

PROVIDER BULLETIN

PROVIDER INFORMATION

November 1, 2021

Updated Minnesota Health Care Programs and Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) Prior Authorization and Medical Policy Requirements

Effective January 3, 2022, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) will be updating its government programs medical policy and pre-authorization/pre-certification/notification lists. The lists clarify medical policy, prior authorization, and notification requirements for the Minnesota Health Care Programs (Families and Children, MNCare, and Minnesota Senior Care Plus [MSC+]) and Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) products.

As stewards of healthcare expenditures for our subscribers, we are charged with ensuring they receive appropriate, quality care while also maintaining overall costs. The prior authorization process ensures that the health service or drug being proposed is medically necessary, and reflective of evidence-based medicine and industry standards, prior to treatment. This process helps us manage the cost and quality of care appropriately for our members.

The following policies have transitioned to new policy numbers, with changes in clinical criteria, and **will be applicable** to subscriber claims on or after **January 3, 2022**. **Important note:** Step therapy requirements, including preferred products, will be applied to the medical drug policies in the table below. See the policies for details on step therapy.

New policy #	Prior policy #	Policy name	Prior authorization required	
			Medicaid	MSHO
ING-CC-0002	MHCP (Biosimilars); ING-CC-0002	Colony Stimulating Factor Agents	Yes	Yes
ING-CC-0166	MHCP (Biosimilars)	Trastuzumab Agents Step Therapy	Yes	Yes
ING-CC-0107	MHCP (Biosimilars); ING-CC-0107	Bevacizumab for Non-ophthalmologic Indications (Avastin, Mvasi, Zirabev)	Yes	Yes

The following policies have changes in clinical criteria and **will be applicable** to subscriber claims on or after **January 3, 2022**.

Policy #	Policy name	Prior authorization required	
		Medicaid	MSHO
JO-01	Joint Surgery – Hip Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hip Arthroplasty • Hip Arthroscopy 	Yes	Yes
JO-02	Joint Surgery – Knee Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knee Arthroplasty • Knee Arthroscopy and Open Procedures • Meniscal Allograft Transplantation of the Knee • Treatment of Osteochondral Defects 	Yes	Yes
JO-03	Joint Surgery – Shoulder Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoulder Arthroplasty • Shoulder Arthroscopy and Open Procedures 	Yes	Yes
SP-02	Spine—Cervical Arthroplasty	Yes	Yes
SP-03	Spine – Cervical Decompression	Yes	Yes
SP-04	Spine – Lumbar Arthroplasty	Yes	Yes
SP-05	Spine – Lumbar Discectomy, Foraminotomy, and Laminotomy	Yes	Yes
SP-06	Spine – Lumbar Fusion and Treatment of Spinal Deformity	Yes	Yes
SP-07	Spine – Lumbar Laminectomy	Yes	Yes
SP-09	Spine – Vertebroplasty/Kyphoplasty	Yes	Yes

Where do I find the current government programs Pre-Certification/Pre-Authorization/Notification list?

Go to <https://provider.publicprograms.bluecrossmn.com/minnesota-provider/resources/prior-authorization>

OR

Go to providers.bluecrossmn.com

- Under Tools and resources, select “Minnesota Health Care Programs site”
- Under Resources, select “Prior Authorization Requirements” and scroll down to “Related information” to select “Prior Authorization forms”

Where do I find the current government programs Medical Policy Grid?

Go to <https://provider.publicprograms.bluecrossmn.com/minnesota-provider/resources/provider-manuals-and-guides>

- Click on “Medical Policies and Clinical UM Guidelines”

OR

Go to providers.bluecrossmn.com

- Under Tools and resources, select “Minnesota Health Care Programs site”
- Under Resources, select “Manuals and Guides”

- Click on “Medical Policies and Clinical UM Guidelines”

Where can I access medical policies?

- **MN DHS (MHCP) Policies:**

http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelecti onMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=dhs16_157386

- **Blue Cross Policies:**

<https://www.bluecrossmn.com/providers/medical-policy-and-utilization-management>

- **Amerigroup Policies:**

<https://provider.publicprograms.bluecrossmn.com/minnesota-provider/medical-policies-and-clinical-guidelines>

AND

<https://www.anthem.com/pharmacyinformation/clinicalcriteria>

Please note that the Precertification Look-Up Tool (PLUTO) is not available for prior authorization look up.

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact provider services at **1-866-518-8448**.