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

Medicare Plus BlueSM and BCN AdvantageSM
Category: Authorizations/referrals and Member care

Date posted: Oct. 24, 2025

New fields added to e-referral inpatient authorizations

Starting October 27, 2025, providers submitting inpatient authorizations in e-referral will see two new fields — Actual Discharge Date and Discharge Disposition. These fields can be found in the Confinement Information section of the Submit Inpatient Authorization screen.

This field is only available when you first submit the case.

- If the member is discharged at that time, we encourage you to fill out the field. Once you enter the date, you are also required to make a choice from the Discharge Disposition drop-down menu. You will receive an error message if no choice is made.
- If the member is still admitted when you first submit the case, you can leave those fields blank.

You will not be able to go back later and complete the discharge date/disposition. We only request it at the time of submission, if known.

If you wish to extend an inpatient authorization, follow the existing process (see "Extending an Inpatient Authorization" instructions on Page 61 of the e-referral User Guide). Enter the discharge date only if you are certain since this information can't be edited once the case has been decided. An incorrect date can delay an extension request.

Find step-by-step instructions in the "Submit an Inpatient Authorization" section of the *e-referral User Guide* dated October 2025.

<u>Subscribe</u> to Provider Alerts Weekly, a weekly email with a list of links to the previous week's provider alerts.