

BULLETIN

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota
and Blue Plus

November 19, 2008

Addition of Children's Residential Mental Health benefits to Minnesota Health Care Programs

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) has determined that beginning January 1, 2009, the managed care organizations shall be responsible for the rehabilitative services and other medical costs for Minnesota Health Care Programs members while the child resides in the children's residential mental health treatment facility and remains in managed care. In order for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus to be in compliance with this required benefit change, a contract amendment has been issued to all Blue Cross participating children's residential mental health institutional providers who are located in Minnesota and hold host county contracts.

The contract amendment shall be effective January 1, 2009.

Prior authorization

Prior authorization from Blue Cross and the county will be required for all children's residential mental health treatment facilities. To begin this process, please contact Behavioral Health Service at **1-800-469-1110**.

Coverage

Coverage is subject to the terms of the member's benefit plan. Provider is responsible to verify eligibility and coverage before services are rendered.

Reimbursement

For the Minnesota Health Care Program members affected by this benefit change, Blue Plus will reimburse the provider for the rehabilitative services at 100 percent of the provider's charge. Per diem rates paid to the provider shall be the portion of the per-day contract rate that relates to the rehabilitative mental health services plus 2 percent and shall not include group foster care costs or services that are billed to the county of financial responsibility.

Providers may bill Blue Plus the then-current county rate at the percentage determined by DHS to be eligible for reimbursement by Medical Assistance plus 2 percent. Further, the provider should seek reimbursement for the room and board portion of facility costs from the local agency (County), not from Blue Plus.

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Groups affected

This change applies to the following Minnesota Health Care Programs:

Blue Plus

| Product name | Group numbers |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Blue Advantage (PMAP) | PP021, PP022, PP024, PP025, PP026, PP027 |
| MinnesotaCare | PP111, PP112, PP151, PP152 |
| CareBlue (ages 18 through 20 only) | PP300, PP301, PP302, PP303, PP304, PP305, PP306, PP312, PP313 |

First Plan Blue

| Product name | Group numbers |
|---|---------------|
| FirstPlan PMAP | FPG04 |
| FirstPlan Blue MnCare | FPG10 |
| FirstPlan Blue Basic (ages 18 through 20 only) | FPG06 |

Questions?

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