

# PROVIDER QUICK POINTS

## PROVIDER INFORMATION



November 14, 2018

### **Clarification Regarding the use of PLUTO for Minnesota Health Care Program Subscribers Effective December 1, 2018**

As previously communicated in Provider Bulletin P67-18, providers will have access to the Precertification Lookup Tool (PLUTO) outside of the Availity portal to allow providers to review upcoming prior authorization (PA) requirements for outpatient services. The publication of PLUTO originally planned for November 5, 2018, has been delayed. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota (Blue Cross) will update providers in an upcoming Quick Points or Provider Bulletin as soon as it is available.

Providers will have access to PLUTO and may start entering PA requests on December 1, 2018, directly within the new payer space in the Availity portal. Blue Cross will be implementing a 90-day pay and educate phase to allow providers the ability to become accustomed to the policy criteria and documentation required with a PA request. Blue Cross' expectation is that the providers take this opportunity to familiarize themselves with the new policies and authorization requirements during this initial implementation phase. Enforcement of prior authorizations and precertifications will begin for March 1, 2019 dates of service.

Effective Dates of Service: December 1, 2018 – February 28, 2019

- Provider will submit all relevant clinical information for review
- Clinical information will be reviewed to determine if the requests meets the clinical guidelines
- Requests that do not meet criteria per the evidence-based guidelines will receive an approval with educational language in the rationale to help providers understand why a PA request did not meet the clinical guidelines

Claims for dates of service beginning March 1, 2019 will deny without an approved prior authorization.

#### **Questions?**

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