Blue Care Network of Michigan

A nonprofit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

What you need to know about referrals

EDUCATE ENGAGE EMPOWER

Care starts with your primary care physician

As a member of Blue Care Network, you must select a primary care physician who will be your trusted partner in health care.

Whether you need a routine checkup or an immunization, treatment for a chronic illness or hospitalization for an injury, your starting point is your primary care physician. He or she is responsible for managing all the care you receive, from providing preventive health services to treating your illness to coordinating your care with specialists.

Referrals: How we coordinate care

When you get a skin rash, for example, you would first go to your primary care physician. If your doctor can't treat you, he or she might send you to a specialist, like a dermatologist. Your doctor will provide a referral, authorizing the specialist to provide care.

The referral can be a form that's sent electronically to the specialist. It can be a paper document that you take with you to the specialist. Or it can be both. Whatever format it's in, it's the start of a tracking process that makes sure your primary care physician knows where you're going and for what treatment.

In general, most Blue Care Network plans don't cover care outside the network, except in an emergency. The exception to this rule is if you're in one of the few plans that allows members to pay more to see doctors outside their network. Check your benefits administrator to find out what type of plan arrangement you have.

Please note: Referral requirements work differently in some regions within Michigan and don't always need to be submitted to Blue Care Network. If you have questions about how referrals work in your area call the Customer Service number on the back of your BCN ID card.

Who can make referrals?

Your primary care physician will provide most of your referrals. But women can also have their network gynecologist or obstetrician refer them to specialists for obstetrical or gynecological care. No other referral is needed.

Who determines type of treatment?

Your referral for treatment with a specialist can range from 90 days to 365 days. It's the specialist who decides on the services to be provided and the number of visits required for treatment.

Changing your primary care physician while a specialist is treating you may change your treatment referral. You'll need to contact your new primary care physician and get a new referral for your specialized treatment.

When you don't need a referral

You don't need a referral for the following:

- **Emergency care**
  (You can get emergency care anywhere.)
- **Behavioral health services**
  (You must see an in-network provider.)
- **If you need to see a gynecologist or obstetrician for annual well-woman visits and obstetrical care**
  (The gynecologist or obstetrician must be in your plan's network.)

Authorizations

You'll need special approval from us for certain services and for services from specialists who aren't part of your plan's network.

We speak your language

If you, or someone you're helping, needs assistance, you have the right to get help and information in your language at no cost. To talk to an interpreter, call the Customer Service number on the back of your card, or 877-469-2583, TTY: 711 if you are not already a member.

Si usted, o alguien a quien usted está ayudando, necesita asistencia, tiene derecho a obtener ayuda e información en su idioma sin costo alguno. Para hablar con un intérprete, llame al número telefónico de Servicio al cliente, que aparece en la parte trasera de su tarjeta, o 877-469-2583, TTY: 711 si usted todavía no es un miembro.

إذا كنت أنت أو شخص آخر تساعده بحاجة لمساعدة، فلديك الحق في الحصول على المساعدة والمعلومات الضرورية بلغتك دون أية تكلفة. للتحدث إلى مترجم اتصل برقم خدمة العملاء الموجود على ظهر بطاقتك، أو برقم 877-469-2583 TTY:711، إذا لم تكن مشتركا بالفعل.

如果您，或是您正在協助的對象，需要協助，您有權利免費以您的母語得到幫助和訊息。要洽詢一位翻譯員，請撥在您的卡背面的客戶服務電話；如果您還不是會員，請撥電話 877-469-2583, TTY: 711。

ܟܝ ܟܬܘܦܐ، ܢܝ ܒܪ ܦܬܝ ܦܩܐ ܕܡܫܬܡܫܐ ، ܐܢܬܘܢ ܒܐܦ ܡܢܝܢܐ، ܟܬܘܦܐ ܕܐܢܫܐ ܡܫܬܡܫܐ ܡܢܝܢܐ ܕܡܫܬܡܫܐ ܡܫܟܢܬܐ ܕܠܝܩܢܬܐ ܕܠܟ ܠܒܬܟ. ܠܡܡܠܠܐ ܥܡ ܒܪ ܡܠܬܐ، ܡܨܐ ܠܠܒܬܟ ܡܬܬܐ ܕܟܪܬܐ ܕܠܟ ܬܚܬ ܠܒܬܟ ܕܫܝܫܐ ܕܠܝܩܘܬܐ ܢܝ 877-469-2583 TTY:711 ܟܝ ܡܛܠ ܠܒܬܟ ܡܬܬܝܗ.

Nếu quý vị, hay người mà quý vị đang giúp đỡ, cần trợ giúp, quý vị sẽ có quyền được giúp và có thêm thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của mình miễn phí. Để nói chuyện với một thông dịch viên, xin gọi số Dịch vụ Khách hàng ở mặt sau thẻ của quý vị, hoặc 877-469-2583, TTY: 711 nếu quý vị chưa phải là một thành viên.

Nëse ju, ose dikush që po ndihmoni, ka nevojë për asistencë, keni të drejtë të merrni ndihmë dhe informacion falas në gjuhën tuaj. Për të folur me një përkthyes, telefononi numrin e Shërbimit të Klientit në anën e pasme të kartës tuaj, ose 877-469-2583, TTY: 711 nëse nuk jeni ende një anëtar.

만약 귀하 또는 귀하가 돕고 있는 사람이 지원이 필요하다면, 귀하는 도움과 정보를 귀하의 언어로 비용 부담 없이 얻을 수 있는 권리가 있습니다. 통역사와 대화하려면 귀하의 카드 뒷면에 있는 고객 서비스 번호로 전화하거나, 이미 회원이 아닌 경우 877-469-2583, TTY: 711로 전화하십시오.

যদি আপনার, বা আপনি সাহায্য করছেন এমন কারো, সাহায্য প্রয়োজন হয়, তাহলে আপনার ভাষায় বিনামূল্যে সাহায্য ও তথ্য পাওয়ার অধিকার আপনার রয়েছে। কোনো একজন দোভাষীর সাথে কথা বলতে, আপনার কার্ডের পেছনে দেওয়া গ্রাহক সহায়তা নম্বরে কল করুন বা 877-469-2583, TTY: 711 যদি ইতোমধ্যে আপনি সদস্য না হয়ে থাকেন।

Jeśli Ty lub osoba, której pomagasz, potrzebujecie pomocy, masz prawo do uzyskania bezpłatnej informacji i pomocy we własnym języku. Aby porozmawiać z tłumaczem, zadzwoń pod numer działu obsługi klienta, wskazanym na odwrocie Twojej karty lub pod numer 877-469-2583, TTY: 711, jeżeli jeszcze nie masz członkostwa.

Falls Sie oder jemand, dem Sie helfen, Unterstützung benötigt, haben Sie das Recht, kostenlose Hilfe und Informationen in Ihrer Sprache zu erhalten. Um mit einem Dolmetscher zu sprechen, rufen Sie bitte die Nummer des Kundendienstes auf der Rückseite Ihrer Karte an oder 877-469-2583, TTY: 711, wenn Sie noch kein Mitglied sind.

Se tu o qualcuno che stai aiutando avete bisogno di assistenza, hai il diritto di ottenere aiuto e informazioni nella tua lingua gratuitamente. Per parlare con un interprete, rivolgiti al Servizio Assistenza al numero indicato sul retro della tua scheda o chiama il 877-469-2583, TTY: 711 se non sei ancora membro.

ご本人様、またはお客様の身の回りの方で支援を必要とされる方でご質問がございましたら、ご希望の言語でサポートを受けたり、情報を入手したりすることができます。料金はかかりません。通訳とお話される場合はお持ちのカードの裏面に記載されたカスタマーサービスの電話番号 (メンバーでない方は877-469-2583, TTY: 711) までお電話ください。

Если вам или лицу, которому вы помогаете, нужна помощь, то вы имеете право на бесплатное получение помощи и информации на вашем языке. Для разговора с переводчиком позвоните по номеру телефона отдела обслуживания клиентов, указанному на обратной стороне вашей карты, или по номеру 877-469-2583, TTY: 711, если у вас нет членства.

Ukoliko Vama ili nekome kome Vi pomažete treba pomoć, imate pravo da besplatno dobijete pomoć i informacije na svom jeziku. Da biste razgovarali sa prevodiocem, pozovite broj korisničke službe sa zadnje strane kartice ili 877-469-2583, TTY: 711 ako već niste član.

Kung ikaw, o ang iyong tinutulungan, ay nangangailangan ng tulong, may karapatan ka na makakuha ng tulong at impormasyon sa iyong wika ng walang gastos. Upang makausap ang isang tagasalin, tumawag sa numero ng Customer Service sa likod ng iyong tarheta, o 877-469-2583, TTY: 711 kung ikaw ay hindi pa isang miyembro.

Important disclosure

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network comply with Federal civil rights laws and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network provide free auxiliary aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as qualified sign language interpreters and information in other formats. If you need these services, call the Customer Service number on the back of your card, or 877-469-2583, TTY: 711 if you are not already a member. If you believe that Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan or Blue Care Network has failed to provide services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance in person, by mail, fax, or email with: Office of Civil Rights Coordinator, 600 E. Lafayette Blvd., MC 1302, Detroit, MI 48226, phone: 888-605-6461, TTY: 711, fax: 866-559-0578, email: CivilRights@bcbsm.com. If you need help filing a grievance, the Office of Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal available at *https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf*, or by mail, phone, or email at: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, 200 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, phone: 800-368-1019, TTD: 800-537-7697, email: OCRComplaint@hhs.gov. Complaint forms are available at *http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html*.