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Medical benefit drug policies are a source for BCBSM and BCN medical policy information only. These documents are not to be used to determine benefits or reimbursement. Please reference the appropriate certificate or contract for benefit information. This policy may be updated and therefore subject to change.

Effective Date: 02/02/2023

Briumvi™ (ublituximab-xiyy)

HCPCS: J2329

Policy:

Requests must be supported by submission of chart notes and patient specific documentation.

- A. Coverage of the requested drug is provided when all the following are met:
 - a. FDA approved age
 - b. FDA approved indication
 - c. Will not be used in combination with other disease-modifying treatments of multiple sclerosis (MS)
 - d. Trial and failure, contraindication, OR intolerance to the preferred drugs as listed in BCBSM/BCN's utilization management medical drug list and/or BCBSM/BCN's prior authorization and step therapy documents

- B. Quantity Limitations, Authorization Period and Renewal Criteria
 - a. Quantity Limitations: Align with FDA recommended dosing and duration of treatment.
 - b. Authorization Period: One year at a time.
 - c. Renewal Criteria: Clinical documentation must be provided to confirm that current criteria are met and that the medication is providing clinical benefit, such as disease stability or improvement.

***Note: Coverage may differ for Medicare Part B members based on any applicable criteria outlined in Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) or National Coverage Determinations (NCD) as determined by Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). See the CMS website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/>. Determination of coverage of Part B drugs is based on medically accepted indications which have supported citations included or approved for inclusion determined by CMS approved compendia.

Background Information:

- Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic progressive inflammatory autoimmune disease of the central nervous system, involving axonal deterioration and demyelination. Signs and symptoms vary greatly and can include blurry or double vision, muscle weakness and stiffness, tingling in limbs, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, and many other debilitating symptoms. MS typically presents between the ages of 20 and 45, and women are affected by MS three times more frequently than men. Onset of symptoms before age 21 occurs in 3-5% of cases and is considered juvenile MS.

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- Several clinical presentations of MS have been identified including relapsing-remitting MS (RRMS), secondary progressive MS (SPMS), primary progressive MS (PPMS), and a rare form called progressive-relapsing (PRMS). All forms of MS are associated with neurologic dysfunction. Relapsing-remitting MS affects the majority of newly diagnosed individuals and about half of the people diagnosed with RRMS will transition to SPMS within 10-20 years of initial diagnosis. Relapses are characterized as periods of sudden worsening of symptoms or new symptoms. Often, the periods of remission between relapses will last weeks, months, or even years.
- Patients diagnosed with PPMS experience continued and gradual physical decline without remissions. Primary progressive MS affects as many men as women and typically presents after the age of 40. Progressive-relapsing MS affects only about 5% of patients diagnosed with MS and is characterized by steady worsening dysfunction with distinct exacerbations.
- The American Academy of Neurology (AAN) 2018 treatment guidelines for adults with MS state that there are a variety of disease modifying therapies (DMTs) available; therefore, evaluating patient preference may improve acceptance and adherence to DMT. Considerations when choosing DMT include safety, route of administration, lifestyle, cost, efficacy, common adverse effects, tolerability, comorbid conditions, and concomitant medications. Recommendations for first-line therapy are not specified, with the exception of Lemtrada (alemtuzumab), Tysabri (natalizumab), and Gilenya (fingolimod) for highly active MS and Ocrevus (ocrelizumab) for primary progressive MS.
- There are no formal guidelines for the treatment of pediatric MS which is rare. Less than 5,000 children and teens are living with MS in the United States. Pediatric patients with MS typically experience more frequent relapses compared to adults with MS but recover from relapses more quickly than adults. Although Gilenya and Tascenso ODT are the only approved therapies for pediatric MS, many of the disease modifying therapies prescribed for adults with MS are also prescribed for pediatric MS based on supporting data such as small retrospective studies and case studies.

References:

1. Drug Facts and Comparisons. eFacts (online). 2022. Available from Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc. Accessed January 3, 2023.
2. Rae-Grant A, Day GS, Marrie RA, et al. Practice guideline recommendations summary: disease-modifying therapies for adults with multiple sclerosis. Report of the guideline development, dissemination, and implementation subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2018;90:777-788. Available at: <https://n.neurology.org/content/neurology/90/17/777.full.pdf>. Accessed on January 3, 2023.
3. Lotze TE. Treatment and prognosis of pediatric multiple sclerosis. In: UpToDate, Post TW (Ed), UpToDate, Waltham, MA. (Accessed on January 3, 2023).
4. National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Pediatric MS. Available at: <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/For-Professionals/Clinical-Care/Managing-MS/Pediatric-MS>. Accessed on January 3, 2023.
5. IPD Analytics. Payer & Provider Insights. January 2022. Accessed January 3, 2023. <https://www.ipdanalytics.com>

Policy History												
#	Date	Change Description										
1.1	Effective Date: 02/02/2023	Multiple sclerosis policy updated to include Briumvi										
1.0	Effective Date: 01/26/2023	UM medical management system update for BCBSM and BCN <table border="1" data-bbox="485 333 1365 543"> <thead> <tr> <th>Line of Business</th> <th>PA Required in Medical Management System (Yes/No)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BCBS</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BCN</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MAPPO</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BCNA</td> <td>No</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Line of Business	PA Required in Medical Management System (Yes/No)	BCBS	Yes	BCN	Yes	MAPPO	No	BCNA	No
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* The prescribing information for a drug is subject to change. To ensure you are reading the most current information it is advised that you reference the most updated prescribing information by visiting the drug or manufacturer website or <http://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/index.cfm>.