For commercial LTACH requests, submit information about three SNFs to avoid delays

As a reminder, for prior authorization requests for admissions to long-term acute care hospitals, or LTACHs, you are required to include information about three skilled nursing facilities, or SNFs, you have contacted. These must be SNFs that you believe may be able to provide care for the member but have indicated they can’t provide the level of care the member requires.

This applies to LTACH placement requests for Blue Cross and BCN commercial members.

If the information that’s required about the three SNFs isn’t included when you submit the prior authorization request, the request is considered incomplete and can’t be processed. We’ll reach out to you and ask that you resubmit the request when the information is available. This delays the processing of the request.

Here’s the information we need about the three SNFs:

- Name of the SNF
- Phone number of the SNF
- Name of the person you talked to at the SNF
- Reason the SNF gave for not accepting the member

Be aware that:

- The three SNFs must be contracted with Blue Cross or BCN and located within 75 miles of the facility in which the member is currently a patient.
- Two of the three SNFs must be facilities that can accommodate members who need higher levels of care.

You can read more about these and other requirements in the document Blue Cross and BCN Local Rules for 2023 for post-acute care: Modifications of InterQual® criteria. You can access this document at referrals.bcbsm.com, on these webpages:

- Blue Cross Authorization Requirements & Criteria
- BCN Authorization Requirements & Criteria