

# Apremilast in Behçet's Disease

## Criteria for Use

### March 2023

VA Pharmacy Benefits Management Services, Medical Advisory Panel, and VISN Pharmacist Executives

*The following recommendations are based on medical evidence, clinician input, and expert opinion. The content of the document is dynamic and will be revised as new information becomes available. The purpose of this document is to assist practitioners in clinical decision-making, to standardize and improve the quality of patient care, and to promote cost-effective drug prescribing. THE CLINICIAN SHOULD USE THIS GUIDANCE AND INTERPRET IT IN THE CLINICAL CONTEXT OF THE INDIVIDUAL PATIENT. INDIVIDUAL CASES THAT ARE EXCEPTIONS TO THE EXCLUSION AND INCLUSION CRITERIA SHOULD BE ADJUDICATED AT THE LOCAL FACILITY ACCORDING TO THE POLICY AND PROCEDURES OF ITS P&T COMMITTEE AND PHARMACY SERVICES.*

*The Product Information should be consulted for detailed prescribing information.*

#### Exclusion Criteria

If the answer to ANY item below is met, then the patient should NOT receive apremilast.

- Concomitant therapy with strong CYP450 enzyme inducers (e.g., rifampin, phenobarbital, carbamazepine, phenytoin), which may cause loss of efficacy of apremilast
- Untreated or unstable depression or suicidality, unless a mental health consultant concurs with apremilast treatment

#### Inclusion Criteria

All of the following criteria must be met:

- Prescribed and monitored by a VA/VA Community Care rheumatologist or locally-designated expert.
- Adult (18 years of age or older) with recurrence of 2 or more oral ulcers associated with Behçet's disease.

#### Additional Inclusion Criteria for Patients Who Can Become Pregnant

Select if applicable.

- Counseling provided on potential risks vs benefits of treatment and the use of effective contraception during therapy.

#### Other Justification

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Prepared: March 2023. Separated the June 2020 criteria for apremilast by individual indications and reformatted for Cerner. No substantial changes to content.

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