

PROVIDER QUICK POINTS

PROVIDER INFORMATION



April 10, 2024

Authorization Submissions for Medical Drugs for Non-Oncologic Use

This revised version with removal of references to injectables and J-codes replaces QP16-24, originally published on February 28, 2024.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) requires prior authorization medical necessity review for drugs covered under medical benefit and used for non-oncologic services. When submitting the authorization request it is important to use the most appropriate Service Type to ensure prompt review and determination turnaround time.

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP)

Service Type **Specialty Pharmacy and Chemotherapy** needs be used when submitting Outpatient authorization requests for all medical drugs used for non-oncologic services using Availity Essentials.

Blue Cross Commercial and Medicare Advantage

Service Type **Injectable Drug** needs be used when submitting Outpatient authorization requests for medical drugs used for non-oncologic services using Availity Essentials.

Determining if the code requires Prior Authorization

Providers can quickly determine if a service or item requires prior authorization from the health plan before care is provided by entering the member group number, date of service and procedure code. The PA Look Up tool response also includes details related to the medical policy or evidence-based criteria that may apply and any special instructions related to the prior authorization process. There are two options for providers to use:

- The Prior Authorization Lookup tool is available on the Blue Cross website under Medical Management: <https://www.bluecrossmn.com/providers/medical-management/prior-authorization-lookup-tool>
- On Availity Essentials, follow the Authorization Request process. The first step in this process allows the provider to do determine if a PA is required using the "Is Authorization Required" tool. If an authorization is required, the provider can simply proceed to the next step to complete the process.

Products Impacted

- Blue Cross Commercial and Medicare Advantage
- Minnesota Health Care Programs including:
 - Families and Children
 - MinnesotaCare (MNCare)
 - Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+)
 - Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO)

Questions?

If you have questions for a member enrolled in a Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) plan, please contact provider services at **1-866-518-8448**. For all other questions, contact provider services at **(651) 662-5200** or **1-800-262-0820**.

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