

## RS2125 - Tocilizumab

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Use this checklist to determine if a patient meets the restrictions for funding in the **hospital setting**. For more details, refer to [Section H](#) of the Pharmaceutical Schedule. For community funding, see the [Special Authority Criteria](#).

**PRESCRIBER**

Name: .....

Ward: .....

**PATIENT:**

Name: .....

NHI: .....

**Tocilizumab**

**INITIATION – cytokine release syndrome**

Re-assessment required after 3 doses

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- The patient has developed grade 3 or 4 cytokine release syndrome associated with the administration of blinatumomab for the treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia
- and**
- Tocilizumab is to be administered at doses no greater than 8 mg/kg IV for a maximum of 3 doses (if less than 30kg, maximum of 12 mg/kg)

**or**

- The patient is enrolled in the Malaghan Institute of Medical Research ENABLE trial programme
- and**
- The patient has developed CRS or Immune Effector Cell-Associated Neurotoxicity Syndrome (ICANS) following CAR T-Cell therapy for the treatment of relapsed or refractory B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma
- and**
- Tocilizumab is to be administered according to the consensus guidelines for CRS or ICANS for CAR T-cell therapy at doses no greater than 8 mg/kg IV for a maximum of 3 doses

**INITIATION – previous use**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by any relevant practitioner, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

**and**

- Patient was being treated with tocilizumab prior to 1 February 2019

**and**

- Rheumatoid arthritis
- or**
- Systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis
- or**
- Adult-onset Still's disease
- or**
- Polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis
- or**
- Idiopathic multicentric Castleman's disease

I confirm that the above details are correct:

Signed: ..... Date: .....

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**PRESCRIBER**

**PATIENT:**

Name: .....

Ward: ..... NHI: .....

**Tocilizumab - continued**

**INITIATION – Rheumatoid Arthritis (patients previously treated with adalimumab or etanercept)**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by a rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

and

- The patient has had an initial Special Authority approval for adalimumab and/or etanercept for rheumatoid arthritis

and

- The patient has experienced intolerable side effects from adalimumab and/or etanercept
- or
- The patient has received insufficient benefit from at least a three-month trial of adalimumab and/or etanercept such that they do not meet the renewal criteria for rheumatoid arthritis

and

- The patient is seronegative for both anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide (CCP) antibodies and rheumatoid factor

or

- The patient has been started on rituximab for rheumatoid arthritis in a Health NZ Hospital

and

- The patient has experienced intolerable side effects from rituximab
- or
- At four months following the initial course of rituximab the patient has received insufficient benefit such that they do not meet the renewal criteria for rheumatoid arthritis

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**PRESCRIBER**

**PATIENT:**

Name: .....

Ward: ..... NHI: .....

**Tocilizumab - continued**

**INITIATION – Rheumatoid Arthritis**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

Prescribed by, or recommended by a rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

and

Patient has had severe and active erosive rheumatoid arthritis (either confirmed by radiology imaging, or the patient is cyclic citrullinated peptide (CCP) antibody positive) for six months duration or longer

and

Tocilizumab is to be used as monotherapy

and

Treatment with methotrexate is contraindicated  
**or**  
 Patient has tried and did not tolerate oral and/or parenteral methotrexate

and

Patient has tried and not responded to at least three months therapy at the maximum tolerated dose of ciclosporin alone or in combination with another agent  
**or**  
 Patient has tried and not responded to at least three months therapy at the maximum tolerated dose of leflunomide alone or in combination with another agent

and

Patient has persistent symptoms of poorly controlled and active disease in at least 20 active, swollen, tender joints  
**or**  
 Patient has persistent symptoms of poorly controlled and active disease in at least four active joints from the following: wrist, elbow, knee, ankle, and either shoulder or hip

and

Patient has a C-reactive protein level greater than 15 mg/L measured no more than one month prior to the date of this application  
**or**  
 C-reactive protein levels not measured as patient is currently receiving prednisone therapy at a dose of greater than 5 mg per day and has done so for more than three months

**INITIATION – systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

Prescribed by, or recommended by a rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

and

Patient diagnosed with systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis

and

Patient has tried and not responded to a reasonable trial of all of the following, either alone or in combination: oral or parenteral methotrexate; non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs); and systemic corticosteroids

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**PRESCRIBER**

Name: .....

Ward: .....

**PATIENT:**

Name: .....

NHI: .....

**Tocilizumab - continued**

**INITIATION – adult-onset Still's disease**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by a rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

and

- The patient has had an initial Special Authority approval for adalimumab and/or etanercept for adult-onset Still's disease (AOSD)  
or  
 The patient has been started on tocilizumab for AOSD in a Health NZ Hospital

and

- The patient has experienced intolerable side effects from adalimumab and/or etanercept  
or  
 The patient has received insufficient benefit from at least a three-month trial of adalimumab and/or etanercept such that they do not meet the renewal criteria for AOSD

or

- Patient diagnosed with AOSD according to the Yamaguchi criteria (J Rheumatol 1992;19:424-430)  
and  
 Patient has tried and not responded to at least 6 months of glucocorticosteroids at a dose of at least 0.5 mg/kg, non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and methotrexate  
and  
 Patient has persistent symptoms of disabling poorly controlled and active disease

**INITIATION – polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis**

Re-assessment required after 4 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by a rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

and

- The patient has had an initial Special Authority approval for both etanercept and adalimumab for polyarticular course juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA)  
and  
 The patient has experienced intolerable side effects, or has received insufficient benefit from, both etanercept and adalimumab

or

- Treatment with a tumour necrosis factor alpha inhibitor is contraindicated  
and  
 Patient has had polyarticular course JIA for 6 months duration or longer  
and  
 To be used as an adjunct to methotrexate therapy or monotherapy where use of methotrexate is limited by toxicity or intolerance  
and

- At least 5 active joints and at least 3 joints with limited range of motion, pain or tenderness after a 3-month trial of methotrexate (at the maximum tolerated dose)  
or  
 Moderate or high disease activity (cJADAS10 score of at least 2.5) after a 3-month trial of methotrexate (at the maximum tolerated dose)  
or  
 Low disease activity (cJADAS10 score between 1.1 and 2.5) after a 6-month trial of methotrexate

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**PRESCRIBER**

Name: .....

Ward: .....

**PATIENT:**

Name: .....

NHI: .....

**Tocilizumab - continued**

**INITIATION – idiopathic multicentric Castleman’s disease**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by a haematologist, rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a haematologist or rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

and

- Patient has severe HHV-8 negative idiopathic multicentric Castleman’s disease  
and  
 Treatment with an adequate trial of corticosteroids has proven ineffective  
and  
 Tocilizumab to be administered at doses no greater than 8 mg/kg IV every 3-4 weeks

**INITIATION – moderate to severe COVID-19**

Re-assessment required after 1 dose

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Patient has confirmed (or probable) COVID-19  
and  
 Oxygen saturation of < 92% on room air, or requiring supplemental oxygen  
and  
 Patient is receiving adjunct systemic corticosteroids, or systemic corticosteroids are contraindicated  
and  
 Tocilizumab is to be administered at doses no greater than 8mg/kg IV for a maximum of one dose  
and  
 Tocilizumab is not to be administered in combination with baricitinib

**CONTINUATION – Rheumatoid Arthritis**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by a rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

and

- Following 6 months’ initial treatment, the patient has at least a 50% decrease in active joint count from baseline and a clinically significant response to treatment in the opinion of the physician  
or  
 On subsequent reapplications, the patient demonstrates at least a continuing 30% improvement in active joint count from baseline and a clinically significant response to treatment in the opinion of the physician

**CONTINUATION – systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by a rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

and

- Following up to 6 months’ initial treatment, the patient has achieved at least an American College of Rheumatology paediatric 30% improvement criteria (ACR Pedi 30) response from baseline  
or  
 On subsequent reapplications, the patient demonstrates at least a continuing ACR Pedi 30 response from baseline

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**PRESCRIBER**

Name: .....

Ward: .....

**PATIENT:**

Name: .....

NHI: .....

**Tocilizumab - continued**

**CONTINUATION – adult-onset Still’s disease**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick box where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by a rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.
- and**
- The patient has a sustained improvement in inflammatory markers and functional status

**CONTINUATION – polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis**

Re-assessment required after 6 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by a rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.
- and**
- Treatment is to be used as an adjunct to methotrexate therapy or monotherapy where use of methotrexate is limited by toxicity or intolerance
- and**
- Following 3 to 4 months’ initial treatment, the patient has at least a 50% decrease in active joint count and an improvement in physician’s global assessment from baseline
- or**
- On subsequent reapplications, the patient demonstrates at least a continuing 30% improvement in active joint count and continued improvement in physician’s global assessment from baseline

**CONTINUATION – idiopathic multicentric Castleman’s disease**

Re-assessment required after 12 months

**Prerequisites** (tick box where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by a haematologist, rheumatologist or Practitioner on the recommendation of a haematologist or rheumatologist, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.
- and**
- The treatment remains appropriate and the patient has a sustained improvement in inflammatory markers and functional status

**INITIATION – immune checkpoint inhibitor toxicity in malignancy\***

Re-assessment required after 4 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by any relevant practitioner, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.
- and**
- The individual requires treatment for moderate to severe autoimmune toxicity following immune checkpoint inhibitor treatment for malignancy
- and**
- The individual has received insufficient benefit from use of corticosteroids
- and**
- Tocilizumab is to be administered at a maximum dose of 8 mg/kg fortnightly

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**PRESCRIBER**

Name: .....

Ward: .....

**PATIENT:**

Name: .....

NHI: .....

**Tocilizumab** - *continued*

**CONTINUATION – immune checkpoint inhibitor toxicity in malignancy\***

Re-assessment required after 4 months

**Prerequisites** (tick boxes where appropriate)

- Prescribed by, or recommended by any relevant practitioner, or in accordance with a protocol or guideline that has been endorsed by the Health NZ Hospital.

and

- The individual has shown clinical improvement and ongoing treatment is required  
and  
 Tocilizumab is to be administered at a maximum dose of 8 mg/kg fortnightly

Note: Indications marked with \* are unapproved indications.



I confirm that the above details are correct:

Signed: ..... Date: .....