Commercial PPO/HMO Medical Policy Updates

Customer Edition

March 31, 2024

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

Medical Policy Updates

- **Exclusionary criteria related to TMJ disorder have been updated**
  - Effective Jan. 1, 2024, the list of covered, non-surgical and surgical procedures considered safe and effective for the diagnosis and therapeutic treatment of Temporomandibular Joint Disorders has been updated. These procedures may be considered useful therapeutic options when indicated.

- **Genetic testing for TP53 to confirm pediatric hypodiploid acute lymphoblastic leukemia is established.**
  - The safety and effectiveness of genetic testing for TP53 to confirm a diagnosis of Li-Fraumeni syndrome and pediatric hypoliploid acute lymphoblastic leukemia has been established, starting Jan. 1, 2024.

- **iStent Infinate® added to policy on aqueous shunts and stents for glaucoma.**
  - The safety and effectiveness of the insertion of U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Aqueous Shunts and Stents have been established. They are useful therapeutic options for reducing intraocular pressure in individuals with glaucoma in whom medical therapy has failed to adequately control intraocular pressure.
  - Insertion of FDA-approved aqueous shunts is considered established as a method to reduce intraocular pressure in patients with mild to moderate open-angle glaucoma when conventional pharmacologic treatments have failed to control intraocular pressure adequately.

- **Postsurgical home use of limb compression devices for venous thromboembolism prophylaxis has updated criteria.**
  - The safety and effectiveness of postsurgical home limb compression devices for venous thromboembolism prophylaxis have been established. It may be considered a useful therapeutic option when clinical criteria are met, starting Jan. 1, 2024.

- **Update on the medical policy statement for in-office needle arthroscopy using the mi-eye 2™, mi-eye 3 needlescope™ with cannula, and VisionScope®.**
    - The clinical utility of fecal calprotectin testing has been established for **adult and pediatric** individuals, effective Jan. 1, 2024.

- **Germline genetic testing for BRCA1, BRCA2, and PALB2 for hereditary breast/ovarian cancer syndrome and other high-risk cancers**
    - The safety and effectiveness of simultaneous testing for inherited *BRCA1*, *BRCA2, and PALB2* variants have been established. It may be considered a useful diagnostic option when indicated for individuals at high-risk of breast and/or ovarian cancer.
    - Testing for genomic rearrangements of the *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* genes (e.g., BART testing) may be considered established in patients who meet criteria for *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* testing *and* whose testing for point variants is negative.
    - This update will move the BreastNext, OvaNext, BRCAPlus and BROCA tests from experimental to covered starting March 1, 2024.

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).

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.