



Healthy Blue



Provider Newsletter

September 2021

<https://provider.healthybluene.com>

Provider Services: 833-388-1406 • 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. CT Monday to Friday



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COVID-19 information from Healthy Blue

Healthy Blue is closely monitoring COVID-19 developments and how the novel coronavirus will impact our customers and provider partners. Our clinical team is actively monitoring external queries and reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to help us determine what action is necessary on our part.

For additional information, reference the *COVID-19 Updates* page on our [website](#).



Administration

What Matters Most: Improving the Patient Experience

What Matters Most: Improving the Patient Experience is an online course for providers and office staff that addresses gaps in care and offers approaches to communication with patients. This course is available at no cost and is eligible for one CME credit by the American Academy of Family Physicians.

The *What Matters Most* training can be accessed at <https://www.mydiversepatients.com/le-ptexp.html>.

BNE-NL-0039-21

Members' Rights and Responsibilities Statement

The delivery of quality healthcare requires cooperation between patients, their providers, and their healthcare benefit plans. One of the first steps is for patients and providers to understand their rights and responsibilities. Therefore, in line with our commitment to participating practitioners and members in our system, Healthy Blue has adopted a *Members' Rights and Responsibilities Statement*, which is located on page 97 of the provider manual.

If you need a physical copy of the statement, call Provider Services at **833-388-1406** Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. CT.

BNE-NL-0047-21

Continuing medical education/ continuing education unit opportunities

We offer webinars on a variety of topics, including medical coding, claims issues, quality measures, healthcare and more. Each live webinar may offer both continuing medical education (CME)/continuing education unit (CMU) credit for attendees. On-demand recordings are also available (with CME credit) for your convenience.

Sign up for a session **online** today!

BNE-NL-0745-21

Coding spotlight: mental disorders in childhood

Mental disorders among children may cause serious changes in the way children typically learn, behave or handle their emotions, which cause distress and problems getting through the day. Healthcare professionals use the guidelines in the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, Fifth Edition (DSM-5)*, to help diagnose mental health disorders in children.



Read more online.

BNE-NL-0033-21



Policy Updates

MCG care guidelines 25th edition

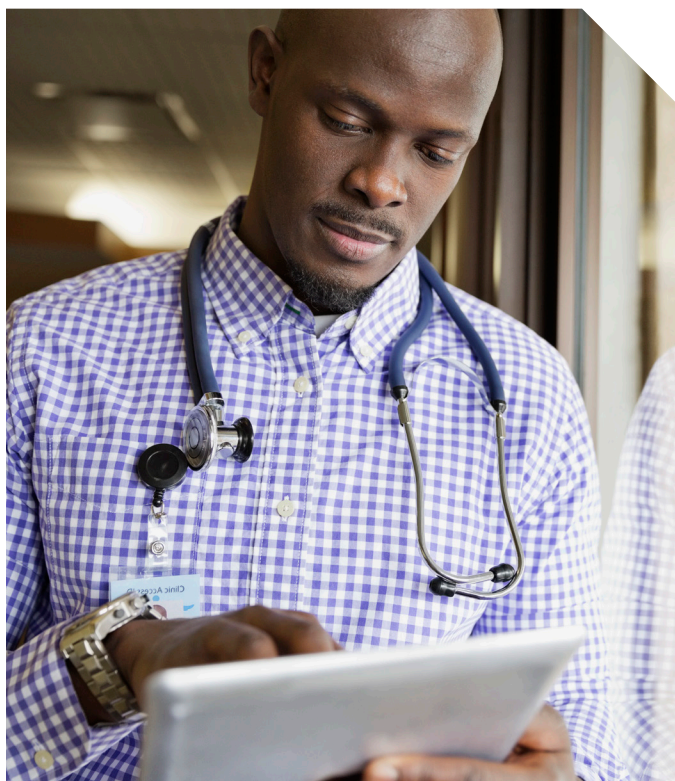
Effective September 1, 2021, Healthy Blue will upgrade to the 25th edition of MCG* care guidelines for the following modules: inpatient and surgical care (ISC), general recovery care (GRC), chronic care (CC), recovery facility care (RFC), and behavioral health care (BHC). The tables in the full article highlight new guidelines and changes that may be considered more restrictive.



Read more online.

* MCG Health is an independent company providing care guidelines on behalf of Healthy Blue.

BNE-NL-0031-21



Medical drug benefit *Clinical Criteria* updates

February 2021 update

On February 19, 2021, and March 4, 2021, the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee approved several *Clinical Criteria* applicable to the medical drug benefit for Healthy Blue. These policies were developed, revised or reviewed to support clinical coding edits.



Read more online.

BNE-NL-0041-21

May 2021 update

On August 21, 2020, and May 21, 2021, the Pharmacy and Therapeutic (P&T) Committee approved several *Clinical Criteria* applicable to the medical drug benefit for Healthy Blue. These policies were developed, revised or reviewed to support clinical coding edits.



Read more online.

BNE-NL-0063-21

Visit the [Clinical Criteria website](#) to search for specific policies. If you have questions or would like additional information, reach out via [email](#).



Policy Updates — Prior Authorization



Prior authorization updates for specialty pharmacy

Effective for dates of service on and after November 1, 2021, the following specialty pharmacy codes from current or new *Clinical Criteria* documents will require prior authorization.

Please note, inclusion of NDC code on your claim will expedite claim processing of drugs billed with a not otherwise classified (NOC) code.

Visit the [Clinical Criteria website](#) to search for the specific *Clinical Criteria* listed below.

<i>Clinical Criteria</i>	HCP ^{CS} or CPT [®] code(s)	Drug
ING-CC-0179	J9037	Injection, belantamab mafodotin-blmf, 0
ING-CC-0172	J1427	Injection, viltolarsen, 10 mg
ING-CC-0003	J1554	Injection, immune globulin (asceniv), 500 mg
ING-CC-0153	J0791	Injection, crizanlizumab-tmca, 5 mg
ING-CC-0170	J1823	Injection, inebilizumab-cdon, 1 mg
ING-CC-0149	J7212	Factor viia (antihemophilic factor, recombinant)-jncw (sevenfact), 1 microgram
ING-CC-0127	J9144	Injection, daratumumab, 10 mg and hyaluronidase-fihj
ING-CC-0169	J9316	Injection, pertuzumab, trastuzumab, and hyaluronidase-zzxf, per 10 mg
ING-CC-0165	J9317	Injection, sacituzumab govitecan-hziy, 2.5 mg

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Prior authorization requirement changes effective October 1, 2021

Effective October 1, 2021, prior authorization (PA) requirements will change for the following codes. The medical codes listed below will require PA by Healthy Blue for our members.

PA requirements will be added to the following:

- 33995 — Insertion of ventricular assist device, percutaneous, including radiological supervision and interpretation; right heart, venous access only
- 58999 — Unlisted Proc, Female Genital System (Nonobstetrical) infusion drug administration calendar day in the individual's home, each 15 minutes
- G0088 — Professional services, initial visit, for the administration of anti-infective, pain management, chelation, pulmonary hypertension, inotropic, or other intravenous infusion drug or biological (excluding chemotherapy or other highly complex drug or biological) for each infusion drug administration calendar day in the individual's home, each 15 minutes
- G0089 — Professional services, initial visit, for the administration of subcutaneous immunotherapy or other subcutaneous infusion drug or biological for each infusion drug administration calendar day in the individual's home, each 15 minutes
- G0090 — Professional services, initial visit, for the administration of intravenous chemotherapy or other highly complex infusion drug or biological for each infusion drug administration calendar day in the individual's home, each 15 minutes

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Federal and state law, as well as state contract language and CMS guidelines, including definitions and specific contract provisions/exclusions, take precedence over these PA rules and must be considered first when determining coverage. Noncompliance with new requirements may result in denied claims.

To request PA, you may use one of the following methods:

- Web: Once logged in to [Availity](#)*, select Patient Registration > Authorizations & Referrals, then choose Authorizations or Auth/Referral Inquiry, as appropriate.
- Fax: **800-964-3627**
- Phone: **833-388-1406** from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. CT Monday to Friday

Not all PA requirements are listed here. Detailed PA requirements are available to contracted providers on the [provider website](#) > Login. Contracted and noncontracted providers who are unable to access the provider website may call our Provider Services at **833-388-1406** Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. CT for assistance with PA requirements.

** Availity, LLC is an independent company providing administrative support services on behalf of Healthy Blue.*

Policy Updates — Medical Policies & Clinical Utilization Management Guidelines

February 2021 update

The *Medical Policies, Clinical Utilization Management (UM) Guidelines* and *Third-Party Criteria* below were developed and/or revised to support clinical coding edits. Note, several policies and guidelines were revised to provide clarification only and are not included. Existing precertification requirements have not changed.

To view a guideline, visit <https://provider.healthybluene.com/nebraska-provider/medical-policies-and-clinical-guidelines>.

Notes/updates:

Updates marked with an asterisk (*) notate that the criteria may be perceived as more restrictive.

- *CG-LAB-17 — Molecular Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel (GIPP) Testing for Infectious Diarrhea in the Outpatient Setting
 - Outlines the medical necessity and not medically necessary criteria for multiplex PCR-based panel testing of gastrointestinal pathogens for infectious diarrhea in the outpatient setting
- *GENE.00056 — Gene Expression Profiling for Bladder Cancer
 - Gene expression profiling for diagnosing, managing, and monitoring bladder cancer is considered investigational and not medically necessary
- *LAB.00038 — Cell-free DNA Testing to Aid in the Monitoring of Kidney Transplants for Rejection
 - Cell-free DNA testing is considered investigational and not medically necessary as a non-invasive method of determining the risk of rejection in kidney transplant recipients
- *LAB.00039 — Pooled Antibiotic Sensitivity Testing
 - Pooled antibiotic sensitivity testing is considered investigational and not medically necessary in the outpatient setting for all indications
- *SURG.00159 — Focal Laser Ablation for the Treatment of Prostate Cancer
 - Focal laser ablation is considered investigational and not medically necessary for the treatment of prostate cancer
- *TRANS.00037 — Uterine Transplantation
 - Uterine transplantation is considered investigational and not medically necessary for all uses, including but not limited to the treatment of uterine factor infertility due to nonfunctioning or absent uterus
- *ANC.00008 — Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Head and Neck
 - Added otoplasty using a custom-fabricated device, including but not limited to a custom fabricated alloplastic implant, as cosmetic and not medically necessary
- *CG-OR-PR-04 — Cranial Remodeling Bands and Helmets (Cranial Orthotics)
 - Removed condition requirement from reconstructive criteria and replaced current diagnostic reconstructive criteria with criteria based on one of the following cephalometric measurements: the cephalic index, the cephalic vault asymmetry index, the oblique diameter difference index, or the cranioproportional index of plagiocephelometry



Medical Policies and Clinical Utilization Management Guidelines update (cont.)

- *CG-SURG-78 — Locoregional and Surgical Techniques for Treating Primary and Metastatic Liver Malignancies
 - Added TACE using immunoembolization (for example, using granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor [GM-CSF]) as not medically necessary for all liver-related indications
- *CG-SURG-82 — Bone-Anchored and Bone Conduction Hearing Aids
 - Revised audiologic pure tone average bone conduction threshold criteria for unilateral implant for bilateral hearing loss
 - Added not medically necessary statement for when medical necessity criteria have not been met and clarified not medically necessary statement regarding replacement parts or upgrades
 - Added bone conduction hearing aids using an adhesive adapter behind the ear as not medically necessary for all indications
- CG-GENE-22 — Gene Expression Profiling for Managing Breast Cancer Treatment
 - A new *Clinical Guideline* was created from the content contained in GENE.00011. There are no changes to the guideline content and the publish date is April 7, 2021.
- CG-GENE-23 — Genetic Testing for Heritable Cardiac Conditions
 - A new *Clinical Guideline* was created from the content contained in GENE.00007 and GENE.00017. There are no changes to the guideline content and the publish date is April 7, 2021.
- CG-SURG-110 — Lung Volume Reduction Surgery
 - A new *Clinical Guideline* was created from the content contained in SURG.00022. There are no changes to the guideline content and the publish date is June 25, 2021.

AIM Specialty Health® (AIM)** *Clinical Appropriateness Guideline* updates. To view AIM guidelines, visit the AIM Specialty Health page.

- The *Small Joint Surgery Guideline* has been revised and will be effective on March 14, 2021.

Medical Policies

On February 11, 2021, the Medical Policy and Technology Assessment Committee (MPTAC) approved several *Medical Policies* applicable to Healthy Blue. These guidelines take effect September 9, 2021.

Clinical UM Guidelines

On February 11, 2021, the MPTAC approved several *Clinical UM Guidelines* applicable to Healthy Blue. These guidelines adopted by the medical operations committee for Healthy Blue members on February 25, 2021. These guidelines take effect September 9, 2021.



Read more online.

** AIM Specialty Health is an independent company providing some utilization review services on behalf of Healthy Blue.

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