

tezepelumab-ekko autoinjector pen (TEZSPIRE)

**Diagnosis Considered for Coverage:**

- Severe asthma

**Coverage Criteria:**

**For diagnosis of severe asthma:**

**INITIAL REQUEST**

- Patient is at least 12 years old, **and**
- Prescribed by or in consultation with a pulmonologist, allergist, or immunologist, **and**
- Asthma symptoms remain uncontrolled despite 3 months of treatment with a high-dose inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) in combination with long-acting beta agonist (LABA) or leukotriene receptor antagonists (e.g. montelukast, zafirlukast, zileuton), **and**
- Patient is not receiving this medication in combination with another biologic medication indicated for asthma treatment (e.g. Cinqair, Dupixent, Fasenna, Xolair, Nucala), **and**
- Dose does not exceed 210 mg given SQ every 4 weeks, **and**
- Meets ONE of the following within the past year:
  - One or more acute asthma attacks requiring emergency care, or
  - One or more acute inpatient visits where asthma was the principal diagnosis, or
  - Use of chronic systemic steroids due to severe asthma OR two or more acute asthma exacerbations requiring oral systemic steroids

**Coverage Duration:** 6 months

**REAUTHORIZATION**

- Patient is not receiving this medication in combination with another biologic medication indicated for asthma treatment (e.g. Cinqair, Dupixent, Tezspire, Xolair, Tezspire), **and**
- Dose does not exceed 210 mg given SQ every 4 weeks, **and**
- Provider attestation that asthma symptoms have improved or controlled while on Tezspire.

**Coverage Duration:** one year

**References:**

1. Prescribing Information. Tezspire. Amgen. February 2023.
2. Global Initiative for Asthma. Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention (2021 Update). Available from: [www.ginasthma.org](http://www.ginasthma.org).
3. Expert Panel Working Group of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) administered and coordinated National Asthma Education and Prevention Program Coordinating Committee (NAEPPCC), Cloutier MM, Baptist AP, et al. 2020 Focused Updates to the Asthma Management Guidelines: A Report from the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program Coordinating Committee Expert Panel Working Group. J Allergy Clin Immunol 2020; 146:1217.

Effective Date: 3/29/2023