

Referrals to home healthcare for Medicare Advantage members: Grace period extended through Sept. 30 for acute care providers

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Blue Care Network and tango are extending the grace period during which acute care providers don't need to submit referrals to tango for home healthcare services. With the extension, home healthcare providers can continue to submit referral requests directly to tango through Sept. 30, 2026.

We extended the grace period to give additional time for:

- Acute care providers to connect with tango and complete all transition activities
- Discharge planners and care teams to learn and acclimate to the tango operational model without disrupting patients' transitions into skilled home health episodes

During this time, tango, Blue Cross and BCN will also continue to refine the referral process.

If your organization has questions about the referral process, email the tango Provider Relations team at providerrelations@tangocare.com.

Notes:

- In a May 4, 2026, provider alert, we reported that the grace period would end for acute care providers on May 31, 2026.
- As a reminder, tango coordinates referrals and manages prior authorizations for Medicare Plus BlueSM and BCN AdvantageSM members for home health episodes of care that start on or after March 1, 2026.

For additional information about home healthcare requirements for Medicare Advantage members, see the:

- [Home Health Care](#) page on authorizations.bcbsm.com
- [Home health referring provider](#) page on the *tango and WellSky Provider Resource Center for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network**

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