AETNA BETTER HEALTH®
Coverage Policy/Guideline

Name:	Olumiant	Page:	1 of 4
Effective Date:	11/17/2026	Last Review Date:	10/2026
Applies to:	☒Illinois ☐New Jersey ☐Pennsylvania Kids	☐Florida ☐Maryland ☐Virginia	☐Florida Kids ☐Michigan ☐Kentucky PRMD

Intent:

The intent of this policy/guideline is to provide information to the prescribing practitioner outlining the coverage criteria for Olumiant under the patient's prescription drug benefit.

Description:

The indications below including FDA-approved indications and compendial uses are considered a covered benefit provided that all the approval criteria are met and the member has no exclusions to the prescribed therapy.

FDA-approved Indications[1]

- Adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response to one or more tumor necrosis factor (TNF) blockers
- Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in hospitalized adults requiring supplemental oxygen, non-invasive or invasive mechanical ventilation, or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO)
- Adults and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older with severe alopecia areata

Note: The criteria outlined in this policy is only applicable to coverage in the outpatient setting. Hospitalized members receiving Olumiant for the treatment of COVID-19 will be managed according to the member's inpatient benefit.

All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and not medically necessary.

Applicable Drug List:

Non-preferred: Olumiant

Policy/Guideline:

Documentation for all indications:
The patient is unable to take tofacitinib and THREE additional preferred products (a preferred adalimumab product, a preferred tocilizumab product, Enbrel or Kevzara), where indicated, for the given diagnosis due to a trial and inadequate treatment response or intolerance, or a contraindication. Documentation is required for approval.

Documentation

Submission of the following information is necessary to initiate the prior authorization review:

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)

Initial requests

Chart notes, medical record documentation, or claims history supporting previous medications tried (if applicable), including response to therapy. If therapy is not advisable, documentation of clinical reason to avoid therapy.

Continuation requests

Chart notes or medical record documentation supporting positive clinical response.

Alopecia areata

Initial requests

- Chart notes, medical record documentation, or claims history supporting previous medications tried (if applicable).
- Chart notes or medical record documentation supporting at least 50% scalp hair loss (e.g., Severity of Alopecia Tool [SALT] score of 50 or higher) (if applicable).

Continuation requests

Chart notes or medical record documentation supporting positive clinical response (e.g., increased scalp hair coverage, 80% total scalp hair coverage [SALT score of 20 or less]).

Prescriber Specialties

This medication must be prescribed by or in consultation with one of the following:

- Rheumatoid arthritis: rheumatologist
- Alopecia areata: dermatologist

Coverage Criteria

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)[1-3]

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for adult members for treatment of moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis (RA) when the member has had an inadequate response, intolerance, or has a contraindication to at least one tumor necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitor.

Alopecia areata[1,4,5]

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members 12 years of age or older who have previously received a targeted synthetic drug indicated for treatment of severe alopecia areata in the past year.

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for members 12 years of age or older for treatment of severe alopecia areata when both of the following criteria are met:

- Member has at least 50% scalp hair loss (e.g., Severity of Alopecia Tool [SALT] score of 50 or higher).
- Other forms of alopecia have been ruled out (e.g., androgenetic alopecia, trichotillomania, telogen effluvium, chemotherapy-induced hair loss, tinea capitis).

Continuation of Therapy

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)[1-3]

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for all adult members (including new members) who are using the requested medication for moderately to severely active RA and who achieve or maintain a positive clinical response as evidenced by disease activity improvement of at least 20% from baseline in tender joint count, swollen joint count, pain, or disability.

Alopecia areata[1,4]

Authorization of 12 months may be granted for all members 12 years of age or older (including new members) who are using the requested medication for severe alopecia areata and who achieve or maintain a positive clinical response as evidenced by an improvement in signs and symptoms of the condition from baseline (e.g., increased scalp hair coverage, 80% total scalp hair coverage [SALT score of 20 or less]).

Other[1]

For all indications: Member has been evaluated for tuberculosis (TB) infection prior to initiation of treatment with a biologic or targeted synthetic drug associated with an increased risk of TB.

For all indications: Member cannot use the requested medication concomitantly with any other biologic drug, targeted synthetic drug, or potent immunosuppressant such as azathioprine or cyclosporine.

Dosage and Administration

Approvals may be subject to dosing limits in accordance with FDA-approved labeling, accepted compendia, and/or evidence-based practice guidelines.

Approval Duration and Quantity Restrictions:
Approval:

Initial Approval: 12 months
Renewal Approval: 12 months

Quantity Level Limit:

- Olumiant (baricitinib) 1 mg tablet: 30 per 30 days
- Olumiant (baricitinib) 2 mg tablet: 30 per 30 days
- Olumiant (baricitinib) 4 mg tablet: 30 per 30 days

References:

1. Olumiant [package insert]. Indianapolis, IN: Lilly USA, LLC; September 2026.
2. Smolen JS, Edwards CJ, Konzett V, et al. EULAR recommendations for the management of rheumatoid arthritis with synthetic and biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs: 2025 update. Ann Rheum Dis. 2026;85(6):991-1009. doi:10.1016/j.ard.2026.01.023.
3. Fraenkel L, Bathon JM, England BR, et al. 2021 American College of Rheumatology guideline for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. Arthrit Care Res. 2021;0:1-16.
4. King B, Ohyama M, Kwon O, et al. Two phase 3 trials of baricitinib for alopecia areata. NEJM. 2022;386(18):1687-1699.
5. King B, Ohyama M, Kwon O, et al. Two phase 3 trials of baricitinib for alopecia areata. NEJM. 2022;386(18)(suppl):1-77.