Provider alert



Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Medicare Plus BlueSM, Blue Care Network commercial and BCN AdvantageSM

Authorizations/referrals

Publication start date: Sept. 30, 2021 Publication end date: Oct. 28, 2021

Prior authorization requirements expanding for Medicare Plus Blue, BCN commercial and BCN Advantage members on Jan. 1

We're expanding our prior authorization requirements for Medicare Plus Blue, BCN commercial and BCN Advantage members. For the procedure codes outlined below, you'll need to complete questionnaires in the e-referral system when you submit prior authorization requests for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2022.

We'll update various documents to reflect this change prior to Jan. 1.

Note that we reported this change in the <u>October issue of *The Record*</u>. We'll also cover it in the November-December issue of *BCN Provider News*.

For Medicare Plus Blue members

Most of the procedure codes below already require prior authorization for BCN commercial and BCN Advantage members. This requirement is new for Medicare Plus Blue for requests submitted for dates of service on or after Jan. 1.

Category	Procedure codes
Blepharoplasty and repair of brow ptosis	*15822, *15823, *67900, *67901, *67902, *67903, *67904, *67906, *67908
Cosmetic or reconstructive surgery	*20912, *21210, *30465, *67909, *67911
Rhinoplasty	*30460, *30462

For BCN commercial and BCN Advantage members

The procedure codes below currently require prior authorization for BCN commercial and BCN Advantage, but they aren't currently associated with a questionnaire in the e-referral system. For dates of service on or after Jan. 1, you'll need to complete a questionnaire when you request prior authorization for these codes.

Category	Procedure codes
Cosmetic or reconstructive surgery	*20912, *30465

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For requests submitted for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, these procedure codes will require prior authorization for Medicare Plus Blue, BCN commercial and BCN Advantage members.

Category	Procedure codes
Blepharoplasty of the lower lid	*15820 ⁽¹⁾ , *15821 ⁽¹⁾
Cardiac devices	*33285, *33340
Cardiac ablation	*93653, *93654, *93656
Thyroid surgeries	*60210, *60212, *60220, *60225, *60240, *60252, *60254, *60260, *60270, *60271
Vein ablation and related services	*36473, *36474, *36482, *36483
Septoplasty	*30520

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⁽¹⁾ This procedure code currently requires prior authorization for BCN commercial and BCN Advantage members. For dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2022, this code will be associated with the new *Blepharoplasty of the lower lid* questionnaire. (For dates of service prior to Jan 1, 2022, this code is associated with the *Cosmetic or reconstructive surgery* questionnaire.)