

APPLICANT (stamp or sticker acceptable)	PATIENT NHI:	REFERRER Reg No:
Reg No:	First Names:	First Names:
Name:	Surname:	Surname:
Address:	DOB:	Address:
.....
Fax Number:	Fax Number:	

Rituximab (Mabthera)

Initial application — rheumatoid arthritis - TNF inhibitors contraindicated

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid for 4 months.

Prerequisites(tick boxes where appropriate)

Treatment with a Tumour Necrosis Factor alpha inhibitor is contraindicated
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
 Patient has tried and not responded to at least three months of oral or parenteral methotrexate at a dose of at least 20 mg weekly or a maximum tolerated dose
and
 Patient has tried and not responded to at least three months of oral or parenteral methotrexate in combination with sulfasalazine and hydroxychloroquine sulphate (at maximum tolerated doses)
and
 Patient has tried and not responded to at least three months of oral or parenteral methotrexate in combination with the maximum tolerated dose of ciclosporin
or
 Patient has tried and not responded to at least three months of oral or parenteral methotrexate in combination with intramuscular gold
or
 Patient has tried and not responded to at least three months of therapy at the maximum tolerated dose of leflunomide alone or in combination with oral or parenteral methotrexate
and
 Patient has persistent symptoms of poorly controlled and active disease in at least 20 swollen, tender joints
or
 Patient has persistent symptoms of poorly controlled and active disease in at least four 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
and
 Rituximab to be used as an adjunct to methotrexate or leflunomide therapy
or
 Patient is contraindicated to both methotrexate and leflunomide, requiring rituximab monotherapy to be used
and
 Maximum of two 1,000 mg infusions of rituximab given two weeks apart

I confirm the above details are correct and that in signing this form I understand I may be audited.

Signed: Date:

Post application to Health New Zealand, Private Bag 3015, Wanganui – email: customerservice@health.govt.nz

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Rituximab (Mabthera) - *continued*

Initial application — rheumatoid arthritis - prior TNF inhibitor use

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid for 4 months.

Prerequisites(tick boxes where appropriate)

The patient has had an initial community Special Authority approval for at least one of etanercept and/or adalimumab for rheumatoid arthritis

and

The patient has experienced intolerable side effects from a reasonable trial of adalimumab and/or etanercept

or

Following at least a four month trial of adalimumab and/or etanercept, the patient did not meet the renewal criteria for adalimumab and/or etanercept for rheumatoid arthritis

and

Rituximab to be used as an adjunct to methotrexate or leflunomide therapy

or

Patient is contraindicated to both methotrexate and leflunomide, requiring rituximab monotherapy to be used

and

Maximum of two 1,000 mg infusions of rituximab given two weeks apart

Renewal — rheumatoid arthritis - re-treatment in 'partial responders' to rituximab

Current approval Number (if known):.....

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid for 4 months.

Prerequisites(tick boxes where appropriate)

At 4 months following the initial course of rituximab infusions the patient had between a 30% and 50% decrease in active joint count from baseline and a clinically significant response to treatment in the opinion of the physician

or

At 4 months following the second course of rituximab infusions the patient had 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

At 4 months following the third and subsequent courses of rituximab infusions, 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

and

Rituximab re-treatment not to be given within 6 months of the previous course of treatment

and

Rituximab to be used as an adjunct to methotrexate or leflunomide therapy

or

Patient is contraindicated to both methotrexate and leflunomide, requiring rituximab monotherapy to be used

and

Maximum of two 1,000 mg infusions of rituximab given two weeks apart

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Rituximab (Mabthera) - *continued*

Renewal — rheumatoid arthritis - re-treatment in 'responders' to rituximab

Current approval Number (if known):.....

Applications from any relevant practitioner. Approvals valid for 4 months.

Prerequisites(tick boxes where appropriate)

At 4 months following the initial course of rituximab infusions the patient had 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

At 4 months following the second and subsequent courses of rituximab infusions, 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

and

Rituximab re-treatment not to be given within 6 months of the previous course of treatment

and

Rituximab to be used as an adjunct to methotrexate or leflunomide therapy

or

Patient is contraindicated to both methotrexate and leflunomide, requiring rituximab monotherapy to be used

and

Maximum of two 1,000 mg infusions of rituximab given two weeks apart

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