

Blue Cross has extended authorization dates on select medical and pharmacy benefit drugs for commercial members

To support our health care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure that members' access to medications isn't disrupted, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network made changes to our prior authorization process.

For authorizations scheduled to expire between March 1 and June 1, 2020, we've extended the authorization end dates for select medical and pharmacy benefit drugs for Blue Cross' PPO (commercial) and BCN HMOSM (commercial) members. August 1, 2020, is the new expiration date for these authorizations.

This change ensures continuity of care for members. It also helps ease the administrative burden on health care providers.

Exceptions: Short-course treatments are not eligible for authorization extensions. These include, but are not limited to, the following drugs:

- CAR-T therapies (Kymriah[®] and Yescarta[®])
- Diclegis[®]
- Gene therapy (Luxturna[®] and Zolgensma[®])
- Hepatitis C treatment drugs
- Xifaxin[®]
- Xifaxin[®]

In addition, Blue Cross' PPO and BCN HMO members can refill their prescriptions early. We're taking this extra precaution so members will have enough medication to stay healthy.