

PROVIDER QUICK POINTS

PROVIDER INFORMATION



June 2, 2014

Communicating and Accessing Medical Policies

Medical policies are communicated using the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota (Blue Cross) Medical and Behavioral Health Policy Manual. To access the Manual, go to **providers.bluecrossmn.com**. Under Tools & Resources, select “Medical policy”, read and accept the Blue Cross Medical Policy Statement, and then select “View All Active Policies.” There are several ways medical policies are communicated via the Manual:

- The **What’s New** section identifies our latest new or revised policies approved by Blue Cross’ Medical and Behavioral Health Policy Committee at least 50 days ago. These policies are now effective, and providers should begin following these policies immediately. These policies also appear in the “Active Policy” section of the Medical and Behavioral Health Policy Manual.
- The **Upcoming Policies** section lists new, revised, or inactivated policies approved by the Blue Cross Medical and Behavioral Health Policy Committee and are effective 50 days from the date they were posted to the “Upcoming Policies” section of the Medical and Behavioral Health Policy Manual.
- The **Active Policy** section contains the entire list of policies effective at the time of your inquiry. Please note, the following policies have separate sections: DHS Programs (Coverage Guidelines for DHS Programs - MHCP Manual) and Medicare Contractors (Part A – National Government Services [NGS], Part B – National Government Services [NGS], Home Health and Hospice – National Government Services [NGS], Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractor – National Government Services [NGS], and The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services – CMS).

Medical policies are also communicated in the Provider Press, which is a quarterly publication that is posted on the website in March, June, September, and December. All Medical policies reviewed by the Blue Cross Medical and Behavioral Health Policy Committee during the previous three months are listed under Medical and Behavioral Health Policy Updates. To access the Provider Press, go to **providers.bluecrossmn.com**. Under Forms & Publications, select “Provider Press” from the drop-down list of categories.

As a Reminder:

- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota medical policies apply generally to all Blue Cross and Blue Plus plans and products. Benefit plans vary in coverage and some plans may not provide coverage for certain services addressed in the medical policies.
- Receipt of benefits is subject to all terms and conditions of the subscriber’s summary plan description (SPD). As applicable, review the provisions relating to a specific coverage determination, including exclusions and limitations. Blue Cross reserves the right to revise, update and/or add to its medical policies at any time without notice.
- Medicaid products and some self-insured plans may have additional policies and prior authorization requirements. For Medicare NCD and/or Medicare LCD, please consult the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) or National Government Services websites.

Questions?

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