SAMPLE APPEAL LETTER – PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FOR NEW MEDICATION FOR TNF NONRESPONDER

Insurance Company

# **RE:**

**DOB:**

**ID #**

**Pat Acct #**

DATE

Dear Sir, or Madam:

I am writing on behalf of my patient, Mr./Ms. Doe, to request prior authorization for a change out of TNF class for treatment of his/her inflammatory bowel disease.

Mr./Ms. Doe has a history of [IBD Phenotype and prior surgeries/complications (e.g., fistulas, abscess, strictures)] and has previously failed treatment with [Previous medication failures and/or intolerances]. Mr./Ms. Doe was started on anti-TNF therapy [Month/Year of induction] but did not respond treatment despite adequate drug levels.

The most recent American College of Gastroenterology guidelines for Crohn’s disease and Ulcerative colitis recommend a change to a different class of agents when a patient is a primary non-responder to anti-TNF therapy1,2. In addition, when a patient fails an anti-TNF after experiencing a response, it is recommended that drug levels be checked and if drug is present, consideration should be made to change to an agent with an alternative mechanism. Furthermore, changing to another anti-TNF in this situation has not been shown to be beneficial in a sufficient # of patents and will set up our patient for failure of treatment, and a significant delay in attaining clinical remission.3,4

For these reasons, in accordance with our society guidelines, I strongly believe that my patient should receive a medication with a different mechanism such as Vedolizumab/Tofacitinib/Ustekinumab. We request coverage for biologic of new mechanism based on a shared-decision with Mr./Ms Doe and based on the following data (insert reasons for drug choice/or data for new drug as applicable).

Sincerely,

Dr.

Contact information

**References:**

1. Lichtenstein et al. (2018). ACG Clinical Guideline: management of Crohn’s Disease in Adults. *Am J Gastroenterol*, 27 March 2018

## Rubin, D et al., ACG Clinical Guideline: Ulcerative Colitis in Adults. *American Journal of Gastroenterology*: [March 2019 - Volume 114 - Issue 3 - p 384–413](https://journals.lww.com/ajg/toc/2019/03000)

1. Feurestein et al. AGA Institute Guideline on Therapeutic Drug Monitoring in Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Gastroenterology. Sept 2017(153):827-834
2. Papamichael et al. Appropriate Therapeutic Drug Monitoring of Biologic Agents for Patients With Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol 2019 17(9):1655-1668