



# Saphnelo® (anifrolumab-fnia) (Intravenous)

Document Number: MODA-0614

Last Review Date: 09/05/2023 Date of Origin: 09/01/2021

Dates Reviewed: 09/2021, 04/2022, 04/2023, 09/2023

## I. Length of Authorization

Coverage will be provided for 12 months and may be renewed.

## II. Dosing Limits

- A. Quantity Limit (max daily dose) [NDC Unit]:
  - Saphnelo 300 mg/2 mL (150 mg/mL) in a single-dose vial: 1 vial every 4 weeks
- B. Max Units (per dose and over time) [HCPCS Unit]:
  - 300 billable units (300 mg) every 4 weeks

## III. Initial Approval Criteria <sup>1</sup>

- Patients must have an inadequate response to an adequate trial of, or contraindication or intolerance to Benlysta (belimumab) prior to initiating therapy with Saphnelo (anifrolumab-fnia); **AND**
- Patient is at least 18 years of age; AND
- Patient is up to date with all vaccinations, in accordance with current vaccination guidelines, prior to initiating therapy; AND

## Universal Criteria <sup>1</sup>

- Patient must not have a clinically significant active infection; **AND**
- Patient will not receive a live or live-attenuated vaccine concurrently with treatment;
   AND
- Will not be used in combination with other biologic therapies, including B-cell targeted therapies (e.g., belimumab), cyclophosphamide, or voclosporin; **AND**
- Will be used in combination with standard therapy (e.g., anti-malarials, corticosteroids, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, immunosuppressives); **AND**
- Patient does not have any of the following exclusion criteria:
  - Severe active central nervous system lupus
  - Severe active lupus nephritis; AND



## Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) † 1,7,9,10,12,14,16-18

- Patient has a confirmed diagnosis of SLE as evidenced by all of the following:
  - Confirmed SLE classification criteria score ≥ 10\* (Note: must include clinical and immunologic domains criteria)
  - Anti-nuclear antibody (ANA) titer of ≥ 1:80 measured via indirect immunofluorescence (IIF) on human epithelial (HEp-2) cells (or an equivalent ANA positive test) at least once; AND
- Patient has failed to respond adequately to at least one (1) standard therapy such as antimalarials, corticosteroids, or immunosuppressives; AND
- Patient has moderate to severe disease defined as a Physician's Global Assessment (PGA) score of > 1 AND one of the following:
  - Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Disease Activity Index 2000 (SLEDAI 2K) score of
     6
  - Disease activity with ≥ 2 systems with British Isles Lupus Assessment Group-2004
     (BILAG) B scores
  - ≥ 1 system(s) with British Isles Lupus Assessment Group-2004 (BILAG) A score(s)

Classification Criteria for Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) 14				
Clinical Score <sup>A</sup> (range: 0-39)	Clinical Domains and Criteria			
2	Constitutional: Unexplained fever > 101°F			
	Hematologic:			
3	White blood cell count < 4,000/mm3			
4	Platelet count < 100,000/mm3 or Autoimmune hemolysis			
	Neuropsychiatric:			
2	Delirium			
3	Psychosis			
5	Primary generalized seizure or partial/focal seizure			
	Mucocutaneous+:			
2	Non-scarring alopecia or oral ulcers			
4	Subacute cutaneous or discoid lupus			
8	Acute cutaneous lupus			
	Serosal:			
5	Pleural or pericardial effusion			
6	Acute pericarditis			
	Musculoskeletal:			
6	Joint involvement with either synovitis involving 2 or more joints with			
	swelling or effusion OR tenderness in 2 or more joints with at least 30			
	minutes of morning stiffness			
	Renal:			
4	Proteinuria > 0.5g/24 hr by a 24-hour urine or equivalent spot urine			
	protein-to-creatinine ratio			
8	Renal biopsy class II or V lupus nephritis			
10	Renal biopsy Class III or IV lupus nephritis			



Immunologic Score <sup>A</sup> (range: 0-12)	Immunologic Domains and Criteria	
2	Presence of antiphospholipid antibodies (i.e., positive lupus	
	anticoagulant, positive anti-62GP1 antibodies, and/or anti-cardiolipin	
	antibodies at medium or high titer)	
	Presence of low complement proteins (below lower limit of normal):	
3	Low C3 OR low C4	
4	Low C3 AND C4	
6	Presence of anti-Sm and/or anti-dsDNA antibodies	

<sup>\*</sup> A web-based scoring calculator as well as further definitions of each criterion are available at: <a href="https://rheumatology.org/criteria">https://rheumatology.org/criteria</a>

† FDA Approved Indication(s); ‡ Compendia Recommended Indication(s); ♠ Orphan Drug

## IV. Renewal Criteria 1,7

Coverage can be renewed based on the following criteria:

- Patient continues to meet universal and other indication-specific relevant criteria such as
  concomitant therapy requirements (not including prerequisite therapy), performance
  status, etc. identified in section III; AND
- Absence of unacceptable toxicity from the drug. Examples of unacceptable toxicity include: serious infections, malignancy, severe hypersensitivity reactions/anaphylaxis, etc.; AND
- Adequate documentation of disease stability and/or improvement as indicated by one or more of the following when compared to pre-treatment baseline:
  - Improvement in the SELENA-SLEDAI-2K; OR
  - Reduction of baseline BILAG-2004 from A to B or from B to C/D, and no BILAG-2004 worsening in other organ systems, as defined by  $\geq$ 2 new BILAG-2004 B; **OR**
  - No worsening (<0.30 points increase) in Physician's Global Assessment (PGA) score; OR</li>
  - Seroconverted (negative)

## V. Dosage/Administration <sup>1</sup>

Indication	Dose
Systemic Lupus	Administer 300 mg every 4 weeks as an intravenous infusion
Erythematosus (SLE)	



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup>Occurrence on at least one occasion is sufficient to count toward score when all other causes have been ruled out. Count only the highest weighted score within each of the 10 domains (7 clinical and 3 immunologic) and any additional criteria within the same domain will not count. + Observed by a physician via clinical exam or photograph review

## VI. Billing Code/Availability Information

### **HCPCS Code**:

- J0491 Injection, anifrolumab-fnia 1 mg; 1 billable unit = 1 mg
- Saphnelo 300 mg/2 mL single-dose vial for injection: 00310-3040-xx

#### VII. References

- 1. Saphnelo [package insert]. Wilmington, DE; AstraZeneca Pharm.; September 2022. Accessed August 2023.
- 2. Hannon CW, McCourt C, Lima HC, et al. Interventions for cutaneous disease in systemic lupus erythematosus. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2021 Mar 9;3:CD007478. doi: 10.1002/14651858.CD007478.pub2.
- 3. Furie R, Morand EF, Askanase AD, et al. Anifrolumab reduces flare rates in patients with moderate to severe systemic lupus erythematosus. Lupus. 2021 Jul;30(8):1254-1263. doi: 10.1177/09612033211014267. Epub 2021 May 12.
- 4. Morand EF, Furie R, Tanaka Y, et al; TULIP-2 Trial Investigators. Trial of Anifrolumab in Active Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. N Engl J Med. 2020 Jan 16;382(3):211-221. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa1912196. Epub 2019 Dec 18.
- 5. Petri M, Orbai AM, Alarcón GS, et al. Derivation and validation of the Systemic Lupus International Collaborating Clinics classification criteria for systemic lupus erythematosus. Arthritis Rheum. 2012 Aug;64(8):2677-86. doi: 10.1002/art.34473.
- 6. Calvo-Alén J1, Silva-Fernández L, Úcar-Angulo E, et al. SER consensus statement on the use of biologic therapy for systemic lupus erythematosus. Reumatol Clin. 2013 Sep-Oct;9(5):281-96.
- 7. Gordon C, Amissah-Arthur MB, Gayed M, et al. The British Society for Rheumatology guideline for the management of systemic lupus erythematosus in adults. Rheumatology (Oxford). 2018 Jan 1;57(1):e1-e45. doi: 10.1093/rheumatology/kex286.
- 8. NICE. Belimumab for treating active autoantibody-positive systemic lupus erythematosus: Technology Appraisal Guidance [TAG397]. <a href="https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta397">https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta397</a>. Published: 22 June 2016. Accessed March 2021.
- 9. American College of Rheumatology Ad Hoc Committee on Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Guidelines. Guidelines for referral and management of systemic lupus erythematosus in adults. Arthritis Rheum. 1999;42(9):1785–1796.
- 10. Lam NC, Ghetu MV, Bieniek ML. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: Primary Care Approach to Diagnosis and Management. Am Fam Physician. 2016 Aug 15;94(4):284-94.
- 11. NICE. Belimumab for treating active autoantibody-positive systemic lupus erythematosus: Technology appraisal guidance [TA752]. <a href="https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta752">https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta752</a>. Published: 15 December 2021. Accessed March 2023.



- 12. Fanouriakis A, Kostopoulou M, Alunno A, et al. 2019 update of the EULAR recommendations for the management of systemic lupus erythematosus. Ann Rheum Dis 2019;78: 736–745.
- 13. Fanouriakis A, Tziolos N, Bertsias G, et al. Update on the diagnosis and management of systemic lupus erythematosus. Ann Rheum Dis 2021; 80:14-25. doi:10.1136/annrheumdis-2020-218272
- 14. Aringer M, Costenbader K, Daikh D, et al. 2019 European League against Rheumatism/American College of rheumatology classification criteria for systemic lupus erythematosus. Arthritis Rheumatol 2019;71:1400–12.
- 15. Lam NC, Brown JA, Sharma R. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: Diagnosis and Treatment. Am Fam Physician. 2023 Apr 107(4):383-395.
- 16. Yee CS, Cresswell L, Farewell V, Rahman A, Teh LS, Griffiths B et al. Numerical scoring for the BILAG-2004 index. Rheumatology (Oxford) 2010; 49(9):1665-9.
- 17. Gladman DD, Ibanez D, Urowitz MB. Systemic lupus erythematosus disease activity index 2000. J Rheumatol 2002; 29(2):288-91.
- 18. Chessa E, Piga M, Floris A, Devilliers H, Cauli A, Arnaud L. Use of Physician Global Assessment in systemic lupus erythematosus: a systematic review of its psychometric properties. Rheumatology (Oxford). 2020 Dec 1;59(12):3622-3632. doi: 10.1093/rheumatology/keaa383.

## **Appendix 1 – Covered Diagnosis Codes**

ICD-10	ICD-10 Description	
M32.10	Systemic lupus erythematosus organ or system involvement unspecified	
M32.11	Endocarditis in systemic lupus erythematosus	
M32.12	Pericarditis in systemic lupus erythematosus	
M32.13	Lung involvement in systemic lupus erythematosus	
M32.14	Glomerular disease in systemic lupus erythematosus	
M32.15	Tubulo-interstitial nephropathy in systemic lupus erythematosus	
M32.19	Other organ or system involvement in systemic lupus erythematosus	
M32.8	Other forms of systemic lupus erythematosus	
M32.9	Systemic lupus erythematosus, unspecified	



## Appendix 2 – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Medicare coverage for outpatient (Part B) drugs is outlined in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual (Pub. 100-2), Chapter 15, §50 Drugs and Biologicals. In addition, National Coverage Determination (NCD), Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs), and Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) may exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. They can be found at: <a href="https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx">https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx</a>. Additional indications may be covered at the discretion of the health plan.

Medicare Part B Covered Diagnosis Codes (applicable to existing NCD/LCD/LCA): N/A

Medicare Part B Administrative Contractor (MAC) Jurisdictions				
Jurisdiction	Applicable State/US Territory	Contractor		
E (1)	CA, HI, NV, AS, GU, CNMI	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC		
F (2 & 3)	AK, WA, OR, ID, ND, SD, MT, WY, UT, AZ	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC		
5	KS, NE, IA, MO	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)		
6	MN, WI, IL	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)		
H (4 & 7)	LA, AR, MS, TX, OK, CO, NM	Novitas Solutions, Inc.		
8	MI, IN	Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corp (WPS)		
N (9)	FL, PR, VI	First Coast Service Options, Inc.		
J (10)	TN, GA, AL	Palmetto GBA, LLC		
M (11)	NC, SC, WV, VA (excluding below)	Palmetto GBA, LLC		
L (12)	DE, MD, PA, NJ, DC (includes Arlington & Fairfax counties and the city of Alexandria in VA)	Novitas Solutions, Inc.		
K (13 & 14)	NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, ME, NH	National Government Services, Inc. (NGS)		
15	KY, OH	CGS Administrators, LLC		

