



**Blue Care
Network**
of Michigan

Contraceptive Coverage

Blue Care Network complies with Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Carrier Letter 2022-17 and OPM Carrier Letter 2024-03 which requires that Plans do the following with regard to contraceptive coverage:

1. Cover, without cost sharing, at least one form of contraception in each of the 17 categories listed in the Women's Preventive Services Guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA-supported Guidelines), inclusive of sterilization surgery for women.
2. Cover, without cost sharing, any contraceptive services and FDA-approved, -cleared, or -granted products that a member and their attending provider have determined to be medically appropriate for the member, whether or not those services or products are specifically identified in the categories listed in the HRSA-supported Guidelines.
3. Make available an easily accessible, transparent, and sufficiently expeditious exceptions process that is not unduly burdensome to the member or their provider (or other individual acting as the member's authorized representative) can obtain coverage for the medically necessary service or product without cost sharing. OPM expects Carriers to respond to contraception exception requests within 24 hours of receipt of sufficient information to make a determination.

No-cost Coverage

The Women's Preventive Service Initiative (WPSI) recommends that the full range of U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved, -granted, or -cleared contraceptives, effective family planning practices and sterilization procedures be available as part of contraceptive care.

Blue Care Network covers, at no cost to the member, the WPSI recommendations and at least one option in all methods of contraception from the full range of contraceptives currently listed in the FDA's Birth Control Guide as well as related screening, education, counseling, and follow-up care as listed in the ACA/HRSA site.

The full range of contraceptives includes the following:

- voluntary sterilization
- surgically implanted FDA-approved contraceptives
- injectable FDA-approved contraceptive drugs (such as Depo Provera)
- FDA-approved Intrauterine devices (IUDs)
- oral contraceptives (combined pill)
- oral contraceptives (progestin only)
- oral contraceptives (extended or continuous use)
- the contraceptive patch
- vaginal contraceptive rings
- FDA-approved diaphragms
- contraceptive sponges
- cervical caps
- condoms
- spermicides
- emergency contraception (levonorgestrel), and
- emergency contraception (ulipristal acetate)

As required by OPM, Blue Care Network's contraceptive care coverage includes at least one option in all methods of contraception including any new classes of contraception that become approved, granted, or cleared by the FDA.

Formulary Exception Process

In compliance with (OPM) Carrier Letter 2022-17 and OPM Carrier Letter 2024-03, Blue Care Network provides an easily accessible, transparent, and sufficiently expeditious exceptions process that leads to a response within 24 hours. Any contraceptive not already available without cost sharing on formulary can be accessed through the contraceptive exceptions process described below.

- If the prescribing physician determines a non-formulary branded medication or drug-led device as medically necessary, Blue Care Network recognizes the Dispense as Written (DAW) designation and the contraceptive drug or drug-led device will be covered with no cost sharing. Providers can indicate DAW on Blue Care Network's Coverage Request form and fax it to **877-442-3778** or submitted at ereferrals.bcbsm.com/bcn-landingPage.shtml. The form can be found on our website, bcbsm.com/fep/bcn/
- To request an exception for any contraceptive not already available without cost sharing on formulary, please follow below instructions:
- Ask your medical provider to submit the prescription to your preferred pharmacy and also ask the provider to submit a completed Blue Care Network Coverage Request form to Blue Care Network, detailing the request for an exception. The form can be faxed to **877-442-3778** or submitted at ereferrals.bcbsm.com/bcn-landingPage.shtml. The Coverage Request form can be found on our website, bcbsm.com/fep/bcn/
- Blue Care Network will notify you and your prescribing medical provider of coverage determination within 24 hours or one (1) working day of receipt of the provider's pre-certification request.
- If the exception request is approved, Blue Care Network will override the applicable brand copay and the pharmacy will honor a \$0 copay when you pick up your prescription.

Reimbursement for Over-the-Counter Contraceptives

- Reimbursement requests for covered over-the-counter contraceptives can be submitted by providing a copy of the receipt (which must a description of the product purchased), completing a [prescription drug reimbursement form](#) and submitting to OptumRX Manual Claims PO Box 650334 Dallas, TX 75265-0334. For more information call the number on the back of your Blue Care Network ID card.

Additional Information Resources

You can view what contraception coverage is included under FEHB at <https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/contraception-coverage/>

If you have difficulty accessing contraceptive coverage or other reproductive healthcare you can email contraception@opm.gov

For more information on your reproductive rights, you can go the HHS's webpage on reproductive healthcare, <https://reproductiverights.gov/>

For more information on Blue Care Network's contraceptive coverage, view our FEHB brochure online at bcbsm.com/fep/bcn