

Blue Dot changes

As part of BCN's commitment to offer providers the most up-to-date information in a timely way, the *BCN Referral and Authorization Requirements* document is revised on an as-needed basis using the Blue Dot change process.


Here's how the process works:

1. The *BCN Referral and Authorization Requirements* document is published each year on January 1.
2. After the document is published in January, changes are made as needed throughout the year. Changes made since the previous publication are marked with a Blue Dot. This makes the most recent changes easy to identify.

BCN Referral and Authorization Requirements


For all services, noncontracted providers and providers who are not part of the designated network associated with the member's plan must obtain authorization from the BCN Utilization Management department.


Section 1: Plan notification and authorization requirements

Service	Requirements
 Sleep studies - outpatient facility or clinic	Authorization is required for all members. Must complete a questionnaire in the e-referral system. In addition - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A nondiagnostic home sleep test is required for adult members with symptoms of obstructive sleep apnea without certain other comorbid conditions prior to consideration for coverage of a sleep study in the outpatient facility or clinic. - Outpatient facility and clinic-based sleep management studies for adult members 18 years of age and older require the submission of evidence from the member's medical record. This evidence must both confirm the signs and symptoms of obstructive sleep apnea (effective with requests submitted on or after July 17, 2017) and indicate the specific condition the member has that would exclude or contraindicate a home sleep study (effective with requests submitted on or after Oct. 3, 2016).

3. Each change is explained in the list of Blue Dot changes that appears on the final page of the document.

Changes from previous publication are identified by a Blue Dot and explained on the final page of this document.

 **Blue Dot Changes to the
BCN Referral and Authorization Requirements**

Service / Topic	Change Description
 Sleep studies - outpatient facility or clinic	Effective with requests submitted on or after July 17, 2017, outpatient facility and clinic-based sleep management studies for adult members 18 years of age and older require the submission of evidence from the member's medical record that confirms the signs and symptoms of obstructive sleep apnea. This is in addition to already existing requirements.

4. A revision date is added at the lower right corner of the document.

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5. When the document is published the following year, the Blue Dots for the current year are removed. The changes made in the current year become part of the baseline of the new document.

Accessing the *BCN Referral and Authorization Requirements* document

To access the *BCN Referral and Authorization Requirements* document, visit ereferrals.bcbsm.com and click *BCN*. Then click *Authorization Requirements & Criteria* on the left navigation bar.

Providers may call BCN's Utilization Management department at 1-800-392-2512 with questions about referral and authorization requirements.