

**Generic Name:** Tezepelumab-ekko**Preferred:** N/A**Therapeutic Class or Brand Name:** Tezspire**Non-preferred:** N/A**Applicable Drugs (if Therapeutic Class):** N/A**Date of Origin:** 4/28/2022**Date Last Reviewed / Revised:** 4/28/2022

## PRIOR AUTHORIZATION CRITERIA

(May be considered medically necessary when criteria I and II are met)

- I. Documented diagnosis of severe asthma and must meet all criteria:
  - A. Severe asthma AND criteria 1 through 3 are met:
    1. Documentation that patient has been on a minimum of a six-month trial of a high-dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) used in combination with a long-acting inhaled beta-2 agonist (LABA) AND both criteria a and b are met:
      - a) Documentation that patient is adherent to therapy as evidenced by pharmacy claims review (patient must have MPR greater than or equal to 80% over the previous 180 days).
      - b) Documentation that patient's asthma symptoms are poorly controlled despite therapy.
    2. Documentation that environmental factors and comorbid conditions that worsen patient's asthma symptoms are being identified and resolved.
    3. Minimum age requirement: 12 years old.
- II. Medication is prescribed by or in consultation with an allergist, immunologist, or pulmonologist.

## EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Concurrent use with other anti-asthma monoclonal antibodies (i.e. Cinqair® (reslizumab), Fasentra™ (benralizumab), Nucala® (mepolizumab), Dupixent® (dupilumab), Xolair® (omalizumab)).
- Treatment of acute bronchospasm or status asthmaticus.

## OTHER CRITERIA

- N/A

## QUANTITY / DAYS SUPPLY RESTRICTIONS

- Up to one 210mg syringe every 4 weeks.

## APPROVAL LENGTH

- **Authorization:** 6 months
- **Re-Authorization:** An updated letter of medical necessity or progress notes showing current medical necessity criteria are met and that the medication is effective.

## APPENDIX

N/A

## REFERENCES

1. Tezspire™ [Package Insert], Thousand Oaks, CA; Amgen, Inc.; December 2021.
2. Corren, J. et. al., Tezepelumab improves patient-reported outcomes in patients with severe, uncontrolled asthma in PATHWAY. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.* 2021 Feb;126(2):187-193. doi: 10.1016/j.anai.2020.10.008. Epub 2020 Oct 23.
3. Menzies-Gow, A. et. al., Tezepelumab in Adults and Adolescents with Severe, Uncontrolled Asthma. *N Engl J Med.* 2021 May 13;384(19):1800-1809. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2034975.
4. Menzies-Gow, A. et. al., NAVIGATOR: a phase 3 multicentre, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of tezepelumab in adults and adolescents with severe, uncontrolled asthma. *Respir Res.* 2020; 21: 266. Published online 2020 Oct 13. doi: 10.1186/s12931-020-01526-6
5. Reddel, H.K., et. al., Global Initiative for Asthma Strategy 2021: Executive Summary and Rationale for Key Changes. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med.* 2022 Jan 1;205(1):17-35. doi: 10.1164/rccm.202109-2205PP.
6. Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER). Tezepelumab for Severe Asthma. Evidence Report. November 4, 2021.

**DISCLAIMER:** Medication Policies are developed to help ensure safe, effective and appropriate use of selected medications. They offer a guide to coverage and are not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Refer to Plan for individual adoption of specific Medication Policies. Providers are expected to exercise their medical judgement in providing the most appropriate care for their patients.