mg every 4 weeks;
      iii. Age 6 to 17 years and weight ≥ 50 kg: 150 mg every 4 weeks;
   b. PsA (i or ii):
      i. Adults (1, 2, or 3):
         1) IV: 1.75 mg/kg every 4 weeks;
         2) SC: 150 mg every 4 weeks;
         3) SC: 300 mg every 4 weeks, if documentation supports inadequate response to a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of 150 mg every 4 weeks or member has coexistent PsO;
      ii. Pediatric (1 or 2):
         1) Weight > 15 kg and < 50 kg, SC: 75 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 75 mg every 4 weeks;
         2) Weight ≥ 50 kg, SC: 150 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks;
   c. AS, nr-axSpA (i, ii, or iii):
      i. IV: 1.75 mg/kg every 4 weeks;
      ii. SC: 150 mg every 4 weeks;
      iii. SC: For AS only: 300 mg every 4 weeks, if documentation supports inadequate response to a ≥ 3 consecutive month trial of 150 mg every 4 weeks;
   d. ERA (i or ii):
      i. Weight > 15 kg and < 50 kg: 75 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 75 mg every 4 weeks;
      ii. Weight ≥ 50 kg: 150 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks;
   e. HS (i or ii):
      i. 300 mg every 4 weeks;

ii. 300 mg every 2 weeks, if documentation supports inadequate response to 300 mg every 4 weeks.

Approval duration: 12 months

B. Other diagnoses/indications (must meet 1 or 2)**:**

1. If this drug has recently (within the last 6 months) undergone a label change (e.g., newly approved indication, age expansion, new dosing regimen) that is not yet reflected in this policy, refer to one of the following policies (a or b):
   a. For drugs on the PDL (Medicaid), the no coverage criteria policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.255 for Medicaid; or
   b. For drugs NOT on the PDL (Medicaid), the non-formulary policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.16 for Medicaid; or
2. If the requested use (e.g., diagnosis, age, dosing regimen) is NOT specifically listed under section III (Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized) AND criterion 1 above does not apply, refer to the off-label use policy for the relevant line of business: CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid.

III. Diagnoses/Indications for which coverage is NOT authorized:

A. Non-FDA approved indications, which are not addressed in this policy, unless there is sufficient documentation of efficacy and safety according to the off label use policies – CP.PMN.53 for Medicaid or evidence of coverage documents;

B. Combination use with biological disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (bDMARDs) or potent immunosuppressants, including but not limited to any tumor necrosis factor (TNF) antagonists [e.g., Cimzia®, Enbrel®, Humira® and its biosimilars, Remicade® and its biosimilars, Simponi®], interleukin agents [e.g., Actemra® (IL-6RA) and its biosimilars, Arcalyst® (IL-1 blocker), Bimzelx® (IL-17A and F antagonist), Cosentyx® (IL-17A inhibitor), Ilaris® (IL-1 blocker), Ilumya™ (IL-23 inhibitor), Kevzara® (IL-6RA), Kineret® (IL-1RA), Omvoh™ (IL-23 antagonist), Siliq™ (IL-17RA), Skyrizi™ (IL-23 inhibitor), Spevigo® (IL-36 antagonist), Stelara® (IL-12/23 inhibitor) and its biosimilars, Taltz® (IL-17A inhibitor), Tremfya® (IL-23 inhibitor)], Janus kinase inhibitors (JAKi) [e.g., Cibinqo™, Olumiant™, Rinvoq™, Xeljanz®/Xeljanz® XR,], anti-CD20 monoclonal antibodies [Rituxan® and its biosimilars], selective co-stimulation modulators [Orencia®], integrin receptor antagonists [Entyvio®], tyrosine kinase 2 inhibitors [Sotyktu™], and sphingosine 1-phosphate receptor modulator [Velsipity™] because of the additive immunosuppression, increased risk of neutropenia, as well as increased risk of serious infections.

IV. Appendices/General Information

Appendix A: Abbreviation/Acronym Key

AS: ankylosing spondylitis
ERA: enthesitis-related arthritis
FDA: Food and Drug Administration
HS: Hidradenitis suppurativa
IL-17A: interleukin-17A
ILAR: International League of Associations for Rheumatology
JAKi: Janus kinase inhibitors
MTX: methotrexate
nr-axSpA: non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis
NSAID: non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug
PsA: psoriatic arthritis
PsO: plaque psoriasis

Appendix B: Therapeutic Alternatives
This table provides a listing of preferred alternative therapy recommended in the approval criteria. The drugs listed here may not be a formulary agent for all relevant lines of business and may require prior authorization.

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
acitretin (Soriatane®)	**PsO** 25 or 50 mg PO QD	50 mg/day
cyclosporine (Sandimmune®, Neoral®)	**PsO** 2.5 – 4 mg/kg/day PO divided BID	4 mg/kg/day
clindamycin (Cleocin®) + rifampin (Rifadin®)	**HS*** clindamycin 300 mg PO BID and rifampin 300 mg PO BID	clindamycin: 600 mg/day rifampin: 600 mg/day
doxycycline (Acticlate®)	**HS*** 50 – 100 mg PO BID	300 mg/day
Hormonal agents (e.g., estrogen-containing combined oral contraceptives, spironolactone)	**HS** varies	varies

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
Isotretinoin (Absorica®, Amnesteem®, Claravis®, Myorisan®, Zenatane®)	**HS** varies	varies
leflunomide (Arava®)	**ERA** Weight < 20 kg: 10 mg every other day Weight 20 - 40 kg: 10 mg/day Weight > 40 kg: 20 mg/day	20 mg/day
methotrexate (Rheumatrex®)	**PsO** 10 to 25 mg/week IM, SC or PO or 2.5 mg PO Q12 hr for 3 doses/week **ERA** 10 – 25 mg/week PO or 2.5 mg PO Q12 hr for 3 doses/week	30 mg/week
minocycline (Minocin®)	**HS*** 50 – 100 mg PO BID	200 mg/day
sulfasalazine (Azulfidine®)	**ERA** 30 to 50 mg/kg/day PO, given in 2 divided doses	2 g/day
NSAIDs (e.g., indomethacin, ibuprofen, naproxen, celecoxib)	**AS, nr-axSpA, ERA** Varies	Varies
Actemra® (tocilizumab)	**PJIA (includes ERA with polyarticular disease)** • Weight < 30 kg: 10 mg/kg IV every 4 weeks or 162 mg SC every 3 weeks • Weight ≥ 30 kg: 8 mg/kg IV every 4 weeks or 162 mg SC every 2 weeks *See Appendix E for dose rounding guidelines*	IV: 10 mg/kg every 4 weeks SC: 162 mg every 2 weeks
Cimzia® (certolizumab)	**nr-axSpA** Initial dose: 400 mg SC at 0, 2, and 4 weeks Maintenance dose: 200 mg SC every other week (or 400 mg SC every 4 weeks)	400 mg every 4 weeks
Hadlima (adalimumab-bwwd), Simlandi (adalimumab-ryvk), Yusimry (adalimumab-	**AS, PsA** 40 mg SC every other week **PsO**	**AS, PsA, PsO:** 40 mg every other week

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
aqvh), adalimumab-aaty (Yuflyma®), adalimumab-adaz (Hyrimoz®), adalimumab-fkjp (Hulio®), adalimumab-adbm (Cyltezo®)	Initial dose: 80 mg SC Maintenance dose: 40 mg SC every other week starting one week after initial dose **HS** Initial dose: 160 mg SC on day 1, then 80 mg SC on Day 15 Maintenance dose: 40 mg SC every week or 80 mg SC every other week starting on Day 29	**HS:** 40 mg/week
Otezla® (apremilast)	**PsA** Initial dose: Day 1: 10 mg PO QAM Day 2: 10 mg PO QAM and 10 mg PO QPM Day 3: 10 mg PO QAM and 20 mg PO QPM Day 4: 20 mg PO QAM and 20 mg PO QPM Day 5: 20 mg PO QAM and 30 mg PO QPM Maintenance dose: Day 6 and thereafter: 30 mg PO BID	60 mg/day
Otulfi® (ustekinumab-aauz), Pyzchiva® (ustekinumab-ttwe), Steqeyma® (ustekinumab-stba), Yesintek™ (ustekinumab-kfce)	**PsO** Weight based dosing SC at weeks 0 and 4, followed by maintenance dose every 12 weeks *Adult:* Weight ≤ 100 kg: 45 mg Weight > 100 kg: 90 mg *Pediatrics (age 6 years to 17 years):* **Otulfi, Pyzchiva, Yesintek:** Weight < 60 kg: 0.75 mg/kg	PsO: 90 every 12 weeks PsA: 45 mg every 12 weeks

Drug Name	Dosing Regimen	Dose Limit/ Maximum Dose
	Otulfi, Pyzchiva, Steqeyma, Yesintek: Weight 60 to 100 kg: 45 mg Weight > 100 kg: 90 mg **PsA** Weight based dosing SC at weeks 0 and 4, followed by maintenance dose every 12 weeks *Adult:* 45 mg SC at weeks 0 and 4, followed by 45 mg every 12 weeks *Pediatrics (age 6 years to 17 years):* Weight based dosing SC at weeks 0 and 4, then every 12 weeks thereafter **Otulfi, Pyzchiva, Yesintek:** Weight < 60 kg: 0.75 mg/kg **Otulfi, Pyzchiva, Steqeyma, Yesintek:** Weight ≥ 60 kg: 45 mg	
Taltz® (ixekizumab)	**AS, nr-axSpA, PsA** Initial dose: 160 mg (two 80 mg injections) SC at week 0 Maintenance dose: 80 mg SC every 4 weeks **PsO** Initial dose: 160 mg (two 80 mg injections) SC at week 0, then 80 mg SC at weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 Maintenance dose: 80 mg SC every 4 weeks	80 mg every 4 weeks
Xeljanz® (tofacitinib)	**AS, PsA** 5 mg PO BID	10 mg/day
Xeljanz XR® (tofacitinib extended-release)	**AS, PsA** 11 mg PO QD	11 mg/day

Therapeutic alternatives are listed as Brand name® (generic) when the drug is available by brand name only and generic (Brand name®) when the drug is available by both brand and generic.
**Off-label*

Appendix C: Contraindications/Boxed Warnings

- Contraindication(s): serious hypersensitivity reaction to secukinumab or to any of the excipients
- Boxed warning(s): none reported

Appendix D: General Information

- Definition of failure of MTX or DMARDs
  - Child-bearing age is not considered a contraindication for use of MTX. Each drug has risks in pregnancy. An educated patient and family planning would allow use of MTX in patients who have no intention of immediate pregnancy.
  - Social use of alcohol is not considered a contraindication for use of MTX. MTX may only be contraindicated if patients choose to drink over 14 units of alcohol per week. However, excessive alcohol drinking can lead to worsening of the condition, so patients who are serious about clinical response to therapy should refrain from excessive alcohol consumption.
- Examples of positive response to therapy may include, but are not limited to:
  - Reduction in joint pain/swelling/tenderness
  - Improvement in ESR/CRP levels
  - Improvements in activities of daily living
- ERA: Current International League of Associations for Rheumatology (ILAR) classification criteria divide JIA into 7 mutually exclusive categories defined by the number of joints involved, presence or absence of extraarticular manifestations, and presence or absence of additional markers including rheumatoid factor (RF) and HLA–B27. While the current ILAR classification criteria have been useful for identifying homogeneous groups of patients for research, more recent data suggest that these categories may not entirely reflect the underlying genetic and clinical heterogeneity of the disease or be relevant for guiding treatment decisions. According to the 2019 American College of Rheumatology, current treatment guideline focuses treatment approaches based on broad clinical phenotypes rather than ILAR categories.
- TNF blockers:
  - Etanercept (Enbrel®), adalimumab (Humira®) and its biosimilars, infliximab (Remicade®) and its biosimilars (Avsola™, Renflexis™, Inflectra®), certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®), and golimumab (Simponi®, Simponi Aria®).
- Hidradenitis suppurativa:
  - HS is sometimes referred to as: "acne inversa, acne conglobata, apocrine acne, apocrinitis, Fox-den disease, hidradenitis axillaris, HS, pyodermia sinifica fistulans, Velpeau's disease, and Verneuil's disease."
  - In HS, Hurley stages are used to determine severity of disease. Hurley stage II indicates moderate disease, and is characterized by recurrent abscesses, with sinus tracts and scarring, presenting as single or multiple widely separated lesions. Hurley stage III indicates severe disease, and is characterized by diffuse or near-diffuse involvement presenting as multiple interconnected tracts and abscesses across an entire area.

V. Dosage and Administration

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
PsO (with or without PsA)	Adults: 300 mg SC at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by 300 mg SC every 4 weeks. (for some patients, a dose of 150 mg may be acceptable) Pediatric patients age 6 to 17 years and weight < 50 kg (PsO only): 75 mg SC at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 75 mg every 4 weeks Pediatric patients age 6 to 17 years and weight ≥ 50 kg (PsO only): 150 mg SC at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks	Adults: 300 mg every 4 weeks Pediatric patients: 150 mg every 4 weeks
PsA	Adults: *Subcutaneous:* • With loading dose: 150 mg SC at week 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by 150 mg SC every 4 weeks • Without loading dose: 150 mg SC every 4 weeks. • If a patient continues to have active psoriatic arthritis, consider a dosage of 300 mg. *Intravenous infusion:* • With loading dose: 6 mg/kg IV at week 0, followed by 1.75 mg/kg IV every 4 weeks. • Without loading dose: 1.75 mg/kg IV every 4 weeks. Pediatric: *Subcutaneous:* Pediatric patients age 2 to 17 years and weight ≥ 15 kg and < 50 kg: 75 mg SC at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 75 mg every 4 weeks. Pediatric patients age 2 to 17 years old and weight ≥ 50 kg: 150 mg SC at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by a maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks.	Adults: 300 mg every 4 weeks Pediatric patients: 150 mg every 4 weeks
AS, nr-axSpA	*Subcutaneous:* • With loading dose: 150 mg SC at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by 150 mg SC every 4 weeks thereafter. • Without loading dose: 150 mg SC every 4 weeks. • For AS only: if a patient continues to have active ankylosing spondylitis, consider a dosage of 300 mg. *Intravenous infusion:* • With loading dose: 6 mg/kg IV at week 0, followed by 1.75 mg/kg IV every 4 weeks.	300 mg every 4 weeks nr-axSpA (SC): 150 mg every 4 weeks (after loading doses)

Indication	Dosing Regimen	Maximum Dose
	• Without loading dose: 1.75 mg/kg IV every 4 weeks.	
ERA	• Weight > 15 kg and < 50 kg: 75 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 75 mg every 4 weeks • Weight ≥ 50 kg: 150 mg at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 150 mg every 4 weeks	Weight < 50 kg: 75 mg every 4 weeks (after loading doses) Weight ≥ 50 kg: 150 mg every 4 weeks (after loading doses)
HS	300 mg SC at weeks 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4, followed by maintenance dose of 300 mg every 4 weeks Consider increasing the dosage to 300 mg every 2 weeks if patient does not adequately respond	300 mg every 2 weeks

VI. Product Availability

- Single-dose UnoReady pen: 300 mg/2 mL
- Single-dose Sensoready® pen: 150 mg/mL
- Single-dose prefilled syringe: 75 mg/0.5 mL, 150 mg/mL, 300 mg/2 mL
- Single-dose vial (for IV infusion): 125 mg/5 mL

VII. References

1. Cosentyx Prescribing Information. East Hanover, NJ: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; October 2024. Available at: https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2024/125504Orig1s080,%2076 1349O rig1s005lbl.pdf. Accessed February 28, 2025.
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Coding Implications
Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

HCPCS Codes	Description
J3247	Injection, secukinumab, intravenous, 1 mg

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date
Policy created	10/2025