Provider alert

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

Medicare Plus BlueSM and BCN AdvantageSM
Category: Authorizations/referrals

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Update: Changes for in-lab sleep studies to start Oct. 9

We updated an earlier communication to show that for dates of service on or after Oct. 9, 2023, in-lab sleep studies for BCN Advantage members won't require prior authorization except when the provider is out of network for the member's plan.

Prior authorization requirements for in-lab sleep studies will change for dates of service on or after Oct. 9, 2023.

For dates of service on or after Oct. 9

- For Medicare Plus Blue members, prior authorization won't be required for in-lab sleep studies.
- For BCN Advantage members, prior authorization won't be required for in-lab sleep studies when the provider is in network for the member's plan. If the provider is out of network, prior authorization will be required.

For dates of service prior to Oct. 9

Continue to submit prior authorization requests as you do now. Specifically:

- For Medicare Plus Blue members, submit prior authorization requests to Carelon Medical Benefits Management through the Carelon ProviderPortal.
 - Additional options for submitting requests are outlined on the Blue Cross <u>Carelon-Managed Procedures</u> webpage at **ereferrals.bcbsm.com**.
- For BCN Advantage members, submit prior authorization requests to BCN Utilization Management through the e-referral system.

You must complete the sleep study questionnaire in the e-referral system.

Additional information

Prior to Oct. 9, we'll update several documents to reflect these changes, including:

- Procedures that require prior authorization by Carelon: Cardiology, radiation oncology, radiology (high technology) and sleep studies (in lab)
- BCN referral and authorization requirements for Michigan providers

Carelon Medical Benefits Management is an independent company that contracts with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network to manage prior authorizations for select services.