

## **2019 Federal Employee Program (FEP) Prior Approval/Pre-Certification List for:**

- Standard Option or
- Basic Option

*Please note: There is a separate Prior Approval/Pre-Certification list for the FEP Blue Focus product.*

Federal Employee Program members only require prior approval or pre-certification on the following services, which are based on medical necessity. For a complete quote of benefit information, please contact the local Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan on the back of the patient's identification card.

### **Services requiring Pre-Certification:**

- Inpatient hospital admissions
- Inpatient residential treatment centers
- Skilled nursing facilities

### **Services requiring Prior Approval:**

#### **Air Ambulance Transport (non-emergent)**

Prior approval is required for all non-emergent air ambulance transports. Air ambulance transports related to immediate care or a medical emergency or accidental injury does not require prior approval.

#### **Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)**

Prior approval is required for all ABA and all related services, including assessments, evaluations and treatments.

#### **BRCA testing and testing for large genomic rearrangements in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes**

Prior approval is required for BRCA testing and testing for large genomic rearrangements in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes whether performed for preventive or diagnostic reason.

Note: the patient must have received genetic counseling and evaluation services before preventive BRCA testing is performed.

#### **Gene Therapy and Cellular Immunotherapy**

Prior approval is required for all gene therapy and cellular immunotherapy, for example Car-T and T-cell receptor therapy.

#### **Gender reassignment surgery**

Prior to surgical treatment of gender dysphoria, you must submit a treatment plan including all surgeries planned and the estimated date each will be performed. A new prior approval will need to be obtained if the treatment plan is approved and modifications to the original treatment plan needs to be made.

**Hospice care**

Prior approval is required for home hospice, continuous home hospice, or inpatient hospice care services.

**Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)/Outpatient**

Prior approval is required for all outpatient IMRT services except IMRT related to the treatment of the head, neck, and breast, prostate or anal cancer. Brain cancer is not considered a form of head or neck cancer; therefore, prior approval is required for IMRT treatment of brain cancer.

**Organ/tissue transplants**

Prior approval required for both the procedure and the facility.

When using a Blue Distinction Center for Transplants, prior approval is also required for travel benefits.

**Outpatient sleep studies performed outside the home**

Prior approval is required for sleep studies performed in a provider's office, sleep center, clinic, outpatient center, hospital, skilled nursing facility, residential treatment center and any other location that is not in the patient's home.

**Outpatient surgical services**

The surgical services listed below require prior approval when they are to be performed on an outpatient basis. This requirement applies to both the physician services and the facility services.

- surgery for morbid obesity
- surgical correction of congenital anomalies
- surgery needed to correct accidental injuries to jaws, cheeks, lips, tongue roof and floor of mouth.
- Gender reassignment surgery (also see the category of "gender reassignment surgery" above)

**Prescription Drugs**

Certain prescription drugs require prior approval. Contact CVS Caremark, our Pharmacy Program administrator at (800) 624-5060 to request prior approval or to obtain an updated list of prescription drugs that require prior approval. You must periodically renew prior approval for certain drugs.

**Stem Cell Transplants (Blood or Marrow)**

All services require prior approval and must be performed in a facility with a transplant program accredited by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) or in a facility designated as a Blue Distinction Center for Transplants or as a Cancer Research Facility.

Clinical trials for certain blood or marrow stem cell transplants, contact the FEP customer service team for details as some benefits are only available for specific types of clinical trial.

For the purposes of the blood or marrow stem cell clinical trial transplants covered, a clinical trial is a research study whose protocols have been reviewed and approved by the Institutional

Review Board (IRB) of the Blue Distinction Center for Transplants where the procedure is performed.