



Commercial PPO/HMO Medical Policy Updates

Customer Edition

September 30, 2023

Listed below are recent medical policy updates approved by the Joint Uniform Medical Policy (JUMP) Committee.

COVID-19 Updates

- Effective September 11, 2023, medical policy was expanded to allow Covid 19 virus vaccines 91318, 91319, 91320, 91321, 91322 to be payable without cost share for groups subject to National Health Care Reform (NHCR). In addition, procedure code 90480 is also allowed for the COVID 19 administration without cost share for groups subject to NHCR.
 - The preventive cost share waiver also applies to HSA/HRA groups that are subject to Safe Harbor regulations. Non-compliant groups will process the service according to group specific benefits.
 - There are no diagnostic restrictions.

Medical Policy Updates

- **GENE EXPRESSION PROFILING FOR CUTANEOUS MELANOMA**
 - Effective September 1, 2023, the medical policy statement was updated to reflect that the safety and effectiveness of pigmented lesion assay for the diagnosis of cutaneous melanoma has been established.
 - Code 0089U was added as established; code 81479 was added under noncovered codes.
- **MEASUREMENT OF SERUM AND ANTI-DRUG ANTIBODY LEVELS FOR SELECTED BIOLOGIC AGENTS**
 - Effective September 1, 2023, measurement of biologic agent drug levels and, if low, anti-drug antibody levels in individuals with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is established.
 - Codes 80280, 80299* and 83520* were added as established (**when these codes apply to Ustekinumab drug level testing*).
- **NONINVASIVE TECHNIQUES FOR THE EVALUATION AND MONITORING OF PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC LIVER DISEASE**
 - Effective September 1, 2023, procedure codes 0648T and 0649T were added as established and may now be used for the evaluation monitoring of chronic liver disease.

Additional JUMP Updates

- In compliance with the Autism Mandate, Medical Affairs has approved to make procedure code 97535 (self-care management training, direct contact, each 15 minutes) payable for autism and has removed any visit limitations associated with it when billed with one of the diagnoses codes below:
 - F840 Autistic Disorder
 - F845 Asperger’s Syndrome
 - F848 Other Pervasive Developmental Disorders
 - F849 Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Unspecified

- Medical Affairs reviewed the multiple policies that include procedure codes 81450 (a panel test that evaluates hematolymphoid neoplasms or disorders) and 81455 (a panel that evaluates both hematolymphoid and solid organ tumors). An updated list of payable diagnoses was created to align with the criteria for coverage that is outlined in each of the policies (listed below). The effective date of these policy updates was March 1, 2023.
 - **GENETIC TESTING – NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING OF MULTIPLE GENES (PANEL) FOR MALIGNANT CONDITIONS**
 - **GENETIC TESTING - JAK2, MPL AND CALR TESTING FOR MYELOPROLIFERATIVE NEOPLASMS**
 - **GENETIC TESTING FOR FMR1 AND FMR2 VARIANTS (INCLUDING FRAGILE X AND FRAGILE XE SYNDROMES)**
 - **GENETIC TESTING FOR FLT3, NPM1, CEBPA, IDH1 AND IDH2 VARIANTS IN ACUTE MYELOID LEUKEMIA**
 - **GENETIC TESTING - BCR-ABL1 TESTING IN CHRONIC MYELOGENOUS LEUKEMIA AND ACUTE LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA**

- **Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccines**
 - Effective May 3, 2023, medical policy was expanded to allow procedure code 90679 to be payable without cost share for groups subject to National Health Care Reform (NHCR).
 - Effective May 31, 2023, medical policy was expanded to allow respiratory syncytial virus vaccine 90678 to be payable without cost share.
 - Effective July 17, 2023, medical policy was expanded to allow respiratory syncytial virus vaccines 90380, 90381 to be payable without cost share for groups subject to NHCR.
 - For all above the above-mentioned RSV vaccines, there are no diagnostic restrictions and the preventive cost share waiver also applies to HSA/HRA groups that are subject to Safe Harbor regulations. Non-compliant groups will process the service according to group specific benefits.

New JUMP policies established September 1, 2023

- **ARTIFICIAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS - LUMBAR SPINE**
- **BONE GRAFT SUBSTITUTES**
- **BONE MORPHOGENETIC PROTEIN**
- **BIOIMPEDANCE DEVICES FOR DETECTION OF LYMPHEDEMA**
- **DIAGNOSIS OF VAGINITIS (INCLUDING BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS, TRICHOMONAS AND CANDIDIASIS) USING MULTI-TARGET PCR**
- **ELEMENTAL FORMULAS**

Additional information regarding each of the above-mentioned medical policy updates can be found by reviewing the full medical policy. All current Blue Cross and BCN medical policies are accessible via our **Medical Policy Router Search**: [Medical Policy and Pre-Cert/Pre-Auth Router \(bcbsm.com\)](https://bcbsm.com)

Questions? Reach out to your Blue Cross sales representative or general agent.

Please note that required updates to the claims processing system may not be completed until after the effective date of the Medical Policy change. In addition, please note that the updates included within this document are specific to *Medical* Policy changes and do not include changes made to Pharmacy policies.