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IAI | IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION



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Contact your account executive and update your email and communication preferences. We'll send the next edition to your email address.

December 2022



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts is an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

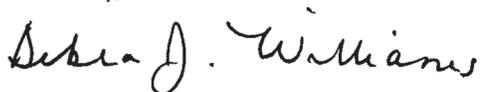
Dear Valued Customer:

Welcome to our *Important Administrative Information* December 2022 newsletter, with the latest healthcare industry news that affects you. This edition's topics are:

- Announcing Upcoming Webinars
- Stopping the Flu Starts with You
- State Legislation's Impact on Reproductive Health Coverage
- Helping Blue 20/20 Members Set Their Sights on Eye Exams
- Change in Prior Authorization Requirements for Certain Musculoskeletal Services in 2023
- Effective April 1, 2023, Upcoming Changes to the Standard Control with Advanced Control Specialty Formulary

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,



Debra J. Williams
Senior Vice President and Chief Sales & Marketing Officer

[IAI December 2022]

Announcing Upcoming Webinars

- ✓ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✓ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA

We're excited to announce upcoming webinars in our account webinar series. These webinars allow your organization's leadership and human resources teams to learn more about your health plan benefits from our subject matter experts, so you can make the best possible decisions on behalf of your employees. Upcoming topics include:

- Discussion with Sarah Iselin, Our New CEO
- GradFin
- Dental

Presentations last approximately one hour. You can submit your own questions either when you register, or during the webinar. You'll receive additional details in our monthly webinar emails.



Register for an upcoming webinar at employer.bluecrossma.com/whats-new/account-webinars.

If you have any questions, contact your account executive.

Stopping the Flu Starts with You

- ✓ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✓ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA

If your employees haven't gotten their flu shot yet, now's the time. It will help protect them and those around them from getting sick, especially young children and older adults who are most at risk. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says that it's safe,¹ effective, and can be given at the same time as the COVID-19 shot or booster. Encourage your employees to get vaccinated.

Find Help on the Employer Portal

One of the best ways to encourage vaccination is through education. Visit the Employer Portal for informative resources such as fact sheets, brochures, *Coverage* articles, and FAQs. All are easy to download and share with your employees. Go to **Flu Information and Resources** under **Member Tools and Resources**.

The Flu Shot Is Safe¹ and Effective, with No Cost² for Members

The flu vaccine is available to members at no additional cost from in-network providers like pharmacies, limited service clinics, and community health centers. Members can also get the vaccine at no additional cost from their doctor if they have an upcoming appointment.



To learn more about where and why to get a flu shot, tell members to visit **bluecrossma.org/flu**.

1. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Influenza (Flu) Vaccine Safety," August 25, 2022; cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaccinesafety.htm.
2. CDC-recommended flu vaccines are covered in full when administered by an in-network provider. Exceptions may apply. Members should check their plan materials for details.

State Legislation's Impact on Reproductive Health Coverage

- ✓ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✓ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA

With Chapter 127 of the Acts of 2022 signed into Massachusetts state law on July 29, 2022, there are new requirements for how abortion and abortion-related care will be covered by insurance carriers, including Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts:

- The law, which goes into effect January 1, 2023, mandates coverage for abortion and abortion-related care, without cost sharing for fully insured businesses.
- Fully insured accounts can opt out of this coverage only if they are a church or church-controlled organization.
- Deductibles will apply to these services for high-deductible health plans (HDHPs), consistent with federal rules for health savings accounts (HSAs).
- The Massachusetts Division of Insurance will issue regulatory guidance to determine what's included in abortion-related care under the law.



If you have any questions, contact your account executive.

Helping Blue 20/20 Members Set Their Sights on Eye Exams

- ✓ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✓ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA

Routine eye exams are the best way for members to maintain good eye health. Eye exams can detect health conditions such as diabetes, glaucoma, and cataracts. More than 90% of vision loss caused by diabetes can be prevented through early detection and treatment.¹ In November, we launched a vision awareness campaign to educate members about the benefits of routine eye exams and to highlight Blue 20/20's vision coverage. The campaign included social media posts, a diabetes spotlight on blue2020ma.com, and a member guide focused on eye health and diabetes.



Learn more at blue2020ma.com.

If you have any questions, contact your account executive.

1. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, March 3, 2022; cdc.gov/diabetes/professional-info/health-care-pro/diabetes-eye-health.html.

Change in Prior Authorization Requirements for Certain Musculoskeletal Services in 2023

- ✓ Small accounts (50 or fewer enrolled)
- ✓ Mid-size (51–99 enrolled)
- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA

We're updating our prior authorization requirements for certain musculoskeletal (MSK) services for all HMO and PPO plan members* to go into effect the second quarter of 2023. We'll review requests according to evidence-based, medical necessity criteria to help ensure that members are receiving safe, effective, and medically necessary MSK services. Throughout their MSK treatment, appropriate members will be offered support from our Care Managers.

In- and out-of-network providers will need to submit prior authorization requests for members receiving ongoing treatments for specified joint, spine, and pain management, and for members who begin treatment on or after the effective date.

We'll provide more information on this upcoming change in the first quarter of 2023.



If you have questions, contact your account executive.

*For the full list of services, members should check their plan details or call Member Service.

Effective April 1, 2023, Upcoming Changes to the Standard Control with Advanced Control Specialty Formulary

- ✓ Large (100 or more enrolled)
- ✓ Municipal
- ✓ MIIA

Effective April 1, 2023, CVS Caremark®, an independent company that administers your pharmacy benefits on behalf of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, is updating their formulary (list of covered medications) for select self-insured plans (500+) with the Standard Control with Advanced Control Specialty Formulary. As part of this update, certain medications may:

- No longer be covered (exceptions may be granted)
- Switch tiers
- Have new quantity or dosing limits
- Require prior authorization and/or step therapy
- Be added to the list of covered medications
- Be designated as preferred



Complete details about these changes will be available by February 24, 2023, at bluecrossma.com/employer in the **What's New** section.

If you have any questions, contact your account executive.