Prior Authorization Checklist for Primary Immunodeficiency (PI) Patients

Example Documents Useful for Prior Authorizations, Reauthorizations and Appeals

LABORATORY REPORTS

☐ Complete Blood Count (CBC) with differential, if applicable
☐ Total immunoglobulin levels (IgG, IgM, IgA)

Specific antibody titer measurements via vaccine challenge (if applicable)
  ☐ Pneumococcal
  ☐ Diphtheria
  ☐ Tetanus
  ☐ Genetic testing confirming the diagnosis, if applicable

CLINICAL RECORDS

Medical History
  ☐ History of infections
    ☐ Onset
    ☐ How many infections per year
    ☐ Site of infections
    ☐ Severity of infections
  ☐ IV antibiotic use
    ☐ Courses of antibiotics per year
    ☐ Types of antibiotics used
    ☐ Duration of antibiotic treatment

☐ Control of underlying conditions, such as asthma or allergic rhinitis
☐ Diagnostic imaging
☐ Previous use of IgG treatment and response
☐ Hospitalizations due to infection
☐ History of surgeries

Diagnosis
  ☐ Type of primary immunodeficiency

Reauthorization
  ☐ Response to IgG treatment
  ☐ Revaccination testing (after any cessation of IgG treatment)
  ☐ Physical examination

This is not an algorithm for the diagnosis of primary immunodeficiency. For an algorithm, please refer to the AAAAI/AACAI Practice parameter for the diagnosis and management of primary immunodeficiency referenced on the next page.
Top Reasons Prior Authorization May Be Denied:

- Some of the required information is missing to substantiate the need for IgG treatment
- Health plan is unfamiliar with the subtleties of PI diagnosis

How to Construct an Effective Appeal Letter

- Be prompt—an immediate appeal letter can help initiate IgG treatment as soon as possible to help reduce the risk of further patient infections
- Be precise—quantify episodes of infection, courses and duration of antibiotics, and other specific laboratory reports and clinical records including chest x-rays
- Document serious infections and complications that have not responded to medical or surgical intervention
- Turn to national guidelines (e.g., AAAAI and ACAAI) for references to support your patient’s PI diagnosis
- Solicit a second opinion from an HCP who is qualified to review the case and write a letter to support the need for IgG treatment
- Provide the names of well-known immunologists who have published scientific research on the diagnosis in question and request that they serve as peer reviewers, should the insurer deem that step necessary

Should you need to file an appeal, consider supporting your case with national guidelines or other literature including the following:


American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) website: www.aaaai.org.
American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (ACAAI) website: www.acaai.org

For further information, contact the Shire’s Resource Helpline at 1-888-229-8379