

Starting Sept. 1, clinical review requirements temporarily suspended for admissions to skilled nursing facilities from hospitals in certain states

Effective Sept. 1, 2021, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are temporarily suspending clinical review requirements for the first three days of admission to skilled nursing facilities from hospitals in these states:

- Arizona
- Florida
- Illinois
- Kentucky
- Missouri
- Ohio
- Tennessee
- Alabama
- Georgia
- Indiana
- Louisiana
- Nebraska
- Oregon
- Texas
- Arkansas
- Idaho
- Kansas
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Washington

This temporary change is due to the COVID-19 pandemic and applies to all lines of business, including Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan commercial, Blue Care Network commercial, Medicare Plus BlueSM and BCN AdvantageSM. The change is in effect until further notice.

Here's more information you need to know:

- Admissions to skilled nursing facilities from the hospitals in the states listed above will auto-approve the first three days. Clinical documentation is not required until the continued stay review, starting on the fourth day of the stay.
- This temporary change does not apply to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan commercial FlexLink[®] groups for which a third-party administrator makes authorization determinations. Facilities should check the back of the member's ID card to determine whether a third-party administrator needs to be contacted prior to an admission.
- Long-term acute care hospital and inpatient rehabilitation facility admissions from the hospitals in these states still require clinical review.

We're updating the following documents to reflect this change:

- For Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan commercial and Medicare Plus Blue: [Provider Preauthorization and Precertification Requirements](#)
- For Blue Care Network commercial and BCN Advantage: [Non-Michigan providers: Referral and authorization requirements for BCN members](#)