

# Blues Brief



For hospitals and facilities

## The latest COVID-19 provider information

### Reminder: Billing for COVID-19 testing

See Page 31 of the January–February 2021 *BCN Provider News* or the December 2020 issue of *The Record*.

### Coverage decisions announced for additional COVID-19 testing codes

See Page 29 of the January–February 2021 *BCN Provider News*.

### Additional COVID-19 provider communications can be found here:

- *Coronavirus (COVID-19) information updates for providers* webpage located within *BCBSM Newsletters and Resources* or *BCN Provider Publications and Resources* on web-DENIS

- [bcbsm.com/coronavirus](https://bcbsm.com/coronavirus)

Click on *Health Care Providers*

## We're here for you — virtually

Although we've been unable to meet with you in person for the last several months, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network's provider consultants continue to work hard to assist health care providers virtually.

Our consultants are available to help meet your education and training needs, and to help clarify medical policy and contract information. We encourage you to use our self-service tools and Provider Inquiry when you need help with claims. When your issue still isn't resolved, contact your consultant and provide the number given to you by the Provider Inquiry representative.

For more information, see [Page 5 of the January–February 2021 \*BCN Provider News\*](#) or the [December 2020 issue of \*The Record\*](#).

## Summary of upcoming changes effective Jan. 1, 2021

### Reminder: Providers must submit authorization requests to TurningPoint for musculoskeletal procedures for most members

See Page 36 of the January–February 2021 *BCN Provider News* or the November 2020 issue of *The Record*.

### Blue Cross doesn't reimburse for drugs that are experimental, starting in January

See Page 30 of the January–February 2021 *BCN Provider News*.

### Medicare Part B medical specialty drug prior authorization list changing in January 2021



See Page 13 of the January–February 2021 *BCN Provider News* or the December 2020 issue of *The Record*.

### We're changing how we cover some drugs, starting Jan. 1

See Page 34 of the November–December 2020 *BCN Provider News* or the November 2020 issue of *The Record*.

### BCN Blue Elect Plus POS plan will offer coverage to out-of-state subscribers



See Page 5 of the November–December 2020 *BCN Provider News*.

### Blue Care Network member handbook goes online in January



See Page 7 of the November–December 2020 *BCN Provider News*.

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Articles apply to all lines of business unless noted by the icons below:

**Key:** BCN HMO<sup>SM</sup> Blue Cross PPO BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup> HMO Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup> PPO

## For hospitals and facilities

Continued from front page

### New clinical editing resource helps you correct billing errors

We've posted a new billing tips resource, titled *Clinical Edits: What You Need to Do and What Documentation is Needed*, in the Provider Secured Services area of [bcbsm.com](http://bcbsm.com). For more information, see Page 32 of the January–February 2021 *BCN Provider News* or the December 2020 issue of *The Record*.

### New billing requirements for reduced or no-cost devices PPO

Blue Cross has adopted a new medical device billing policy to align with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and industry standards. There are guidelines and condition codes provided for billing for no-cost items due to recall, replacement or free samples.

For more details and the list of guidelines, see the [December 2020 issue of \*The Record\*](#).

### Here are requirements for submitting SNF and Flexible Benefit Option requests for FEP members PPO

Before we can process Flexible Benefit Option requests for skilled nursing facility admissions for Blue Cross and Blue Shield Federal Employee Program® Service Benefit Plan members, there are verbal or signed consents that must be obtained from members. For a detailed list of requirements, see the [December 2020 issue of \*The Record\*](#).

### Holiday office closings

Blue Cross and BCN offices will be closed Dec. 24 through 25 (Christmas), Dec. 31 through Jan. 1 and Jan. 18 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day).

Summary of upcoming changes, cont.

#### Blue Distinction Centers for Substance Use Treatment and Recovery: the newest BDC designation

See Page 23 of the November–December 2020 *BCN Provider News*.

#### Northwood has contracted with Blue Cross to handle DMEPOS services for fully insured commercial PPO customers effective Jan. 1, 2021 PPO

See the upcoming January 2021 issue of *The Record*.

#### Meijer to move to EPO network arrangement and offer a Blue HPN<sup>SM</sup> option PPO

See the [December 2020 issue of \*The Record\*](#).

#### New questionnaires for Blue Cross commercial, Medicare Plus Blue plans PPO MA PPO

See the [December 2020 issue of \*The Record\*](#).

#### Ascension to be network provider for Blue HPN in Southeast Michigan PPO

See the [November 2020 issue of \*The Record\*](#).

### Know how to avoid SNF denials for Medicare Advantage claims MA HMO MA PPO

In the fourth quarter of 2020, Blue Cross and BCN will begin denying skilled nursing facility claims when patient-driven payment model, or PDPM, levels don't match the levels naviHealth authorized. This applies to SNF claims for Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup> and BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup> members.

Facilities can resubmit denied claims with the approved PDPM levels. In future communications, we'll let you know the exact date on which we'll begin denying claims. For more information, see the [November 2020 issue of \*The Record\*](#).

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