

SAMPLE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION LETTER
INFLIXIMAB (REMICADE) FOR MODERATE-TO-SEVERE CROHN'S DISEASE

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1 PATIENT INFORMATION

PATIENT NAME

Marcus T. Holloway

DATE OF SERVICE

January 9, 2025

DOB

04/17/1981 (43 yrs)

INSURANCE / PAYER

BlueCross BlueShield PPO

AGE / SEX

43 / Male

MEMBER ID

XZG884120571

MRN / PATIENT ID

GA-559024

GROUP NUMBER

GRP-40218

POLICY NUMBER

POL-77120934

2 PROVIDER INFORMATION

PROVIDER NAME

Priya Nair, MD

NPI

1487203956

CREDENTIALS

MD, Board-Certified Gastroenterologist

TAX ID

82-1749305

SPECIALTY

Gastroenterology

PHONE

(404) 555-0182

PRACTICE / FACILITY NAME

Peachtree Digestive Health Associates

FAX

(404) 555-0199

ADDRESS

1450 Peachtree Rd NE, Suite 320, Atlanta, GA 30309

3 RECIPIENT / PAYER INFORMATION

INSURANCE COMPANY / PAYER NAME

BlueCross BlueShield of Georgia

PHONE

(800) 555-2273

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION DEPARTMENT

Specialty Pharmacy Prior Authorization

FAX / PORTAL SUBMISSION

Fax (866) 555-4410 / Availity Portal

ADDRESS
PO Box 9048, Atlanta, GA 30319

4 REQUESTED SERVICE / TREATMENT

REQUESTED MEDICATION / PROCEDURE / SERVICE / DEVICE	
Infliximab (Remicade) IV infusion	
DOSE / STRENGTH / QUANTITY / FREQUENCY	ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION
5 mg/kg per infusion; weeks 0, 2, 6, then every 8 weeks	Intravenous infusion
DURATION OF TREATMENT	PLACE OF SERVICE
12 months (maintenance therapy)	Outpatient hospital infusion center
REQUESTED START DATE	
January 20, 2025	

5 DIAGNOSIS INFORMATION

PRIMARY DIAGNOSIS	ICD-10 CODE
Crohn's disease of large intestine with fistula, moderate-to-severe	K50.113
SECONDARY DIAGNOSIS	ICD-10 CODE
Iron deficiency anemia secondary to chronic blood loss	D50.0

6 CLINICAL SUMMARY

Reason for Request:
Patient has moderate-to-severe Crohn's disease that remains active despite conventional therapy. Anti-TNF biologic therapy is indicated to induce and maintain remission and reduce the risk of complications.

Relevant History:
Diagnosed with Crohn's disease in 2019. Course complicated by a perianal fistula and recurrent flares. Colonoscopy in December 2024 demonstrated active inflammation in the terminal ileum and ascending colon.

Current Symptoms / Functional Limitations:
Reports 6–8 loose stools daily with intermittent hematochezia, abdominal cramping, fatigue, and a 12-lb unintentional weight loss over three months. Symptoms limit work attendance and daily functioning.

Disease Severity / Clinical Status:
Harvey-Bradshaw Index of 11 (moderate-to-severe). Fecal calprotectin markedly elevated at 640 µg/g. CRP 24 mg/L.

Medication / Treatment Trial 1:

Oral mesalamine 4.8 g/day for 4 months — inadequate response, continued active disease.

Medication / Treatment Trial 2:

Budesonide 9 mg/day for 8 weeks — partial, transient improvement with relapse on taper.

Medication / Treatment Trial 3:

Azathioprine 150 mg/day for 5 months — discontinued due to leukopenia and persistent symptoms.

Reason for Discontinuation / Inadequate Response:

Conventional and immunomodulator therapy failed to control disease activity; azathioprine additionally caused a dose-limiting adverse effect. Escalation to anti-TNF biologic therapy is warranted.

Infliximab is medically necessary for this patient with moderate-to-severe fistulizing Crohn's disease that has failed aminosalicylate, corticosteroid, and immunomodulator therapy. Per ACG and AGA guidelines, anti-TNF agents are first-line for moderate-to-severe Crohn's disease and are specifically indicated for fistulizing disease. Objective markers (elevated fecal calprotectin and CRP, endoscopic inflammation) confirm active disease. Delay in initiating effective therapy risks progression to stricturing or penetrating complications, hospitalization, and the need for surgical intervention. The expected benefit is induction and maintenance of clinical remission, fistula closure, mucosal healing, and restoration of functional status.

PROGRESS NOTES

Attached — GI office visits 10/2024, 12/2024

LAB RESULTS

CBC, CRP, fecal calprotectin, TB/hepatitis screening

IMAGING REPORTS

CT enterography 11/2024

PROCEDURE REPORTS

Colonoscopy with pathology, 12/2024

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FORMS

Payer PA form completed and attached

SPECIALIST RECOMMENDATIONS

GI consult note recommending anti-TNF therapy

THERAPY NOTES

N/A

OTHER ATTACHMENTS

Medication trial history summary

AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED

REQUESTED APPROVAL PERIOD

Approval of infliximab infusions as prescribed

12 months

URGENCY LEVEL

Standard

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Priya Nair, MD — (404) 555-0182

CS CLOSING STATEMENT

Provider Request for Approval:

Based on the documented clinical history, failure of conventional therapy, and objective evidence of active moderate-to-severe fistulizing Crohn’s disease, I respectfully request approval of infliximab therapy as outlined. Please contact my office should any additional information be required to process this request.

Follow-Up Contact Information:

Priya Nair, MD — Peachtree Digestive Health Associates, (404) 555-0182, fax (404) 555-0199.

SO SIGNATURE

PROVIDER NAME

Priya Nair, MD

CREDENTIALS

MD, Gastroenterology

SIGNATURE

Priya Nair, MD

DATE

01/09/2025

TIME

09:30