

Precertification requirements for members covered under the Federal Employee Standard and Basic Option Benefit Plans

The Federal Employee Standard and Basic Option Benefit Plans (FEP) require precertification for the following services. These services must meet FEP medical policies, which can be accessed at: www.fepblue.org/en/benefit-plans/benefit-plans-brochures-and-forms and selecting *Medical Policies*.

NOTE: Outpatient precertification for FEP should be obtained by calling Highmark at 1-866-763-3608. Hospice and inpatient precertification continues to be performed by Independence Blue Cross.

- Air ambulance transport (non-emergent)
- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- BRCA testing and testing for large genomic rearrangement in the BRCA 1 and BRCA 2 genes
- Elective surgical and non-surgical inpatient admissions
- Gender Reassignment Surgery
- Gene therapy and cellular immunotherapy, (For example, CAR-T and T-cell receptor therapy)
- Hospice care (home hospice, continuous home hospice, and inpatient hospice)
- Inpatient residential treatment center (RTC) admissions (Please contact Magellan at 1-800-688-1911*)
- Outpatient Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) except related to treatment of head, neck, breast, prostate, and anal cancer (Brain cancer is not considered a form of head or neck cancer, therefore, prior approval is required for IMRT treatment for brain cancer)
- Outpatient sleep studies performed outside the home
- Outpatient surgery needed to correct accidental injuries to jaws, cheeks, lips, tongue, and roof and floor of mouth
- Outpatient surgical correction of congenital anomalies
- Surgery for morbid obesity
- Transplants, with the exception of corneal and kidney transplants

NOTE: Prior approval is not required for outpatient mental health/substance use disorder services.

Failure to obtain precertification will result in a retrospective review to determine compliance with FEP medical policies and guidelines. Should services be denied for lack of medical necessity, reimbursement will not be made and the member may not be billed.

*Exception: no retrospective review will be done for medical necessity for RTC. All precertification requirements must be met prior to admission.