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Introducing our New Provider Bulletin

Welcome to the debut of Blue KC's monthly Provider Bulletin. This is our way of consolidating and streamlining multiple updates into one document each month, instead of sending you individual letters as we have in the past. Our goal is to increase consistency and timeliness of information for an improved provider experience.

In addition, the monthly bulletin features a new "Line of Business Impacted" box for each article to help you better understand how the communication affects your patients. We hope you enjoy learning about what is new at Blue KC in this enhanced format.

If you have questions about any of these updates, please call the Blue KC Provider Hotline at 816-395-3929 for commercial line of business, 866-508-7140 for Blue Medicare Advantage line of business or 866-859-3822 for the Affordable Care Act Provider Hotline. Thank you for your partnership in providing quality care for our members.

COVID-19 Information

With the recent renewal of the COVID-19 national public health emergency (PHE) declaration, Blue KC has updated its coverage policies. The renewal of the declaration extends the emergency an additional 90 days through October 17, 2021.

Due to this PHE change, Blue KC is extending the end date for several COVID-19 related policies through December 31, 2021. This includes:



- Skilled Nursing Facilities' (SNF) waiver of prior authorization for commercial and Blue Medicare Advantage members (Details at Providers.BlueKC.com/Content/PDFs/ProviderLetter_SNFUpdatedTimeline_080221.pdf)

Note: We are receiving a high volume of SNF authorization requests marked "Expedited," "Urgent" or "Stat." Typically, requests for SNF admissions are "Standard." In general, very few scheduled prior authorization requests meet the definition of "Expedited."

Please continue to visit the COVID-19 Information section on the home page at Providers.BlueKC.com for the most up-to-date information about policies, coding, billing and other operational details related to COVID-19.

Table with 7 columns: COMMERCIAL, BLUE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE, ACA QHP1, Small Group ACA, JAA2, FEP3, Dental. The first two columns are highlighted in blue.

BLUE highlighted boxes are the lines of business impacted by this update.

1 ACA QHP: Affordable Care Act Qualified Health Plan for Individual/Family

2 JAA: Joint Administrative Account

3 FEP: Federal Employee Program

Anesthesia Billing

To ensure accurate billing, we want to make sure we have your most up-to-date list of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) identified in our system. If a CRNA provides services, but the CRNA is not in our system, the claim could be denied.

Please send us a roster of all CRNAs in your practice by emailing Provider_Data@BlueKC.com or completing the Provider Demographic Form at https://Providers.BlueKC.com/eForms/Form/ProviderDemographic.

Note: If applicable, please make sure your CRNAs have been properly credentialed.

Table with 7 columns: COMMERCIAL, BLUE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE, ACA QHP1, SMALL GROUP ACA, JAA2, FEP3, Dental. The first five columns are highlighted in blue.

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1 ACA QHP: Affordable Care Act Qualified Health Plan for Individual/Family

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Home Health Policy Change

Effective July 23, 2021, Blue KC is pleased to announce we have decided to remove prior authorization requirements for Home Health providers for Blue Medicare Advantage and ACA members. All inpatient stays still require prior authorization.

LINES OF BUSINESS IMPACTED						
Commercial	BLUE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	ACA QHP ¹	SMALL GROUP ACA	JAA ²	FEP ³	Dental

BLUE highlighted boxes are the lines of business impacted by this update.

¹ ACA QHP: Affordable Care Act Qualified Health Plan for Individual/Family

² JAA: Joint Administrative Account

³ FEP: Federal Employee Program

Pharmacy Policy Updates

Blue KC wants to inform you of updates to our Pharmacy Policy effective July 1, 2021. Below are seven codes that apply to Blue Medicare Advantage members and require prior authorization:

C9078	Injection, Trilaciclib (Cosela)
C9079	Injection, evinacumab-dgnb (Evkeeza)
C9080	Injection, melphalan flufenamide hydrochloride (Pepaxto)
J9315	Injection, romidepsin (Istodax)
J9353	Injection, margetuximab-cmkb (Margenza)
J9348	Injection, naxitamab-gqgk (Danyelza)
Q5123	Injection, rituximab-arrx, biosimilar, (Riabni)

LINE OF BUSINESS IMPACTED						
Commercial	BLUE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	ACA QHP ¹	Small Group ACA	JAA ²	FEP ³	Dental

The BLUE highlighted box is the line of business impacted by this update.

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Prior Authorization Updates

We encourage you to take advantage of our new digital home for prior authorization lists for all lines of business, which can be found on our Provider Portal at <https://Providers.BlueKC.com/FindAForm/PriorAuthorizationForms>. Once you arrive on that web page, use the “Select Line of Business or Member Prefix” dropdown. Choose the line of business and click on “Lookup”. Once the proper list is generated, you can use the table to search/filter through the results to find if a prior authorization is required. You can also use the table to submit a prior authorization request by clicking on the “Submit PA Request” link underneath the “Action” column on the right-hand side of the screen.

For users who do not have a Provider Portal account, please register by going to <https://Providers.BlueKC.com/FindAForm/PriorAuthorizationForms> and select the “Additional Resources” tab where you can find directions to sign up, whether you are an In-Network or Out-of-Network provider. We appreciate your assistance with requesting a Provider Portal account to help make it easier to submit electronic prior authorization requests. If you currently do not have a Provider Portal account, you can still submit a prior authorization request by going to the “Additional Resources” tab to select from a list of Blue KC e-Forms.

For any questions about prior authorization for commercial lines of business, please call 816-395-3989. For questions about Blue Medicare Advantage and ACA prior authorizations, please call 844-654-1467.

LINES OF BUSINESS IMPACTED						
COMMERCIAL	BLUE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE	ACA QHP ¹	SMALL GROUP ACA	JAA ²	FEP ³	Dental

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MCG 25th Edition Updates

Blue KC uses evidence-based guidelines for Utilization Management (UM) decision-making. Milliman Care Guidelines (MCG) is a nationally recognized organization providing clinical guidelines to health insurance companies to guide UM decisions. MCG continually updates these guidelines based on the latest clinical data and evidence.

We are updating the 25th Edition guidelines in August 2021. To view MCG guidelines or any of our Medical Policies, go to <https://Providers.BlueKC.com/MedicalPolicy/BlueKCMedicalPolicy> on the Provider Portal.

LINES OF BUSINESS IMPACTED						
COMMERCIAL	Blue Medicare Advantage	ACA QHP ¹	Small Group ACA	JAA ²	FEP ³	Dental

BLUE highlighted boxes are the lines of business impacted by this update.

¹ ACA QHP: Affordable Care Act Qualified Health Plan for Individual/Family

² JAA: Joint Administrative Account

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