

# AvMed

## MEDICAL PRIOR AUTHORIZATION/STEP-EDIT REQUEST\*

**Directions:** The prescribing physician must sign and clearly print name (preprinted stamps not valid) on this request. All other information may be filled in by office staff; **fax to 1-877-535-1391**. No additional phone calls will be necessary if all information (including phone and fax #s) on this form is correct. **If information provided is not complete, correct, or legible, authorization can be delayed.**

**For Medicare Members:** Medicare Coverage for outpatient (Part B) drugs is outlined in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual (Pub. 100-2), Chapter 15, §50 Drugs and Biologicals. In addition, National Coverage Determination (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) may exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. They can be found at: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/overview-and-quick-search.aspx>. Additional indications may be covered at the discretion of the health plan.

**Drug Requested:** Select drug below **(Medical)** (Non-Preferred)

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Riabni™</b> (rituximab-arrx) (Q5123)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rituxan®</b> (rituximab) (J9312)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Ruxience™</b> (rituximab-pvvr) (Q5119)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Truxima®</b> (rituximab-abbs) (Q5115)

**MEMBER & PRESCRIBER INFORMATION:** Authorization may be delayed if incomplete.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member AvMed #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Prescriber Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Prescriber Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

NPI #: \_\_\_\_\_

**DRUG INFORMATION:** Authorization may be delayed if incomplete.

Drug Name/Form/Strength: \_\_\_\_\_

Dosing Schedule: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Therapy: \_\_\_\_\_

Diagnosis: \_\_\_\_\_ ICD Code, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Weight (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ Date weight obtained: \_\_\_\_\_

- Standard Review. In checking this box, the timeframe does not jeopardize the life or health of the member or the member's ability to regain maximum function and would not subject the member to severe pain.

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**CLINICAL CRITERIA:** Check below all that apply. All criteria must be met for approval. To support each line checked, all documentation, including lab results, diagnostics, and/or chart notes, must be provided or request may be denied.

**DIAGNOSES:** Check below one of the diagnosis that applies to qualify.

**Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)**

- Prescriber is a rheumatologist

**AND**

- Member has a diagnosis of moderate- to-severe rheumatoid arthritis

**AND**

- Trial and failure of at least three (3) months of methotrexate therapy

**AND**

- Trial and failure of **BOTH** preferred medical biologics: Renflexis® or unbranded Infliximab **AND** Cimzia®

**Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis OR Microscopic Polyangiitis**

**INITIAL THERAPY [Ruxience, Truxima, Rituxan, Riabni]**

- Prescriber is a rheumatologist or nephrologist

**AND**

- Member has a diagnosis of moderate- to-severe granulomatosis with polyangiitis

**AND**

- Member will receive concurrent therapy with corticosteroids

**AND**

- Member failed cyclophosphamide therapy

**OR**

- Member has a contraindication to cyclophosphamide therapy:

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**Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis OR Microscopic Polyangiitis**

**MAINTENANCE THERAPY [Ruxience, Truxima, Rituxan, Riabni]**

- Prescriber is a rheumatologist or nephrologist

**AND**

- Induction occurred at least 4 months prior

**AND**

- Total duration of treatment does not exceed 24 months

**AND**

- Member failed methotrexate or azathioprine therapy

**OR**

- Member has a contraindication to methotrexate or azathioprine therapy:

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**Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder (NMOSD) [Ruxience, Truxima, Rituxan, Riabni]**

- Prescribing physician must be a neurologist

**AND**

- Member must be 18 years of age or older

**AND**

- Provider must submit medical records (e.g. chart notes) confirming the member has a diagnosis of Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder (NMOSD) based on the following:

- Member was found to be seropositive for aquaporin-4 (AQP4) IgG antibodies; **AND**
- Member has at least one core clinical characteristic (see chart below)

**OR**

- Member was found to be seronegative for AQP-4 IgG antibodies OR has unknown AQP-4- IgG status; **AND**
- Member has at least two core clinical characteristics occurring as a result of one or more clinical attacks (see chart below); **AND**

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- Member experienced **ALL** the following:
  - At least 1 core clinical characteristic must be optic neuritis, acute myelitis with LETM\*, or area postrema syndrome
  - Dissemination in space ( $\geq 2$  different core clinical characteristics)
  - Fulfillment of additional MRI requirements, as applicable (see chart below)

**AND**

- Alternative diagnoses have been excluded (e.g., multiple sclerosis, sarcoidosis, cancer, chronic infection, etc.)

**AND**

- Member must have failed at least **ONE** of the following treatment options:
  - Oral therapy with azathioprine, methotrexate, mitoxantrone or mycophenolate
  - Member has required plasmapheresis or plasma exchange (PE) or intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG)

<b>Core Clinical Characteristics of NMOSD</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optic neuritis</li> <li>• Acute myelitis</li> <li>• Area postrema syndrome: episode of otherwise unexplained hiccups or nausea and vomiting</li> <li>• Acute brainstem syndrome</li> <li>• Symptomatic narcolepsy or acute diencephalic clinical syndrome with NMOSD-typical diencephalic MRI lesions</li> <li>• Symptomatic cerebral syndrome with NMOSD-typical brain lesions</li> </ul>
<b>Core Clinical Characteristics of NMOSD</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acute optic neuritis: requires brain MRI showing (a) normal findings or only nonspecific white matter lesions, OR (b) optic nerve MRI with T2-hyperintense lesion or T1-weighted gadolinium- enhancing lesion extending over <math>&gt;1/2</math> optic nerve length or involving optic chiasm</li> <li>• Acute myelitis: requires associated intramedullary MRI lesion extending over <math>\geq 3</math> contiguous segments (LETM) OR <math>\geq 3</math> contiguous segments of focal spinal cord atrophy in patients with history compatible with acute myelitis</li> <li>• Area postrema syndrome: requires associated dorsal medulla/area postrema lesions</li> <li>• Acute brainstem syndrome: requires associated peri-ependymal brainstem lesions</li> </ul>

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pemphigus Vulgaris (PV) [Ruxience, Truxima, Rituxan, Riabni]</b>
<b><u>Initial Authorization: 12 months</u></b>

- Member must be 18 years of age or older

**AND**

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- Member has a diagnosis of pemphigus vulgaris as determined by at least **ONE** of the following (**submit documentation, check all that apply**):
    - Member has one or more of the following clinical features (**check all that apply**):
      - Appearance of lesions, erosions and/or blisters
      - Nikolsky sign (induction of blistering via mechanical pressure at the edge of a blister or on normal skin)
      - Characteristic scarring and lesion distribution
    - Histopathologic confirmation by skin/mucous membrane biopsy
    - Positive direct immunofluorescence (DIF) microscopy result **OR** presence of autoantibodies as detected by direct immunofluorescence or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)
- AND**
- Member has moderate to severe disease as assessed utilizing an objective measure/tool (i.e. PDAI, PSS, ABSIS) (**submit documentation**)
- AND**
- Member is on combination glucocorticoid therapy (**verified by chart notes and/or pharmacy paid claims**)
- AND**
- Provider attests other causes of blistering or erosive skin and mucous membrane diseases have been ruled out

<b><input type="checkbox"/> Pemphigus Vulgaris (PV) [Ruxience, Truxima, Rituxan, Riabni]</b>
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<b><u>Reauthorization: 12 months</u></b>
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- Member must meet **ONE** of the following (**submit documentation**):
    - Member has demonstrated disease response as indicated by complete epithelialization of lesions and improvement in signs and symptoms of condition compared to baseline
    - Member has **NOT** experienced continued development of new lesions, continued extension of old lesions, or failure of established lesions to begin to heal despite therapy
    - For Relapses **ONLY**: Member meets **BOTH** of the following:
      - Member has had active disease control
      - Member has the appearance of 3 or more new lesions a month that do not heal spontaneously within 1 week, or by the extension of established lesions
- AND**
- Member is currently receiving tapering doses of corticosteroids or has discontinued use of corticosteroids (**verified by chart notes and/or pharmacy paid claims**)

**AND**

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- Member has **NOT** experienced unacceptable toxicity from the drug (e.g., severe infusion reactions, tumor lysis syndrome (TLS), severe mucocutaneous reactions, progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML), viral hepatitis, serious bacterial, fungal, or viral infections, cardiac arrhythmias, renal toxicity, bowel obstruction or perforation)

**Medication being provided by:** Please check applicable box below.

- Location/site of drug administration:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**NPI or DEA # of administering location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

- Specialty Pharmacy**

For urgent reviews: Practitioner should call AvMed Pre-Authorization Department if they believe a standard review would subject the member to adverse health consequences. AvMed's definition of urgent is a lack of treatment that could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the member or the member's ability to regain maximum function.

***\*\*Use of samples to initiate therapy does not meet step edit/ preauthorization criteria.\*\****  
***\*Previous therapies will be verified through pharmacy paid claims or submitted chart notes.\****