

PROVIDER QUICK POINTS

PROVIDER INFORMATION



May 13, 2020

Non-Covered Medicare Services and Organization Determination Reminder for Platinum Blue and Medicare Advantage Subscribers

On September 1, 2015, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) implemented the organization determination process for non-covered Medicare services. An organization determination is required for Platinum Blue and Medicare Advantage members in order to have claims for non-covered Medicare services deny as subscriber liability. The organization determination is required in order to provide the member an advance notification of the non-covered service, which would be their liability if they chose to continue with the service. An Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN) is not valid for use with Platinum Blue and Medicare Advantage plans.

Non-Covered Medicare services without an Organization Determination

In accordance with Medicare requirements and the provisions of your agreement, it is the duty of the provider to assure that all services are Medicare eligible prior to rendering services. Medicare National and Local Coverage Determinations (NCD & LCD) specify coverage criteria including specific documentation requirements which providers must follow.

If there are questions regarding whether a service or item will be covered or non-covered, providers may submit a request for an organization determination prior to rendering services. In addition, providers may submit an organization determination for any item when requested to do so by the member.

1. Medicare non-covered services that are called out in the Member's Evidence of Coverage (Benefit Book) under *What services are not covered by the plan* section do not require an organization determination. See Table A for a list of these procedure codes.
2. If non-covered services are indicated in CMS documentation such as Medicare LCDs and NCDs, but are not called out in the member's Evidence of Coverage (Benefit Book) under *What services are not covered by the plan* section an organization determination needs to be submitted. Without an organization determination on file, these services will be denied as provider responsibility. A waiver is not a valid replacement for the organization determination.
3. If an organization determination is submitted to Blue Cross and denied as not covered, the claim will deny as patient liability if the following requirements are met:
 - The provider needs to inform the subscriber of the unfavorable organization determination prior to rendering the service.
 - A waiver is signed advising the member clearly what service(s) are not covered prior to the service(s) being rendered.

It is a contract requirement that a provider shall submit claims to Blue Cross for all Health Services provided, even in cases when Provider suspects or knows a Health Service will not be covered. This will ensure the proper administration

of benefits and take advantage of changes in coverage that may occur after Provider checks benefits. The GA modifier is not valid for Platinum Blue or Medicare Advantage policies.

Organization Determinations through Availity

The organization determination request needs to be submitted using the Authorization tool found on Availity.

1. The CMS codes with status indicator of “N” are not covered but will require an organization determination to be submitted. These services are not called out as “not covered” in the member’s Evidence of Coverage (Benefit Book) under *What services are not covered by the plan* section. These codes will have an automated response on Availity without review. Please see Table B for a list of these procedure codes. Blue Cross is continuously reviewing codes and updating the member’s Evidence of Coverage (Benefit Book) to decrease the number of codes requiring an organization determination.
2. Codes that are sometimes covered will require an Organization Determination and will be reviewed for coverage.

Resources

For details about items, tests or services covered by Medicare, see the comprehensive list at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services website (link below). The organization determination is not required for Medicare covered services.

- Medicare.gov <https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/is-your-test-item-or-service-covered>
- CMS.gov <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/overview-and-quick-search.aspx?CoverageSelection=Both&ArticleType=All&PolicyType=Final&s=Minnesota&Keyword=stem+cell&>

Blue Cross Prior Authorization and organization determinations should be submitted through Availity using the Authorization tool. The Authorization tool will not advise that an organization determination is required for Platinum Blue or Medicare advantage policies for Medicare non-covered services.

- The authorization tool will only send automated response for Medicare non-covered codes with status indicator of “N”. If you enter multiple procedure codes and one of them require review it may cause unnecessary delays. Please enter procedure codes that need review on a separate request to avoid delays.

These codes are updated quarterly and subject to change. Table B may not include all codes that are subject to the organization determination requirements.

Table A - Status “N” codes that do not require an organization determination

90875	90876	90882	92590	92591	92592	92593	92594	92595	A4261
A4467	A6413	A9270	D0411	D5511	D5512	D5611	D5612	D5621	D5622
D6096	D6118	D6119	D7296	D7297	D7979	D8695	D9222	D9239	D9995
D9996	J7296	T4545	V2787	V2788	V5008	V5011	V5014	V5020	V5030
V5040	V5070	V5080	V5090	V5095	V5100	V5110	V5120	V5150	V5160
V5190	V5200	V5230	V5240	V5241	V5242	V5243	V5244	V5245	V5246
V5247	V5248	V4249	V5250	V5251	V5252	V5253	V5254	V5255	V5258
V5259	V5262	V5263	V5264	V5265	V5266	V5267	V5268	V5269	V5270
V5271	V5272	V5273	V5274	V5275	V5281	V5282	V5283	V5284	V5285
V5286	V5287	V5288	V5289	V5290	V5336				

Table B – Status “N” codes that require an organization determination

20560	20561	37216	43842	48160	58300	61640	61641	61642	65760
65765	65767	65771	69090	69710	74263	76390	78350	78351	78609
80050	86910	86911	88000	88005	88007	88012	88014	88016	88020

88025	88027	88028	88029	88036	88037	88040	88045	88099	90694
92310	92314	93895	96170	96171	99026	99027	99075	99172	99173
99174	99177	99188	99401	99402	99403	99404	99408	99409	99411
99412	99450	0469T	A0888	A4210	A4250	A4252	A4627	A4670	A6000
A9273	A9280	A9281	A9282	A9286	A9300	G0219	G0235	G0252	G0255
G0282	G0428	G9013	G9014	G9016	G9147	J3520	J3535	J3570	J7297
J7298	J7300	J7301	J7303	J7304	J8515	M0075	M0076	M0100	M0300
M0301	P2031	Q0144	T1040	T1041	T4521	T4522	T4523	T4524	T4525
T4526	T4527	T4528	T4529	T4530	T4531	T4532	T4533	T4534	T4535
T4536	T4537	T4538	T4539	T4540	T4543	T4544	V5273	V5362	V5363
V5364									

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact provider services at **(651) 662-5200** or **1-800-262-0820**.