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

Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup>, BCN commercial and BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup>
Category: Authorizations/referrals

Date posted: July 24, 2025

## **Changes to prior authorization requirements for select services** managed by Blue Cross and BCN starting July 27

On July 27, 2025, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are changing prior authorization requirements for some services for Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup>, BCN commercial and BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup> members.

## Changes to prior authorization requirements and questionnaires

We're changing prior authorization requirements and questionnaires for select services as follows.

Note: We'll update the document titled <u>Preview questionnaires and medical necessity criteria</u> (previously titled *Authorization criteria and preview questionnaires*) on the **ereferrals.bcbsm.com** website to reflect questionnaire changes.

Service	Affected lines of business	What's changing
Breast implant management	BCN commercial     BCN Advantage	<ul> <li>The Breast implant management questionnaires for commercial members and for BCN Advantage members will no longer open for procedure code *19325. However, procedure code *19325 will continue to require prior authorization.</li> <li>The questions on the Breast implant management questionnaire for commercial members will be updated to align with changes to the Reconstructive Breast Surgery/Management of Breast Implants medical policy.</li> </ul>
Breast reconstruction	BCN commercial	<ul> <li>The Breast reconstruction questionnaire:         <ul> <li>Will open for procedure code *19371</li> <li>Will no longer open for *19370. However, procedure code *19370 will continue to require prior authorization.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Two questions will be removed from the Breast reconstruction questionnaire.</li> </ul>
Breast reduction	BCN commercial	Two questions will be updated on the <i>Breast reduction</i> questionnaire.
Oral surgery	BCN commercial	<ul> <li>Procedure code *40814 will no longer require prior authorization.</li> <li>We'll change the order of the questions on the <i>Oral surgery</i> questionnaire.</li> </ul>

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Service	Affected lines of business	What's changing
Rhinoplasty	BCN commercial	We'll change the order of the questions on the Rhinoplasty (outpatient) questionnaire.
	BCN Advantage     Medicare Plus Blue	<ul> <li>We'll add a <i>Rhinoplasty MA</i> questionnaire with the Local Coverage Determination for Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery (L39051) as the criteria source.</li> <li>This new questionnaire will open for procedure codes *30400, *30410, *30420, *30430, *30435, *30450, *30460 and *30462.</li> </ul>
Sacral nerve stimulator	BCN commercial	<ul> <li>We'll retire the following questionnaires:</li> <li>Sacral nerve or gastric stimulation trigger</li> <li>Urinary or fecal incontinence trigger</li> <li>The Sacral nerve neuromodulation/stimulation for</li> </ul>
		fecal incontinence questionnaire will be revised and will open for procedure codes *64561, *64581 and *64590 with diagnosis codes R15.0, R15.1, R15.2 or R15.9.
		The Sacral nerve neuromodulation/stimulation for urinary incontinence questionnaire will be revised and will open for procedure codes *64561, *64581 and *64590 with diagnosis codes N31.8, N31.9, N32.81, N39.3, N39.41, N39.46, R32, R33.8, R33.9, R35.0 or R39.15.
		The <i>Gastric stimulator</i> questionnaire will open for procedure code *64590 with diagnosis codes E10.43, E11.43 or K31.84.
		Note: Although the procedure codes in this row require prior authorization with all diagnosis codes, a questionnaire will open only for the diagnosis codes specified above.
	BCN Advantage	We'll add a <i>Medicare Sacral Nerve Stimulation for Urinary Incontinence</i> questionnaire that will open for procedure codes *64561, *64581 and *64590 with diagnosis codes N39.41, N39.42, N39.46, R33.8, R33.9, R35.0, R39.11, R39.14, R39.15, T85.111A, T85.113A, T85.121A, T85.193A, T85.840A or Z45.42.
Various	BCN Advantage	Procedure codes G3002 and G3003 are now covered for BCN Advantage members. They don't require prior authorization.

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## Preview questionnaires and medical necessity criteria

For some of the above services, health care providers are prompted to complete questionnaires in the e-referral system. Refer to the <u>Preview questionnaires and medical</u> necessity criteria for:

- Links to preview questionnaires that show the questions you'll need to answer in the e-referral system so you can prepare your answers ahead of time
- Information about how to access medical necessity criteria and the criteria source for each service

As a reminder, we use the pertinent medical necessity criteria and your answers to the questionnaires in the e-referral system when making utilization management determinations on your prior authorization requests.

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