

PROVIDER BULLETIN

PROVIDER INFORMATION



December 7, 2015

2016 Federal Employee Program Offers Inpatient Residential Treatment Center Care

Effective January 1, 2016, the Federal Employee Program® (FEP) will offer inpatient residential treatment center (RTC) care for treatment of a medical, mental health, and /or substance abuse diagnosis.

The new benefit requires that the FEP member meet specific criteria in order for services to be allowed. Services must meet all criteria listed below to be eligible for coverage:

- Services meet medical necessity guidelines as determined by Utilization Management at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota (Blue Cross)
- Member is enrolled in and consents to participation in Case Management prior to, during and following inpatient RTC treatment
- Prior to admission, a preliminary treatment and discharge plan are developed and agreed to by the member, provider and Blue Cross FEP Case Manager
- Pre-certification is obtained prior to admission to the RTC. If a member is admitted prior to obtaining pre-certification approval, benefits are not available for the period of time prior to pre-certification approval.

In addition, effective January 1, 2016, the Flexible Benefits Option (FBO) may no longer be used to provide benefits for care provided and/or billed by a RTC. FBO may not be used to waive coverage criteria for RTC care or member financial responsibility.

Questions?

If you have questions regarding FEP members, please contact FEP provider services at **(651) 662-5044** or **1-800-859-2128**.