Insurance Co Name

Insurance Co Address

May 10, 2019

Re: Name: Patient Name

DOB: Enter date of birth

Account #: Enter insurance company account number

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to support an appeal for choose a reason Rituxan® (rituximab) for my patient, enter patient namefor the management of choose his/her multiple sclerosis. You have denied coverage for this treatment because insert reason from denial letter here.

Enter patient name has been treated with insert previous therapies used and reasons for discontinuing here.

Rituxan is medically necessary for my patient because insert rationale. This is supported by the American Academy of Neurology Practice Guideline recommendation [enter appropriate recommendation here.](https://www.aan.com/Guidelines/home/GetGuidelineContent/900) Additionally, my patient has completed insert screening test and results here, for example Hep B or JCV status.

Although MS is not among the conditions for which Rituxan has received US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for marketing, a growing body of evidence supports its safe and efficacious use in certain patients with MS. Rituxan depletes both normal and malignant B cells that have a CD20 molecule on their surfaces and is therefore used to treat diseases which are characterized by having too many B cells, overactive B cells, or dysfunctional B cells. This includes many lymphoma, leukemia, transplant rejection and auto-immune

disorders. At present, it is FDA approved for the treatment of non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, chronic

lymphocytic leukemia, rheumatoid arthritis and certain forms of granulomatosis. A [2013 systematic review](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23843952) discusses the results of four studies involving 599 participants with MS.1 These studies collectively demonstrated that Rituxan was safe, reduced relapse rates and reduced disease activity on brain MRI.

Please refer to the consensus paper by the [Multiple Sclerosis Coalition entitled The Use of Disease-Modifying Therapies in Multiple Sclerosis: Principles and Current Evidence](http://www.nationalmssociety.org/getmedia/5ca284d3-fc7c-4ba5-b005-ab537d495c3c/DMT_Consensus_MS_Coalition_color) for evidence in support of early and ongoing access to the full range of therapy options for patients with MS. 2

[The American Academy of Neurology Practice Guideline: Disease-modifying therapies for Adults with Multiple Sclerosis](https://www.aan.com/Guidelines/home/GetGuidelineContent/900) states that starting therapy with an approved disease modifying therapy is an effective strategy to reduce relapses and MRI activity. Additionally, the guideline describes various reasons for the need to switch therapy, including non-adherence, breakthrough disease (switch to an agent with a different MoA), adverse events, or contraindications to the current therapy.3

Rituxan is medically necessary for my patient, enter patient name. I respectfully request that you choose consider/reconsider coverage for this patient. Thank you in advance for your timely response.

Sincerely,

Click or tap here to enter text.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1 Castillo-Trivino T, Braithwaite D, Bacchetti P, Waubant E (2013) Rituximab in Relapsing and Progressive Forms of Multiple Sclerosis: A Systematic Review. PLoS ONE 8(7): e66308. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0066308.

2 Costello K and Kalb R. The Use of Disease-Modifying Therapies in Multiple Sclerosis: Principles and Current Evidence. Consensus Paper by the Multiple Sclerosis Coalition. 2018.

3 Rae-Grant A, Day GS, Marrie RA, Rabinstein A, Cree BAC, Gronseth GS, Haboubi M, Halper J, Hosey JP, Jones DE, Lisak R, Pelletier D, Potrebic S, Sitcov C, Sommers R, Stachowiak J, Getchius TSD, Merillat SA, Pringsheim T. Practice guideline recommendations summary: Disease-modifying therapies for adults with multiple sclerosis: Report of the Guideline Development, Dissemination, and Implementation Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology*. 2018 Apr 24; 90(17):777-788.