

PROVIDER BULLETIN

PROVIDER INFORMATION



April 8, 2014

Pre-certification/Pre-authorization Changes for Home Health Services for Government Programs Subscribers

Effective June 1, 2014, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) will be implementing pre-certification/pre-authorization changes for home health services for subscribers with coverage through Blue Plus Government Programs Blue Advantage (Prepaid Medical Assistance Program) and MinnesotaCare.

Pre-authorization requirements

Home health care, including skilled nursing visits and home health aide visits, will be subject to pre-certification/pre-authorization for skilled nursing visits after 20 visits and for home health aide visits after 20 visits. Benefits are allowable only for services that are medically necessary.

Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy in the home will no longer require pre-certification/pre-authorization.

Pre-certification/pre-authorization continues to be required for extended hours skilled nursing care, also referred to as private duty nursing.

To obtain pre-authorization for home health care, complete the Home Health Care Pre-Authorization/Prior Approval Request Form located on the Forms & publications section of providers.bluecrossmn.com. Fax the completed form and relevant clinical documentation to **(651) 662-1004**.

Failure to obtain pre-certification/pre-authorization and provide evidence of medical necessity may result in denials as provider liability.

Additional information

Providers are encouraged to use availity.com or call BLUELINE at **(651) 662-5200** or **1-800-262-0820** to obtain subscriber benefits prior to beginning services.

Questions?

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