

Janus Kinase Inhibitors

Adjudication Guideline

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Pharmaceutical

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1. Abstract

1.1 For Members

Janus Kinase inhibitors are drugs used to treat moderate to severe chronic inflammatory autoimmune disease like Rheumatoid Arthritis, Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis, Ankylosing Spondylitis, Psoriatic Arthritis, Crohn's disease, Ulcerative Colitis, Alopecia Areata and Atopic Dermatitis, Janus Kinase drugs may not be used as a first line treatment.

1.2 For Medical Professionals

JAK inhibitors (JAKi) are a type of immune modulating medication, which inhibits the activity of one or more of the Janus kinase family of enzymes (JAK1, JAK2, JAK3, TYK2), thereby interfering with the JAK-STAT signaling pathway in lymphocytes. JAKi offer an alternative treatment option for moderate to severe autoimmune diseases, particularly for patients who have failed to respond to or are intolerant of conventional therapies.

2. Scope

Scope of this adjudication rule is to highlight the medical indications, and coverage details of JAKi drugs (Abrocitinib, Baricitinib, Filgotinib, Tofacitinib and Upadacitinib) as per policy terms and conditions of each health insurance plan administered by Daman.

3. Adjudication Policy

3.1 Eligibility / Coverage Criteria

Janus Kinase inhibitors are drugs used to treat moderate to severe chronic inflammatory autoimmune disease. like Rheumatoid Arthritis, Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis, Ankylosing Spondylitis, Psoriatic Arthritis, Crohn's disease, Ulcerative Colitis, Alopecia Areata and Atopic Dermatitis, Janus Kinase drugs may not be used as a first line treatment.

Treatment evaluation:

- Patients who have failed prior lines of treatment* may consider treatment with JAK inhibitors.
- Prior lines include the following:
 - **DMARDs OR Biological medications – Autoimmune disease*
 - **Topical Calcineurin inhibitors – Atopic Dermatitis*
 - **Topical Corticosteroids, Topical Minoxidil – Alopecia Areata*
- Ensure disease activity score index marks a moderate to severe disease activity.
- Related lab test should be documented in the medical report for evaluation along with the disease activity score index.
- History of medication must be documented in the medical report.

ACCEPTABLE DISEASE ACTIVITY INDEX SCORING

| Medical condition | Accepted Disease Score Activity index |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Rheumatoid Arthritis | DAS >3.2 moderate to severe |
| Ankylosing Spondylitis | CDAI >10, ASDAS >2.1 moderate to severe |
| Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis | VAS <6 |
| Psoriatic Arthritis | PsARC number of swollen and tender joints over 68, DAS28 >3.2 DAPSA >15, SDAI >11 moderate to severe. |
| Ulcerative Colitis | UCDAI >11 Moderate to severe |
| Crohn's disease | CDAI >220 |
| Atopic Dermatitis | ADSI/SCORAD >2 and EASI >25 moderate to severe |
| Alopecia Areata | AASI, SALT >50% |

Dosage and Administration:

The recommended dose of JAKi drugs as per labelled indications and dose:

| Medical condition | JAKi option | Dose at initiation | Maintenance dose | Dose Optimizing |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Rheumatoid Arthritis | Baricitinib | 2 mg once daily | 2 mg once daily | 4 mg once daily |
| | Filgotinib | 200 mg once daily | 200 mg Once daily | NA |
| | Tofacitinib | 5 mg twice daily | 5 mg twice daily | NA |
| | | OR 11 mg Once daily | OR 11 mg Once daily | |
| | Upadacitinib | 15 mg Once daily | 15 mg Once daily | NA |
| Ankylosing Spondylitis | Tofacitinib | 5 mg twice daily | 5 mg twice daily | NA |
| | | OR 11 mg Once daily | OR 11 mg Once daily | |
| | Upadacitinib | 15 mg Once daily | 15 mg Once daily | NA |
| Psoriatic Arthritis | Tofacitinib | 5 mg twice daily | 5 mg twice daily | NA |
| | | OR 11 mg Once daily | OR 11 mg Once daily | |
| | Upadacitinib | 15 mg Once daily | 15 mg Once daily | NA |

| | | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis | Tofacitinib | 5 mg twice daily | 5 mg twice daily | NA |
| Ulcerative Colitis | Filgotinib | 200 mg once daily | 200 mg Once daily | NA |
| | Tofacitinib | 10 mg twice daily | 5 mg twice daily | 10 mg twice daily |
| | | OR | OR | OR |
| | | 22 mg Once daily | 11 mg Once daily | 22 mg Once daily (limited to the shortest duration) |
| | Upadacitinib | 45 mg once daily | 15 mg or 30 mg | NA |
| | | | Once daily | |
| Crohn's Disease | Upadacitinib | 45 mg once daily | 15 mg or 30 mg | NA |
| | | | Once daily | |
| Dermatitis (Moderate to Severe) | Abrocitinib | 100 mg once daily | 100 mg once daily | 200 mg |
| | | | | once daily |
| | Upadacitinib | 15 mg or 30 mg | 15 mg or 30 mg | NA |
| | | Once daily | Once daily | |
| | Baricitinib | 2 mg once daily | 2 mg once daily | 4 mg once daily |
| Alopecia Areata (severe) | Baricitinib | 2 mg once daily | 2 mg once daily | 4 mg once daily |

3.2 Requirements for Coverage

- Failure to submit, upon request or when requesting a clinical history, indication the need for testing will result in rejection of claim.
- Kindly code the ICD-10 and the CPT codes to the highest level of specificity
- Eligible Clinician Specialties.

| Eligible Ordering Clinicians per Generics | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Abrocitinib | Baricitinib | Filgotinib | Tofacitinib | Upadacitinib |
| Dermatology | Internal Medicine | Internal Medicine | Internal Medicine | Dermatology |
| Pediatric Dermatology | Allergy | Gastroenterology | Rheumatology | Pediatric Dermatology |
| Immunology | Dermatology | Rheumatology | Immunology | Immunology |

| | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Pediatrics | Rheumatology | immunology and allergy | Immunology and Allergy | Allergy |
| Adolescent Medicine | Immunology | Immunology | Adolescent Medicine | Gastroenterology |
| immunology and allergy | Immunology and Allergy | | Pediatrics | Immunology and Allergy |
| Internal Medicine | | | Pediatric Rheumatology | Immunology |
| Allergy | | | Allergy | Rheumatology |
| | | | Immunology and Allergy | Internal Medicine |
| | | | Gastroenterology | Pediatric |
| | Pediatrics/ Allergy | | Pediatrics/ Allergy | |

3.3 Non-Coverage

- Visitor Plan
- Basic Plan

3.4 Payment and Coding Rules

Kindly apply DOH payment rules and regulations and relevant coding manuals for ICD, Drugs.

4. Denial Codes

Regulator denial codes with description are elaborated for reference. These are specialized codes directed by regulator, that explains the reason of rejection of the service by DAMAN to the providers.

| Code | Code Description |
|----------|--|
| MNEC-003 | Service is not clinically indicated based on good clinical practice~MNEC-003 |
| MNEC-004 | Service is not clinically indicated based on good clinical practice, without additional supporting diagnoses/activities~MNEC-004 |
| MNEC-005 | Service/supply may be appropriate, but too frequent~MNEC-005 |
| MNEC-006 | Alternative service should have been utilized~MNEC-006 |
| CODE-010 | Activity/diagnosis inconsistent with clinician specialty~CODE-010 |

5. Appendices

5.1 References

[Janus kinase inhibitors \(JAKi\) - referral | European Medicines Agency \(europa.eu\)](#)
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[Alopecia areata - Treatment algorithm | BMJ Best Practice](#)
[Alopecia areata - Emerging treatments | BMJ Best Practice](#)
[Contact dermatitis - Treatment algorithm | BMJ Best Practice](#)
[VALIDITY OF OUTCOME MEASURES - Budesonide \(Cortiment MMX\) - NCBI Bookshelf \(nih.gov\)](#)
[Treating Psoriatic Arthritis to Target: Defining Psoriatic Arthritis Disease Activity Score \(PASDAS\) That Reflects State Of Minimal Disease Activity \(MDA\) | The Journal of Rheumatology \(irheum.org\)](#)
[Clinical outcome measures in juvenile idiopathic arthritis | Pediatric Rheumatology | Full Text \(biomedcentral.com\)](#)
<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/medicines/human/referrals/janus-kinase-inhibitors-jaki#overview> <https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/janus-kinase-jak-inhibitors-new-measures-to-reduce-risks-of-major-cardiovascular-events-malignancy-venous-thromboembolism-serious-infections-and-increased-mortality> <https://www.aad.org/public/diseases/a-z/jak-inhibitors>

5.2 Revision History

| Date | Version No. | Change(s) |
|------------|-------------|---|
| 11/06/2024 | V1.0 | Creation of Adjudication Guideline-External Instruction Template. |
| 07/11/2024 | V2.0 | Content update – treatment line tagging removed from the table, additional note treatment evaluation added. |
| 28/04/2025 | V3.0 | Baricitinib diagnosis update |

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