CARE MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT

Blue Cross and BCN offer care management services to members. We also provide utilization management services.

- **Care management** provides patient support by identifying patients with health risks and working with them to improve or maintain their health.
- **Utilization management** focuses on ensuring that patients get the right care at the right time in the right location through the authorization process.

These services are provided by the departments and vendors listed below.

**Care management**
- [myStrength by Livongo®](#)

**Utilization management**
- [Blue Cross Medicare Plus Blue℠ Behavioral Health](#)
- [BCN Behavioral Health](#)
- [New Directions® Behavioral Health](#)
CARE MANAGEMENT

myStrength by Livongo®

With more than 1,600 activities covering more than 30 life topics, myStrength provides members with virtual self-help content focused on these core areas: depression, anxiety, sleep, substance use disorders, chronic pain, opioid/medication-assisted treatment, stress, mindfulness, balancing emotions, pregnancy and early parenting, nicotine and trauma.

myStrength provides these services for the following groups and individual members:

- Blue Cross commercial — All fully insured groups, select self-funded groups* and all members with individual coverage
- BCN commercial — All fully insured groups, select self-funded groups* and all members with individual coverage

Resources
mystrength.com**
**Behavioral health**

*For mental health and substance use disorders*

February 2021

---

**UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT**

**Blue Cross Medicare Plus BlueSM Behavioral Health**

Makes authorization determinations for:

- Initial inpatient or partial hospital
- Intensive outpatient treatment
- Subacute detox

for the following groups and individual members:

- Medicare Plus Blue — All groups and members with individual coverage

**Resources**

- Blue Cross’ [Behavioral Health](https://www.ereferrals.bcbsm.com) page on our ereferrals.bcbsm.com website
- In the Utilization Management section of the [Medicare Plus Blue PPO Manual](https://www.ereferrals.bcbsm.com), look for the subsection titled “Preauthorization of behavioral health services”

**BCN Behavioral Health**

Makes authorization determinations for:

- Outpatient autism services (applied behavior analysis)
- Outpatient electroconvulsive therapy and neurofeedback
- Outpatient transcranial magnetic stimulation
- Initial inpatient, residential or partial hospital treatment
  
  **Note:** BCN Advantage doesn’t have a residential mental health treatment benefit.

- Intensive outpatient treatment
- Subacute detox

for the following groups and individual members:

- BCN commercial — All fully insured groups, all self-funded groups* and all members with individual coverage
- BCN AdvantageSM — All groups and all members with individual coverage

**Resources**

- The following pages on our ereferrals.bcbsm.com website:
  - BCN’s [Autism](https://www.ereferrals.bcbsm.com) page
  - BCN’s [Behavioral Health](https://www.ereferrals.bcbsm.com) page
- See the [Behavioral Health](https://www.ereferrals.bcbsm.com) chapter of the [BCN Provider Manual](https://www.ereferrals.bcbsm.com)
New Directions® Behavioral Health

Makes authorization determinations for:

- Outpatient autism services (applied behavior analysis)
- Outpatient TMS
- Initial inpatient, residential or partial hospital
- Subacute detox

for the following groups and individual members:

- Blue Cross commercial fully insured groups
- Blue Cross commercial self-funded groups*
  - For outpatient autism services (applied behavior analysis), authorization is required for self-funded groups that opt into the standard Blue Cross autism program
  - For outpatient TMS, providers must obtain authorization if the self-funded group offers the TMS benefit
- Blue Cross commercial members with individual coverage

Exclusion: Blue Cross commercial fully insured and self-funded groups whose behavioral health benefits aren’t managed by New Directions. See the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Carve-Out List.

Resources

- ndbh.com/providers/bcbsmi**
- Blue Cross’ Behavioral Health page on our ereferrals.bcbsm.com website
- See the following chapters of the Blue Cross PPO Provider Manual
  - “Autism spectrum disorder” section of the Psychiatric Care Services chapter
  - “Preauthorization” sections of the Psychiatric Care Services chapter
  - Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services chapter
About this document
This document lists coverage exceptions for major groups. It also provides links to additional resources, some of which may be in provider manuals that aren’t publicly available.

- To access chapters of the Blue Cross PPO Provider Manual, log in as a provider at bcbsm.com, click the Provider Manuals link on the right and then click the Blue Cross PPO Provider Manual link.

- To access chapters of the BCN Provider Manual, log in as a provider at bcbsm.com, click the Provider Manuals link on the right and then click the BCN Provider Manual link.

Information for out-of-state providers
See the following documents for referral and authorization requirements.

- For Blue Cross commercial and Medicare Plus Blue members: Provider Preauthorization and Precertification Requirements
- For BCN commercial and BCN Advantage members: Non-Michigan providers: Referral and authorization requirements

You can view these documents and our medical policies through the Medical Policy & Pre-Cert/Pre-Auth Router. To access the router, go to bcbsm.com/providers, click Quick Links, click Out-of-state providers and then click Medical policy, precertification and preauthorization router.

Reminder
As always, it’s essential that providers check each member’s eligibility and benefits prior to performing services.

Providers are responsible for identifying the need for authorization through web-DENIS, Benefit Explainer or Provider Inquiry and for contacting vendors and obtaining authorization for services, as needed.

*For self-funded plans, the employer assumes the risk for claims costs and pays a fee for administrative services provided by Blue Cross or BCN.

**Clicking this link means that you’re leaving the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network website. While we recommend this site, we’re not responsible for its content.