



For hospitals and facilities

## The latest COVID-19 provider information

Starting Jan. 1, 2022, bill Medicare   Advantage plans for COVID-19 vaccines and monoclonal antibody treatments

Read more:

- Page 10 of the January–February 2022 *BCN Provider News*
- December 2021 issue of *The Record*

**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*

## Update: We're aligning local rules for acute inpatient medical admissions





For certain conditions, authorization requests for acute medical admissions should be submitted only after the member has spent two days in the hospital. Once the two days has elapsed, the facility can submit the request to authorize an inpatient admission on the third day. You must provide clinical documentation that demonstrates that the InterQual® criteria have been met at the time you submit the request. Read more:

- Page 24 of the January–February 2022 *BCN Provider News*
- *Submitting acute inpatient authorization requests* (PDF)

## Holiday office closings

Blue Cross and BCN offices will be closed Dec. 23 through Dec. 24 and Dec. 30 through Dec. 31.

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

**Key:**  Blue Care Network commercial  Blue Cross commercial  BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup>  Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup>

## Prior authorization requirements expanding for Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup>, BCN commercial and BCN Advantage members on Jan. 1

We're expanding our prior authorization requirements for Medicare Plus Blue, BCN commercial and BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup> members. For certain procedure codes, you'll need to complete questionnaires in the e-referral system when you submit prior authorization requests for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2022. Read more:

- Page 34 of the November–December 2021 *BCN Provider News*
- December 2021 issue of *The Record*

## Here's what you need to know about DRG readmission processing and how to provide input

Blue Cross is proposing an enhancement to DRG readmission processing. This improvement is scheduled for implementation on March 1, 2022, for Blue Cross commercial members. The program update will identify inpatient readmission claims prior to payment. Read more: December 2021 issue of *The Record*

## Prior authorization requests for commercial SNF admissions will need to be submitted through e-referral system

Beginning Jan. 1, 2022, we'll require skilled nursing facilities to submit prior authorization requests through the e-referral system and not by fax. This applies to requests for initial admissions and additional days. Read more:

- Page 41 of the November–December 2021 *BCN Provider News*
- November 2021 issue of *The Record*

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## Summary of upcoming changes effective Jan. 1, 2022

### We're transitioning to a new pharmacy benefit manager

Read more:

- Page 26 of the September–October 2021 *BCN Provider News*
- September 2021 issue of *The Record*

### 2022 member ID cards to display deductible, out-of-pocket maximum

Read more:

- Page 6 of the January–February 2022 *BCN Provider News*
- December 2021 issue of *The Record*

### Starting Jan. 1, 2022, we'll change how we cover some drugs

Read more:

- Page 24 of the November–December 2021 *BCN Provider News*
- November 2021 issue of *The Record*

### AIM to ask for clinical information for BCN commercial radiology and cardiology prior authorization requests starting Jan. 1 HMO

Read more:

- Page 35 of the November–December 2021 *BCN Provider News*

### Bariatric surgery won't require prior authorization for BCN members starting Jan. 1 HMO MA HMO

Read more:

- Page 35 of the November–December 2021 *BCN Provider News*

### Benefit changes coming Jan. 1 for UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust members PPO MA PPO

Read more:

- December 2021 issue of *The Record*

Summary of upcoming changes, cont.

### Blue Cross will provide physical therapy benefits for GM hourly employees under group number 83200 PPO

Read more:

- December 2021 issue of *The Record*

## Behavioral Health updates

### Behavioral health services delivered via synchronous telemedicine

Read more:

- Page 17 of the January–February 2022 *BCN Provider News*
- December 2021 issue of *The Record*

### Intensive outpatient program and partial hospital program services now payable via telemedicine on an ongoing basis

Read more:

- Page 16 of the January–February 2022 *BCN Provider News*
- December 2021 issue of *The Record*

### Additional autism interventions now payable via telemedicine on an ongoing basis and restrictions are removed from protocol modification

Read more:

- Page 18 of the January–February 2022 *BCN Provider News*
- December 2021 issue of *The Record*

### Update: CADC, CAADC credentials not required for facilities that treat substance use disorders

Read more:

- Page 19 of the January–February 2022 *BCN Provider News*
- December 2021 issue of *The Record*

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