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

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## The average length of stay at most skilled nursing facilities has increased

The average length of stay for Medicare Plus Blue and BCN Advantage members at most skilled nursing facilities has increased significantly over the past six months.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are researching ways to bring length of stay back to more appropriate levels. Our goal is to make sure patients receive access to appropriate high-quality, cost-effective services that meet their clinical needs. However, an increased length of stay may result in a higher cost of care for our members.

In the coming months, Blue Cross and BCN will be releasing more information regarding our efforts to reduce length of stay for members at skilled nursing facilities. In advance of that announcement, we're encouraging administrators of these facilities to make sure our members are receiving high-quality care that results in appropriate length of stay for their conditions.

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