Orencia® (abatacept) – New indication

- On June 30, 2017, the FDA approved Bristol-Myers Squibb's Orencia (abatacept) injection for the treatment of adult patients with active psoriatic arthritis (PsA).

- Orencia is also approved for reducing signs and symptoms, inducing major clinical response, inhibiting the progression of structural damage, and improving physical function in adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis (RA); and for reducing signs and symptoms in patients ≥ 2 years old with moderately to severely active polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA).

    - For RA, Orencia may be used as monotherapy or concomitantly with disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) other than tumor necrosis factor antagonists.
    - For JIA, Orencia may be used as monotherapy or concomitantly with methotrexate.

- The expanded indication for Orencia was based on two placebo-controlled trials in 594 adult patients with PsA. The primary endpoint was the proportion of patients achieving at least a 20% improvement in signs and symptoms at week 24.

    - In both trials, more patients treated with Orencia achieved the endpoint vs. placebo (47.5% vs. 19.0% and 39.4% vs. 22.3%, respectively; $p < 0.05$).

- For adults with active PsA, Orencia may be administered as an intravenous (IV) infusion by weight given at 2 and 4 weeks after an initial infusion, then every 4 weeks thereafter. Alternatively, Orencia 125 mg may be administered as a subcutaneous (SC) injection once weekly.

    - Orencia can be used with or without non-biologic DMARDs.
    - Patients switching from Orencia IV to SC should administer the first SC dose instead of the next scheduled IV dose.
    - For dosing in RA or JIA, refer to the Orencia drug label.