

# Infliximab

**Infliximab** for adult's patients with severe **biopsy proven pulmonary, cardiac or ocular sarcoidosis** who are refractory to standard treatment including at least 0.5mg/kg of prednisolone (or equivalent) with the addition of at least ONE (preferably two) immunosuppressive steroid sparing agent for at least three months at target dose.

The dose of infliximab is 3 mg/kg at weeks 0, 2, 6 and 12 weeks for 12 months.

The following information is required to be provided by the **prescriber** prior to dispensing of the high cost medicine:

**Hospital:**

**Patient UR number:**

**Prescriber eligibility for infliximab:** (both criteria must be ticked)

1.  **Respiratory physician OR immunologist**

**AND**

2.  **Prescriber agrees to forward the following outcome measures to the SAMEP executive officer :**

- Pulmonary sarcoidosis: Pulmonary function test (PFT) at baseline (prior to commencing infliximab) and PFT at 6 months post initiating infliximab treatment.  
OR  
Positron emission tomography (PET) scan at baseline (prior to commencing infliximab) and PET at 6 months post initiating infliximab treatment.
- Cardiac Sarcoidosis: Cardiac magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) at baseline (prior to commencing infliximab) and at 6 months post initiating infliximab treatment.  
OR  
Positron emission tomography (PET) scan at baseline (prior to commencing infliximab) and PET at 6 months post initiating infliximab treatment.  
OR  
Ejection fraction measured on echocardiography at baseline (prior to commencing infliximab) and at 6 months post initiating infliximab treatment.

**Patient eligibility for infliximab:** (at least 3 criteria must be ticked)

1.  **Biopsy-proven pulmonary, cardiac or ocular sarcoidosis** (*all other sarcoidosis subtypes require an IPU application*).
- Date of biopsy:
  - For pulmonary sarcoidosis:
    - Predicted FEV % and Date
    - Date of PET scan
  - For cardiac sarcoidosis: Date of MRI or PET scan
- Patient has been discussed at Respiratory MDT**



**AND**

2.  **Patient is experiencing disease progression despite high dose corticosteroid (despite at least 0.5mg/kg prednisolone or equivalent for  $\geq$  3 months). Please specify below:**

Corticosteroid	From	To	Dose	Minimum dose
Prednisolone (or equivalent)	/ /	/ /		0.5mg/kg

**OR**

3.  **Patient is corticosteroid dependent (unable to taper corticosteroid to less than 10 mg/day) to maintain disease control. Please specify current dose below:**

Corticosteroid	From	Current dose
Prednisolone (or equivalent)	/ /	

**OR**

4.  **Patient is experiencing corticosteroid related side effects (including true psychosis, uncontrolled diabetes or uncontrolled blood pressure).**

**AND**

5.  **Patient has tried at least ONE (preferably two) or more immunosuppressive corticosteroid sparing agents for a minimum of 3 months. Please specify below:**

	Immunosuppressive	From	To	Dose	Target dose
<input type="checkbox"/>	Methotrexate	/ /	/ /		15-20mg/week
<input type="checkbox"/>	Azathioprine	/ /	/ /		2mg/kg (max 200mg/day)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mycophenolate	/ /	/ /		1.5 – 3g/day (max 2g/day in chronic renal failure)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Leflunomide	/ /	/ /		20mg/day

**If the patient is intolerant to immunosuppressive therapy, please provide a detailed reason below:**

\_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the above information is correct: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Prescribers signature)

Date:

Name:

Position:

Department:

Contact/pager number:



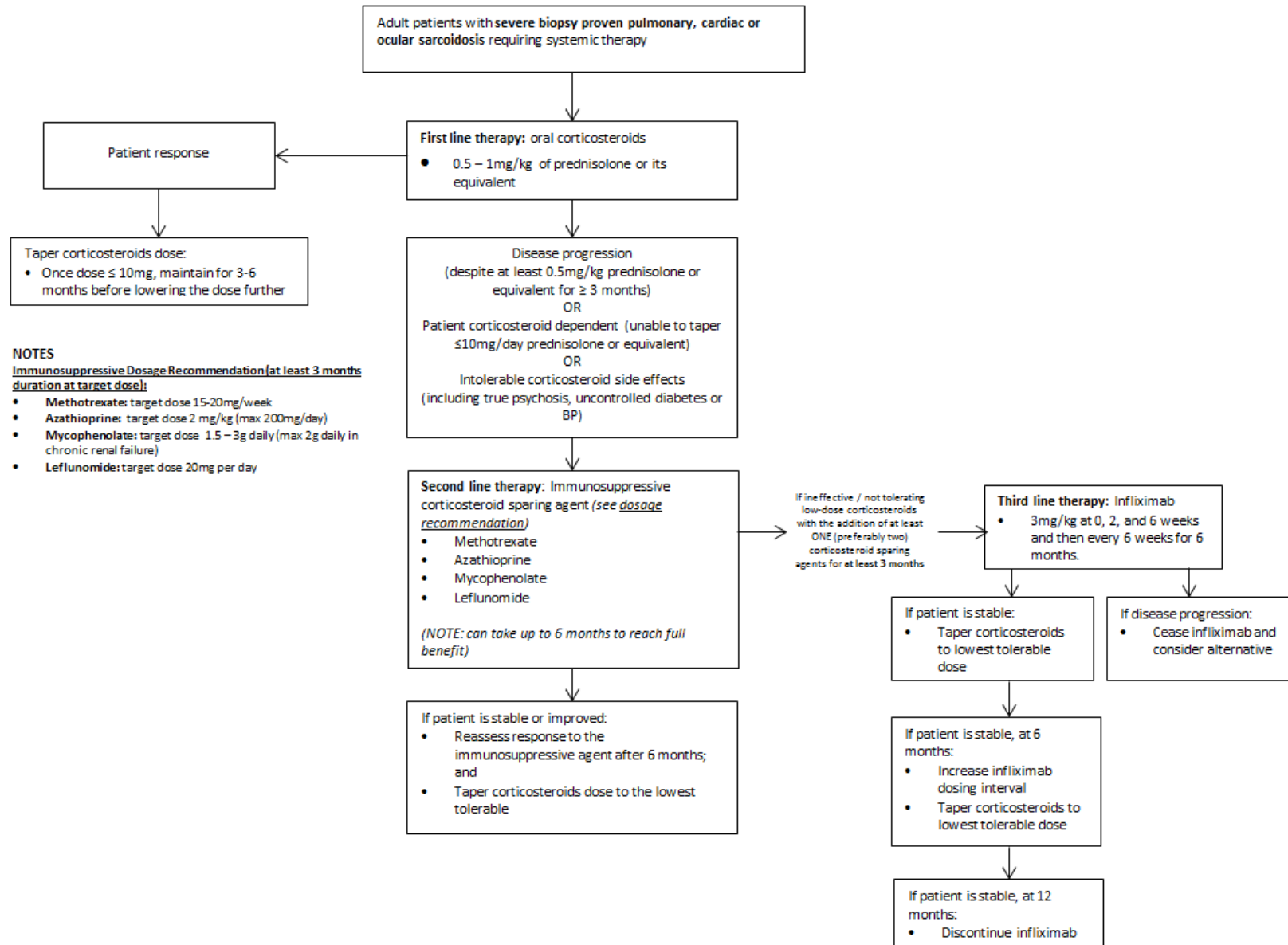
## Information for pharmacy

**This form should be retained in the pharmacy department and a copy forwarded to:**

- ✉ The Executive Officer  
South Australian Medicines Evaluation Panel  
Medicines and Technology Policy and Programs  
Level 1, 101 Grenfell St  
Adelaide 5000
- ☎ (08) 7117 9805
- 💻 [SAMEP@sa.gov.au](mailto:SAMEP@sa.gov.au)

**For more information:**  
<http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/samep>

## Clinical pathway for infliximab for use in conjunction with eligibility checklist



### NOTES

#### Immunosuppressive Dosage Recommendation (at least 3 months duration at target dose):

- Methotrexate:** target dose 15-20mg/week
- Azathioprine:** target dose 2 mg/kg (max 200mg/day)
- Mycophenolate:** target dose 1.5 – 3g daily (max 2g daily in chronic renal failure)
- Leflunomide:** target dose 20mg per day