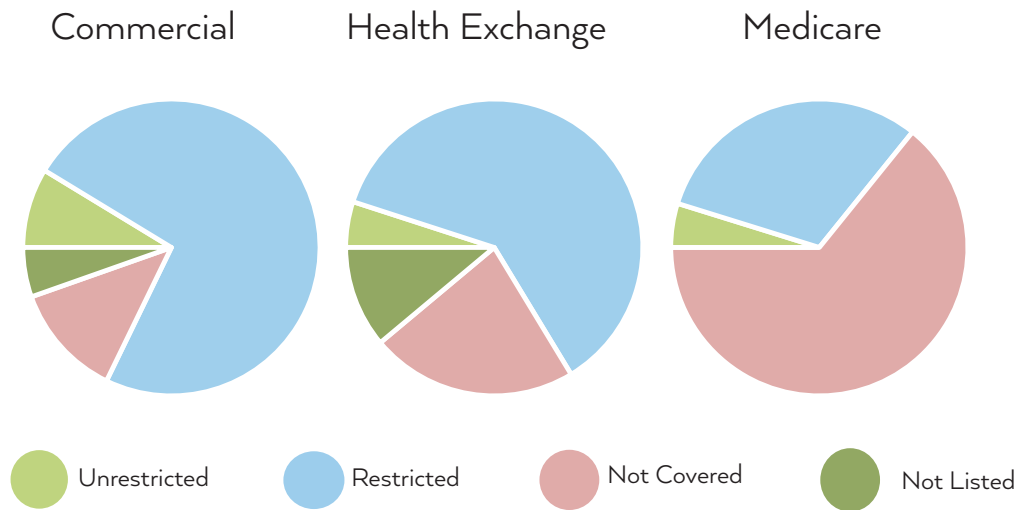


Reality Check: Psoriasis (PsO)

Coverage

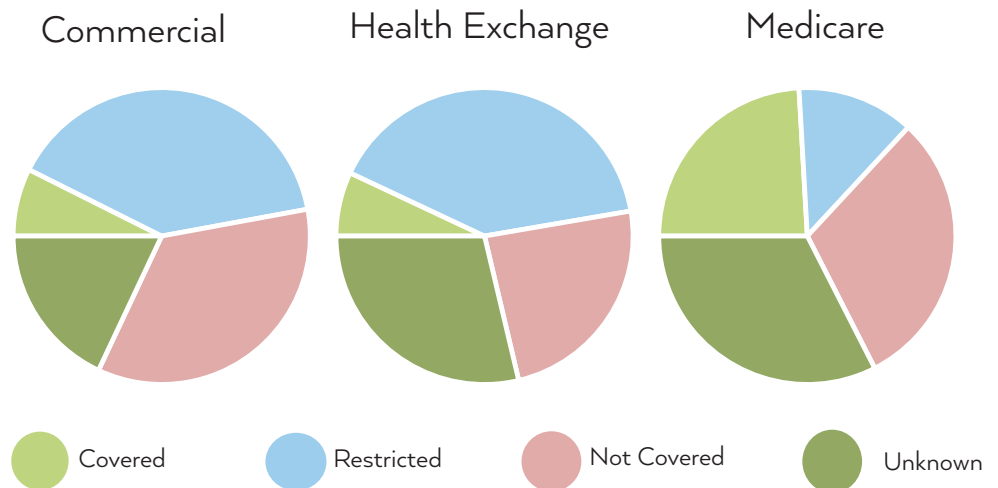
Pharmacy Benefit

Under the pharmacy benefit, almost 74% of the lives under commercial formularies are covered with utilization management restrictions. Around 64% of the lives under Medicare pharmacy benefit formularies are not covered for at least one of the drugs.



Medical Benefit

Under the medical benefit, about 40% of the lives under commercial and health exchange policies are covered with utilization management restrictions. More than 24% of Medicare beneficiaries have access to the medications without restrictions.



Key Players

abbvie

AMGEN

Celgene

Johnson & Johnson
Pharmaceutical Research & Development, L.L.C.

Lilly

MERCK

NOVARTIS

Pfizer

SUN
PHARMA

ucb

VALEANT
Pharmaceuticals International

Reality Check: Psoriasis (PsO)

Trends

FDA Approved Hadlima

In July 2019, the FDA approved Samsung Bioepis Co., Ltd.'s Hadlima (adalimumab-bwvd) for the treatment of plaque psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile idiopathic arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, adult Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. It is the fourth biosimilar of AbbVie Inc.'s Humira (adalimumab) that the agency has approved. Merck & Co., Inc. will commercialize the drug in the U.S. It is expected to launch after June 30, 2023.

[Subscribers to AIS's RADAR on Specialty Pharmacy may read the in-depth article online](#)



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New FDA Specialty Approvals

Aug 1, 2019

- June 28: The FDA approved Thiola EC** (topiroxifen) in combination with high fluid intake, alkali and prevention of cystine stone formation in adults and pediatric patients weighing at least 20 kg with severe cystinuria. The drug from Retrophin, Inc. is a new enteric-coated formulation of Thiola, which the FDA has approved. The recommended starting dose of the new tablet differs between adults and pediatric patients. Wholesale acquisition cost is more than \$640. Visit www.thiola.com.
- July 3: The FDA gave accelerated approval to Karyopharm Therapeutics Inc.'s Xpovio** (selinexor) for the treatment of adults with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma who have received at least two proteasome inhibitors, two immunomodulatory CD38 monoclonal antibodies. Dosing for Xpovio is 80 mg via four 20 mg tablets on days one and three of each 21-day cycle. Wholesale acquisition cost is \$22,000 per month. Visit www.xpovio.com.
- July 4: The FDA approved Grifols' Xembify** (immune globulin subcutaneous human khw) to treat immunodeficiency disease in people at least two years old. Dosing and dosing intervals for the subcutaneous formulation are based on a patient's serum IgG trough level and weight. The company says it plans to launch the therapy in the U.S. For more information, visit www.xembify.com.

FDA Approved AbbVie's Injectable Skyrizi

In April 2019, the FDA approved AbbVie Inc.'s injectable Skyrizi (risankizumab-rzaa) for the treatment of plaque psoriasis. AbbVie's Humira pen is one of the most advantaged therapies for the treatment of plaque psoriasis, holding preferred status for 9% of covered lives, which grows to 60% including prior authorization and step therapy.

[Via AIS Health](#)




Datapoint: FDA Approved AbbVie's Injectable Skyrizi
Apr 30, 2019

The FDA last week approved AbbVie's injectable Skyrizi for the treatment of plaque psoriasis. AbbVie's Humira pen is the most advantaged therapy for the treatment of plaque psoriasis, holding preferred status for 9% of covered lives, which grows to 60% including prior authorization and step therapy. AbbVie may soon be reckoning with an onslaught of competition to Humira, as the drug's patent expired in Europe at the end of 2018.

SOURCE: MMIT Analytics, as of 4/26/19

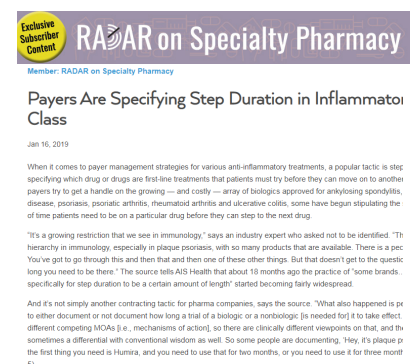
Datapoint
Drug Benefits



Payers Specify Step Duration

As payers try to get a handle on the growing and costly array of biologics approved for psoriasis and other inflammatory conditions, some have begun stipulating the specific length of time patients need to be on a particular drug before they can step to the next drug. "It's a growing restriction that we see in immunology," says an industry expert. "There is a hierarchy in immunology, especially in plaque psoriasis, with so many products that are available."

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Payers Are Specifying Step Duration in Inflammatory Class

Jan 16, 2019

When it comes to payer management strategies for various anti-inflammatory treatments, a popular tactic is step therapy, specifying which drug or drugs are first-line treatments that patients must try before they can move on to another drug. The hierarchy in immunology, especially in plaque psoriasis, with so many products that are available. There is a pecking order that payers try to get a handle on the growing — and costly — array of biologics approved for ankylosing spondylitis, Crohn's disease, psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and ulcerative colitis. Some have begun stipulating the length of time patients need to be on a particular drug before they can step to the next drug.

"It's a growing restriction that we see in immunology," says an industry expert who asked not to be identified. "The hierarchy in immunology, especially in plaque psoriasis, with so many products that are available. There is a pecking order that payers try to get a handle on the growing — and costly — array of biologics approved for ankylosing spondylitis, Crohn's disease, psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and ulcerative colitis. Some have begun stipulating the length of time patients need to be on a particular drug before they can step to the next drug."

And it's not simply another contracting tactic for pharma companies, says the source. "What also happened is prior to either document or not document how long a trial of a biologic or a nonbiologic [is needed for] it to take effect. Different competing MOAs [i.e., mechanisms of action], so there are clinically different viewpoints on that, and it's sometimes a differential with conventional wisdom as well. So some people are documenting, 'Hey, it's plaque psoriasis, the first thing you need is Humira, and you need to use that for two months, or you need to use it for three months or four months.'"

Reality Check: Psoriasis (PsO)

Key Findings

Market Events Drive Changes

In July 2019, the FDA approved Samsung Bioepis Co., Ltd.'s Hadlima (adalimumab-bwwd) for the treatment of plaque psoriasis, among other conditions. It is the fourth biosimilar of AbbVie Inc.'s Humira (adalimumab) that the agency has approved. In April 2019, the FDA approved AbbVie's injectable Skyrizi (risankizumab-rzaa) for the treatment of plaque psoriasis.

Competitive Market Landscape

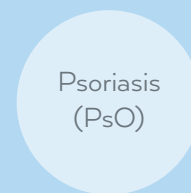
Manufacturers with franchises across inflammatory indications often hold contracting power and improved position, which is everything in this market. While a tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitor is nearly always the first-line biologic after generics, there are situations where others (like Janus kinase inhibitors) have been placed on this tier. The entrance of interleukin inhibitors in recent years, with more on the way, means the desire to move past a TNF agent for better efficacy is something plans protect against and occasionally embrace. The sheer volume of products and manufacturers with products in this class, coupled with the relatively high number of possible patients, means that contracting competition is enormous.

Medical and Pharmacy Benefit Implications

Many products are covered under both the medical and pharmacy benefits, with even infusions covered under the pharmacy benefit. Cost sharing on the specialty tier is common with patient support available.

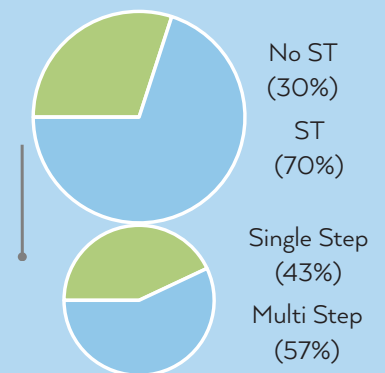
Characteristics

Indications



Step-Therapy (ST) Policies

A review of ST policies for payer-controlled formularies:



Prior-Authorization (PA) Policies

A review of PA policies for payer-controlled formularies:

