

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield and CDHP products preapproval list — updated February 1, 2025

Preapproval is the determination that selected inpatient and outpatient medical services, including surgeries, major diagnostic procedures and referrals meet criteria for medical necessity under the member's benefits contract. For the member to receive maximum benefits, Anthem must authorize these covered services prior to being rendered. Preapproval helps avoid unnecessary charges or penalties by ensuring that the member's care is administered at a network facility and by a network provider.

- Preapproval includes a review of both the service and the setting.
- Care will be covered according to the members benefits for the number of days pre-certified unless our concurrent review determines that additional days qualify for coverage.
- Certain services may require the member to use a provider designated by their health benefit plan.
- A copy of the approval will be provided to you, the physician and the hospital or facility.
- For benefits to be paid, the member must be eligible for benefits, the service must be eligible for benefits and the service must be a covered benefit under the contract at the time the services are rendered.
- Not otherwise classified (NOC) and unlisted codes — codes may not reflect preapproval is required but codes may require medical necessity review upon claims submission depending on diagnosis and/or reimbursement level.

Preapproval responsibility

Network physicians are required to obtain preapproval for patients with HMO, POS, PPO, and EPO coverage. If a member visits an out-of-network physician, preapproval is their responsibility. Regardless of whether a member visits a doctor in the network, or out-of-network, it is always a good idea to check with their physician if the services have been pre-certified.

New services added to the preapproval list since the last update will appear in red. Any codes and services removed from the list since the last update do not require preapproval. Codes and services not on the preapproval list may still require medical review prior to claims payment.

The preapproval number is listed on the back of the member's Anthem ID card.

For benefits to be paid, the member must be eligible on the date of service and the service must be a covered benefit under the policy. This list is subject to change.

***Services not requiring pre-certification for coverage, but recommended for pre-determination of medical necessity due to the existence of post service claim edits and/or the potential cost of services to the member if denied by Anthem for lack of medical necessity:**

- Procedures, equipment, and/or specialty infusion drugs which have medically necessary criteria determined by Corporate Medical Policy or *Clinical Guidelines*.

Note: For a complete listing of *Medical Policies* and *Clinical Guidelines*, go to **Anthem.com**, select **Menu** and then under the Support heading, select **Providers**. Choose your state from the drop-down list and enter to the Provider Home page, select *Anthem Medical Policies* and *Clinical UM Guidelines* under self-service and support

Carelon Medical Benefits Management, Inc. is an independent company providing utilization management services on behalf of the health plan.

CarelonRx, Inc. is a separate company providing utilization review services on behalf of the health plan.

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is the trade name of: In Colorado: Rocky Mountain Hospital and Medical Service, Inc. HMO products underwritten by HMO Colorado, Inc. In Connecticut: Anthem Health Plans, Inc. In Georgia: Blue Cross Blue Shield Healthcare Plan of Georgia, Inc. In Indiana: Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc. In Kentucky: Anthem Health Plans of Kentucky, Inc. In Maine: Anthem Health Plans of Maine, Inc. In Missouri (excluding 30 counties in the Kansas City area): RightCHOICE® Managed Care, Inc. (RIT), Healthy Alliance® Life Insurance Company (HALIC), and HMO Missouri, Inc. RIT and certain affiliates administer non-HMO benefits underwritten by HALIC and HMO benefits underwritten by HMO Missouri, Inc. RIT and certain affiliates only provide administrative services for self-funded plans and do not underwrite benefits. In Nevada: Rocky Mountain Hospital and Medical Service, Inc. HMO products underwritten by HMO Colorado, Inc., dba HMO Nevada. In New Hampshire: Anthem Health Plans of New Hampshire, Inc. HMO plans are administered by Anthem Health Plans of New Hampshire, Inc. and underwritten by Matthew Thornton Health Plan, Inc. In 17 southeastern counties of New York: Anthem HealthChoice Assurance, Inc. and Anthem HealthChoice HMO, Inc. In these same counties, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield HP is the trade name of Anthem HP, LLC and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Retiree Solutions is the trade name of Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc. In Ohio: Community Insurance Company. In Virginia: Anthem Health Plans of Virginia, Inc. Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield and its affiliate Healthkeepers, Inc. serve all of Virginia except for the City of Fairfax, the Town of Vienna, and the area east of State Route 123. In Wisconsin: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wisconsin (BCBSWI). BCBSWI underwrites or administers PPO and indemnity policies and underwrites the out of network benefits in POS policies offered by CompCare Health Services Insurance Corporation (CompCare) or Wisconsin Collaborative Insurance Corporation (WCIC). CompCare underwrites or administers HMO or POS policies; WCIC underwrites or administers Well Priority HMO or POS policies. Independent licensees of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Anthem is a registered trademark of Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc.

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You may also call the Customer Service number on the member ID card to see if the specific requested code is subject to *Medical Policy* or *Clinical Guideline* criteria.

Certain items and/or criteria referenced in this document apply to local fully insured Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield members and select members who are covered under self-insured (ASO) benefit plans with services medically managed as part of a purchased program. It does not apply to BlueCard®, Medicare Advantage, Medicaid, Medicare Supplement, Federal Employee Program® (FEP®). The provider will be notified upon requesting preapproval if preapproval is required for the member. If the program has not been purchased, preapproval is not required and clinical review will not be performed for the member. For more information, please contact the phone number of the back of the member ID card.

Carelon Medical Benefits Management, Inc.

Carelon Medical Benefits Management, a separate company, is a nationally recognized leader delivering specialty benefits management on behalf of IN, KY, MO, OH, & WI for certain health plan members. Determine if preapproval is needed for an IN, KY, MO, OH, or WI member by clicking the “Medical Policy, Clinical UM Guidelines, and Preapproval Requirements” link on our provider website, or by calling the preapproval phone number printed on the back of the member’s ID card. To submit your request for any of the services below, contact Carelon Medical Benefits Management online via Carelon Medical Benefits Management’s Provider Portal. From the drop-down menu, select IN, KY, MO, OH, or WI. You may also call Carelon Medical Benefits Management toll-free at **866-714-1103**, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET.

Note: For codes noted as managed by Carelon, preapproval requirement applies to Fully Insured and Vendor Program eligible members only.

Carelon Medical Benefits Management provides benefits for the programs listed below:

- Advanced Imaging
- Cancer Care Quality Program
- Cardiovascular Services
- Diagnostic Imaging Management
- Gastrointestinal Endoscopy in Adults, and Site of Care for Certain Surgical Services
- Genetic Testing
- Imaging Level of Care
- Musculoskeletal (MSK) and Site of Care (Site of Care go-live 1/1/22 for IN, KY, OH and 4/1/2023 for MO)
- Oncology Drugs
- Outpatient Sleep Testing and Therapy Services
- Radiation Therapy Services
- Rehabilitative Services and Site of Care (Site of Care go-live 8/1/21 for IN, KY, MO, OH)

For more details on these programs, please visit the Carelon Medical Benefits Guidelines site. By clicking on the link below, you will be linked to sites created and/or maintained by another, separate entity (“External Site”). Upon linking you are subject to the terms of use, privacy, copyright and security policies of the External Sites. We provide these links solely for your information and convenience. We encourage you to review the privacy practices of the External Sites. The information contained on the External Sites should not be interpreted as medical advice or treatment provided by us.

For complete preapproval requirements for vendors, visit:

- Carelon Medical Benefits Management website at <https://guidelines.carelonmedicalbenefitsmanagement.com>; Submit requests at <https://providerportal.com>, or call 877-291-0366
- CarelonRx, Inc. website at carelonrx.com

Category description	Responsible party	Comments
Ablative techniques as a treatment for Barrett's esophagus	Anthem	
Absolute quantitation of myocardial blood flow measurement	Anthem	
Adipose-derived regenerative cell therapy and soft tissue augmentation procedures	Anthem	
Admissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elective admissions • Emergency admissions (Anthem requires plan notification within 24 hours) • OB-related medical stay (OB complications, excludes childbirth) • Inpatient skilled nursing facility (SNF) • Long-term acute care facility (LTAC) • Rehabilitation facility admissions • Bariatric surgery • Inpatient hospice respite care — Consumer Directed Health Plan (CDHP) plans only • Maternity admissions — vaginal and Cesarean deliveries if more than two days or four days, respectively 	Anthem	
Admissions from ER that indicate require medical necessity review (Except Anthem Essential Choice aka Limited Duration Plan) (Anthem requires plan notification within 24 hours)	Anthem	
Allogeneic, xenographic, synthetic and composite products for wound healing and soft tissue grafting	Anthem	
Ambulance services: air and water	Anthem	
Ambulatory and inpatient video electroencephalography	Anthem	
Anesthesia services for interventional pain management procedures	Anthem	
Balloon sinus ostial dilation	Anthem	
Bariatric surgery and other treatments for clinically severe obesity	Anthem	

Category description	Responsible party	Comments
Behavioral health services: OH, IN, KY Blues products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All facility-based care • Inpatient admissions • Intensive outpatient therapy • Partial hospitalization • Residential care • Electric convulsive therapy (ECT) • Transcranial magnetic stimulation • Applied behavioral analysis (ABA) • Intensive In-home behavioral health services WI Blues products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inpatient admissions require authorizations • Intensive outpatient therapy • Partial hospitalization • Residential care • Transcranial magnetic stimulation • Intensive in-home behavioral health services 	Anthem	
MO Blues products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All facility-based care • Inpatient admissions • Intensive outpatient therapy • Partial hospitalization • Residential care • Electric convulsive therapy (ECT). • Transcranial magnetic stimulation • Applied behavioral analysis (ABA) • Intensive in-home behavioral health services CDHP products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inpatient admissions require authorizations • Intensive outpatient therapy • Partial hospitalization • Residential care • Transcranial magnetic stimulation • Applied behavioral analysis (ABA) • Intensive in-home behavioral health services 	Anthem	
Biomagnetic therapy	Anthem	
Biomarker testing	Anthem	

Category description	Responsible party	Comments
Bone-anchored and bone conduction hearing aids	Anthem	
Brain computer interface rehabilitation devices	Anthem	
Cellular therapy products for allogeneic stem cell transplantation	Anthem	
Durable medical equipment (various)	Anthem	
Hepzato Kit™ (melphalan hepatic delivery system)	Anthem	
High-volume colonic irrigation	Anthem	
Implantable middle ear hearing aids	Anthem	
Implantable peripheral nerve stimulation devices as a treatment for pain	Anthem	
Implantable shock absorber for treatment of knee osteoarthritis	Anthem	
Implantation of occipital, supraorbital or trigeminal nerve stimulation devices (and related procedures)	Anthem	
Implanted devices for spinal stenosis	Carelon	
Insulin potentiation therapy	Anthem	
Inpatient interfacility transfers	Anthem	
Intracardiac electrophysiological studies and catheter ablation	Anthem	
Intracardiac ischemia monitoring	Anthem	
Intraocular anterior segment aqueous drainage devices (without extraocular reservoir)	Anthem	
In vitro chemosensitivity assays and in vitro chemoresistance assays	Anthem	
Laboratory testing as an aid in the diagnosis of heart transplant rejection	Anthem	
Leadless pacemaker	Anthem	
Lysis of epidural adhesions	Anthem	
Magnetic source imaging and magnetoencephalography	Anthem	
Mandibular/maxillary (orthognathic) surgery	Anthem	
Manipulation under anesthesia	Anthem	

Category description	Responsible party	Comments
Mastectomy for gynecomastia	Anthem	
Maternity admissions — vaginal and Cesarean deliveries if more than two days or four days respectively	Anthem	
Mechanical circulatory assist devices (ventricular assist devices, percutaneous ventricular assist devices and artificial hearts)	Anthem	
Metagenomic sequencing for infectious disease in the outpatient setting	Anthem	
Microprocessor controlled knee-ankle-foot orthosis	Anthem	
Microprocessor controlled lower limb prosthesis	Anthem	
Minimally invasive treatment of the posterior nasal nerve to treat rhinitis	Anthem	
Moderate to deep anesthesia services for dental surgery in the facility setting	Anthem	
Multiplex autoantigen microarray testing for systemic lupus erythematosus	Anthem	
Myocardial sympathetic innervation imaging with or without single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT)	Anthem	
Myocardial strain imaging	Anthem	
Nanoparticle-mediated thermal ablation	Anthem	
Neuromuscular electrical training for the treatment of obstructive sleep apnea or snoring	Anthem	
Observation stays — KY ACA individual only	Anthem	Prior authorization required for KY ACA individual plans only
Occipital nerve block therapy for the treatment of headache and occipital neuralgia	Anthem	
Oral, pharyngeal, and maxillofacial surgical treatment for obstructive sleep apnea or snoring	Anthem	
Osseointegrated limb prostheses	Anthem	
Out of network referrals	Anthem	
Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances PFAS testing	Anthem	
Proprietary algorithms for liver fibrosis	Anthem	

Category description	Responsible party	Comments
Vein embolization as a treatment for pelvic congestion syndrome and varicocele	Anthem	
Panniculectomy and abdominoplasty	Anthem	
Paraesophageal hernia repair	Anthem	
Partial left ventriculectomy	Anthem	
Patent foramen ovale and left atrial appendage closure devices for stroke prevention	Anthem	
Penile prosthesis implantation (only requires preapproval if procedure is a benefit in the member certificate)	Anthem	
Percutaneous vertebral disc and vertebral endplate procedures	Anthem	
Physiologic recording of tremor using accelerometer(s) and gyroscope(s)	Anthem	
Plastic/reconstructive surgeries: (only specific procedures listed): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blepharoplasty • Breast procedures including reconstructive surgery and implants. • Chin implant, mentoplasty, osteoplasty mandible • Cosmetic and reconstructive services of the head and neck • Cosmetic and reconstructive services of the trunk and groin • Cosmetic and reconstructive services skin related • Hairplasty • Insertion/injection of prosthetic material collagen implants • Panniculectomy and abdominoplasty • Panniculectomy, lipectomy, diastasis recti repair • Rhinoplasty • Scoliosis 	Anthem	
Presbyopia and astigmatism-correcting intraocular lenses	Anthem	
Private duty nursing in the home setting	Anthem	
Radiofrequency neurolysis and pulsed radiofrequency therapy for trigeminal neuralgia	Anthem	
Reduction mammoplasty	Anthem	
Remote devices for intermittent monitoring of intraocular pressure	Anthem	

Category description	Responsible party	Comments
Sacral nerve stimulation and percutaneous tibial nerve stimulation for urinary and fecal incontinence; urinary retention	Anthem	
Sacral nerve stimulation as a treatment of neurogenic bladder secondary to spinal cord injury	Anthem	
Specialty pharmacy medications	CarelonRx	Requirements can be found at Anthem.com > Provider Home Page >>Precertification> Specialty Pharmacy Precertification Drugs and Codes
Surface electromyography and electrodermal activity sensor devices for seizure monitoring	Anthem	
Technologies for the evaluation of skin lesions (including dermatoscopy, epiluminescence microscopy, videomicroscopy, ultrasonography)	Anthem	
Transcatheter heart valve procedures	Anthem	
Transendoscopic therapy for gastroesophageal reflux disease, dysphagia and gastroparesis	Anthem	
Transplant services: All inpatient admits for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand transplant • Heart transplant • Liver transplant • Lung or double lung transplant • Simultaneous pancreas/kidney • Pancreas transplant • Kidney transplant (eff. 8/1/21) • Small bowel transplant • Multi-visceral transplant • Stem cell/bone marrow transplant (with or without myeloablative therapy) • All outpatient services for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stem cell/bone marrow transplant (with or without myeloablative therapy) • Donor leukocyte infusion 	Anthem	Contact Anthem Transplant Unit at 888-574-7215.
Treatment for autism spectrum disorder	Anthem	
Treatment for obstructive sleep apnea in adults	Anthem	
Treatment of varicose veins (lower extremities)	Anthem	
Treatments for urinary incontinence	Anthem	

Category description	Responsible party	Comments
Ultrafiltration in decompensated heart failure	Anthem	
Uterine fibroid ablation: laparoscopic, percutaneous or transcervical image guided techniques	Anthem	
Vagus nerve stimulation	Anthem	
Venous angioplasty with or without stent placement or venous stenting alone	Anthem	
Wearable cardioverter defibrillators	Anthem	
Wireless cardiac resynchronization therapy for left ventricular pacing	Anthem	
Viscocolostomy and canaloplasty	Anthem	
Wheelchairs; motorized or powered, ultra lightweight wheelchairs, power seating systems and accessories	Anthem	
Whole genome sequencing, whole exome sequencing, gene panels, and molecular profiling	Anthem	