

TENNCARE OUTPATIENT PHARMACY BENEFIT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION (PA) CRITERIA CHANGE EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 2, 2026

Effective November 2, 2026, prior authorization (PA) criteria updates will be implemented for select biologic therapies. These changes are intended to streamline coverage requirements and align PA criteria with product administration guidelines for therapies that require intravenous (IV) induction dosing under the medical benefit before transitioning to a subcutaneous maintenance formulation under the outpatient pharmacy benefit.

PA criteria updates will apply to the following products:

- Entyvio® (vedolizumab)
- Omvoh® (mirikizumab)
- Orencia® (abatacept)
- Skyrizi® (risankizumab)
- Stelara® (ustekinumab) and ustekinumab biosimilars, including Imuldosa™, Otulfi™, Pyzchiva™, Selarsdi™, Steqeyma™, Wezlana™, and Yesintek™
- Tremfya® (guselkumab)
- Zymfentra® (infliximab-dyyb)

Providers are encouraged to review the updated PA criteria prior to November 2, 2026, to ensure continued access to therapy and minimize treatment delays. Updated criteria will be available on the Optum Rx/TennCare website ([Home | OptumRx](#)) on the Criteria PDL.

Members transitioning from IV induction (medical benefit) to SQ outpatient formulation maintenance dosing (pharmacy benefit), will be subject to the following PA criteria when the indication requires IV induction to SQ maintenance :

- Patient has an FDA approved diagnosis per label; **AND**
- Must provide last administration date for the IV formulation; **AND**
- Provider attests to ALL the following:
 - Patient has completed the full IV regimen as directed per prescribing
 - Patient has not experienced any severe adverse reaction
 - Patient has demonstrated a positive response to therapy
 - Provider has provided administration education to patient and/or caregiver

(Note: By attesting, the provider acknowledges and accepts all professional responsibilities and risks associated with administration of the drug)

If providers have questions, OptumRx/TennCare Provider Liaisons can be reached at TNRxEducation@optum.com.