

Anthem standard preapproval requirements February 13, 2025

Certain items and/or criteria referenced in this document apply to local, fully insured Anthem members in Georgia and select members covered under self-insured (administrative services only [ASO]) benefit plans with services medically managed as part of a purchased program. They do not apply to BlueCard®, Medicare Advantage, Medicaid, Medicare Supplement, or Federal Employee Program® (FEP®) members. You 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 will not be conducted. For more information, please contact the phone number on the back of the member ID card.

Eligibility and benefits

You can verify eligibility and benefits through our website or by calling the number on the back of the member's ID card. Service preapproval is based on a member's benefit plan and eligibility at the time the service is reviewed/approved. Benefit plans vary widely and are subject to change based on the contract implementation dates. You are responsible for verification of member eligibility and covered benefits. Except in the case of an emergency, failure to obtain preapproval prior to rendering the designated services listed below may result in reimbursement issues.

Note: not otherwise classified/Unlisted codes may be reviewed upon claim submission depending on diagnosis and reimbursement level.

Carelon Medical Benefits Management, Inc.

Carelon Medical Benefits Management, a separate company, is a nationally recognized leader delivering specialty benefits management on behalf of GA for certain health plan members. Determine if preapproval is needed for a Georgia member by selecting the *Medical Policy, Clinical UM Guidelines* 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 dropdown menu, select **GA**. 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.

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

- **Imaging level of care**
- **Genetic testing**
- **Diagnostic imaging management**
- **Cardiovascular services**

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

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is the trade name of Blue Cross Blue Shield Healthcare Plan of Georgia, Inc. Independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Anthem is a registered trademark of Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc.

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- Radiation therapy services
- Rehabilitative services and site of care
- Outpatient sleep testing and therapy services
- Oncology drugs
- Cancer care quality program
- Musculoskeletal (MSK) and site of care
- Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy in adults, and site of care for certain surgical services

For more details on these programs, go to the Carelon Medical Benefits Management site at [Carelon Medical Benefits Management](#).

By selecting the link above, 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.

Institutional admissions requiring preapproval:

- Acute inpatient (including transplants)
- Subacute inpatient — long-term care
- Skilled nursing
- Inpatient rehabilitation

Note: For urgent/emergent admissions all facilities must notify Anthem within 24 hours or the next business day.

- Out-of-network/out-of-area nonemergency services (HMO/POS/Blue Direct HMO and Blue Open Access only)
- Mental health and substance abuse services including residential treatment: **800-292-2879** or fax **866-737-8503**

Outpatient and some inpatient services requiring preapproval

- Ablative Techniques as a Treatment for Barrett's Esophagus
- Advanced Lipoprotein Testing
- Allogeneic, Xenographic, Synthetic, Bioengineered, and Composite Products for
- Wound Healing and Soft Tissue Grafting
- Antineoplaston Therapy
- Aortic Aneurysm, Thoracic, Repair with Graft Aortic Coarctation, Excision or Repair
- Applied Behavioral Analysis for Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Angiographic Evaluation and Endovascular Intervention for Dialysis Access Circuit Dysfunction
- Artificial Retinal Devices
- Automated Evacuation of Meibomian Gland
- Automated Nerve Conduction Testing
- Bariatric Surgery and Other Treatments for Clinically Severe Obesity
- Bicompartamental Knee Arthroplasty
- Biofeedback and Neurofeedback

- Bioimpedance Spectroscopy Devices for the Detection and Management of Lymphedema
- Blepharoplasty, Blepharoptosis Repair and Brow Lift
- Blood-based Biomarker Tests for Multiple Sclerosis
- Bone-Anchored and Bone Conduction Hearing Aids
- Bowel Surgery: Abdominoperineal Resection or Total Colectomy with Proctectomy
- Bowel Surgery: Colectomy, Partial, with or without Ostomy
- Bowel Surgery: Colectomy, Partial, with or without Ostomy, by Laparoscopy Bowel
- Surgery: Small Intestine Resection
- Breast Procedures including Reconstructive Surgery, Implants and Other Breast Procedures
- Cardiac Contractility Modulation Therapy
- Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy with or without an Implantable Cardioverter
- Defibrillator for the Treatment of Heart Failure Cardiac Valve Replacement or Repair
- Cardiac Valve: Ross Procedure Cardioverter-Defibrillators
- Carotid, Vertebral and Intracranial Artery Angioplasty with or without Stent Placement
- Carotid Sinus Baroreceptor Stimulation Devices
- Catheter-based Embolization Procedures for Malignant Lesions Outside the Liver
- Cervical and Thoracic Discography
- Circulating Tumor DNA Panel Testing (Liquid Biopsy)
- Cochlear Implants and Auditory Brainstem Implants
- Combined Pathogen Identification and Drug Resistance Testing
- Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Head and Neck
- Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Trunk and Groin, and Extremities
- Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services: Skin Related
- Cryoablation for Plantar Fasciitis and Plantar Fibroma
- Cryosurgical, Radiofrequency, Microwave or Laser Ablation to Treat Solid Tumors Outside the Liver
- Detection of Circulating Tumor Cells
- Deep Brain, Cortical, and Cerebellar Stimulation
- Drug-Eluting Devices for Maintaining Sinus Ostial Patency
- Electrical Stimulation as a Treatment for Pain and Other Conditions: Surface and Percutaneous Devices
- Electroencephalography and Video Electroencephalographic Monitoring
- Electronic Home Visual Field Monitoring
- Electronic Positional Devices for the Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea
- Electrophysiology-Guided Noninvasive Stereotactic Cardiac Radioablation
- Electrothermal Shrinkage of Joint Capsules, Ligaments, and Tendons
- Endovascular/Endoluminal Repair of Aortic Aneurysms, Aortoiliac Disease, Aortic Dissection and Aortic Transection
- Epiduroscopy
- External Upper Limb Stimulation for the Treatment of Tremors
- Extracorporeal Shock Wave Therapy

- Extraosseous Subtalar Joint Implantation and Subtalar Arthroereisis
- Eye Movement Analysis Using Non-spatial Calibration for the Diagnosis of Concussion
- Facet Joint Allograft Implants for Facet Disease
- Fecal Analysis Panels in the Diagnosis of Intestinal Disorders
- Focal Laser Ablation for the Treatment of Prostate Cancer
- Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES); Threshold Electrical Stimulation (TES)
- Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery (FESS)
- Gallbladder Removal
- Gastric Electrical Stimulation
- Gender Reassignment Surgery
- Gene Therapy for Beta Thalassemia
- Gene Therapy for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
- Gene Therapy for Hemophilia
- Gene Therapy for Ocular Conditions
- Gene Therapy for Sickle Cell Disease
- Genicular Procedures for Treatment of Knee Pain
- High-volume Colonic Irrigation
- Home Parenteral Nutrition
- Hyperoxemic Reperfusion Therapy
- Hysterectomy Immune Cell Function Assay
- Implantable Ambulatory Event Monitors and Mobile Cardiac Telemetry
- Implantable Infusion Pumps
- Implantable Middle Ear Hearing Aids
- Implantable Peripheral Nerve Stimulation Devices as a Treatment for Pain
- Implantable Shock Absorber for Treatment of Knee Osteoarthritis
- Implantation of Occipital, Supraorbital or Trigeminal Nerve Stimulation Devices (and Related Procedures)
- Implanted Artificial Iris Devices
- Implanted Port Delivery Systems to Treat Ocular Disease
- Inpatient Interfacility Transfers
- Intensive In-home Behavioral Health Services
- Intermittent Abdominal Pressure Ventilation Devices
- Intracardiac Ischemia Monitoring
- Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)
- Intraocular Anterior Segment Aqueous Drainage Devices (without extraocular reservoir)
- Intraoperative Assessment of Surgical Margins During Breast-Conserving Surgery with Radiofrequency Spectroscopy or Optical Coherence Tomography
- Intrapulmonary Percussive Ventilation (IPV) Devices for Airway Clearance
- Intussusception Reduction, Surgical Kidney Transplantation
- In Vitro Chemosensitivity Assays and In Vitro Chemoresistance Assays
- Leadless Pacemaker
- Locoregional Techniques for Treating Primary and Metastatic Liver Malignancies

- Low-Frequency Ultrasound Therapy for Wound Management
- Lower Esophageal Sphincter Augmentation Devices for the Treatment of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)
- Lung Volume Reduction Surgery
- Machine Learning Derived Probability Score for Rapid Kidney Function Decline
- Mandibular/Maxillary (Orthognathic) Surgery
- Manipulation Under Anesthesia
- Mastectomy for Gynecomastia
- Medical Specialty Drug Reviews (non-oncology)
- Metagenomic Sequencing for Infectious Disease in the Outpatient Setting
- Microprocessor Controlled Knee-Ankle-Foot Orthosis
- Microprocessor Controlled Lower Limb Prosthesis
- Minimally Invasive Treatment of the Posterior Nasal Nerve to Treat Rhinitis
- Molecular Signature Test for Predicting Response to Tumor Necrosis Factor Inhibitor Therapy
- MRI Guided High Intensity Focused Ultrasound Ablation for Non-Oncologic Indications
- Multi-biomarker Disease Activity Blood Tests for Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Multiplex Autoantigen Microarray Testing for Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
- Myocardial Strain Imaging
- Myocardial Sympathetic Innervation Imaging with or without Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography (SPECT)
- Myoelectric Upper Extremity Prosthetic Devices
- Nanoparticle-Mediated Thermal Ablation
- Nasal Valve Repair
- Near-Infrared Spectroscopy Screening for Brain Hematoma Detection
- Neuromuscular Electrical Training for the Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea or Snoring
- Neutron Beam Radiotherapy
- Non-invasive Heart Failure and Arrhythmia Management and Monitoring System
- Noninvasive Imaging Technologies for the Evaluation of Skin Lesions
- Oral, Pharyngeal and Maxillofacial Surgical Treatment for Obstructive Sleep Apnea or Snoring
- Osseointegrated Limb Prostheses
- Outpatient Cardiac Hemodynamic Monitoring Using a Wireless Sensor for Heart Failure Management
- Pain Management Biomarker Analysis
- Panniculectomy and Abdominoplasty
- Paraesophageal Hernia Repair
- Parenteral Antibiotics for the Treatment of Lyme Disease
- Partial Left Ventriculectomy
- Patent Foramen Ovale and Left Atrial Appendage Closure Devices Penile Prosthesis Implantation
- Percutaneous Vertebral Disc Procedures
- Physiologic Recording of Tremor using Accelerometer(s) and Gyroscope(s)

- Pneumatic Compression Devices for Prevention of Deep Vein Thrombosis of the Extremities in the Home Setting
- Pneumatic Pressure Devices
- Portable Normothermic Organ Perfusion Systems
- Powered Robotic Lower Body Exoskeleton Devices
- Powered Wheeled Mobility Devices
- Presbyopia and Astigmatism-Correcting Intraocular Lenses
- Private Duty Nursing in the Home Setting
- Proprietary Algorithms for Liver Fibrosis
- Prostate Saturation Biopsy
- Protein Biomarkers for the Screening, Detection and Management of Prostate Cancer
- Quantitative Sensory Testing
- Radiofrequency Neurolysis and Pulsed Radiofrequency Therapy for Trigeminal Neuralgia
- Radiostereometric Analysis (RSA)
- Reduction Mammoplasty
- Renal Sympathetic Nerve Ablation
- Sacral Nerve Stimulation as a Treatment of Neurogenic Bladder Secondary to Spinal Cord Injury
- Scoliosis Surgery
- Selected Blood, Serum and Cellular Allergy and Toxicity Tests
- Selected Protein Biomarker Algorithmic Assays
- Selected Sleep Testing Services
- Self-Expanding Absorptive Sinus Ostial Dilation
- Sensory Stimulation for Brain-Injured Individuals in Coma or Vegetative State
- Septoplasty
- Serologic Testing for Biomarkers of Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)
- Serum Biomarker Tests for Risk of Preeclampsia
- Surface Electromyography and Electrodermal Activity Sensor Devices for Seizure Monitoring
- Static Progressive Stretch (SPS) and Patient-Actuated Serial Stretch (PASS) Devices
- Surgical and Ablative Treatments for Chronic Headaches
- Testing for Biochemical Markers for Alzheimer's Disease
- Therapeutic Apheresis
- Therapeutic use of Stem Cells, Blood and Bone Marrow Products
- Total Ankle Replacement
- Transcatheter Heart Valve Procedures
- Transcatheter Uterine Artery Embolization
- Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation
- Transendoscopic Therapy for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, Dysphagia and Gastroparesis
- Transmyocardial/Periventricular Device Closure of Ventricular Septal Defects
- Transmyocardial Revascularization
- Treatment of Varicose Veins (Lower Extremities)

- Treatments for Urinary Incontinence
- Tropism Testing for HIV Management
- Ultrafiltration in Decompensated Heart Failure
- Ultrasound Bone Growth Stimulation
- Uterine Fibroid Ablation: Laparoscopic, Percutaneous or Transcervical Image Guided Techniques
- Vagus Nerve Stimulation
- Vein Embolization as a Treatment for Pelvic Congestion Syndrome and Varicocele
- Venous Angioplasty with or without Stent Placement or Venous Stenting Alone
- Viscocanalostomy and Canaloplasty
- Wearable Cardioverter Defibrillators
- Wireless Capsule for the Evaluation of Suspected Gastric and Intestinal Motility Disorders
- Wireless Left Ventricular Pacing for Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy

Service coverage

HMO: Services listed above require preapproval and will not be approved if rendered without the appropriate preapproval regardless of whether they are rendered in or out of the network. HMO members do not have benefits for nonemergency services rendered outside of the network without obtaining a preapproval.

POS: Services listed above require preapproval and will not be approved if rendered without the appropriate preapproval regardless of whether they are rendered in or out-of-network. Providers must have a referral for in-network benefit payment except for Blue Direct specialists and Open Access providers performing services that no longer require preapproval. If there is no referral or the member self-referred, the out-of-network benefit level will be paid.

PPO: Services listed above require preapproval and will not be approved if rendered without the appropriate preapproval regardless of whether they are rendered in or out-of-network. PPO members do not require a referral for benefit payment.

(Nonurgent) preapproval notification process for Anthem:

- Submit all required clinical information 15 calendar days before the proposed procedure when possible. A minimum time frame of three business days is required to complete a thorough clinical analysis. A preapproval number will be provided to you once all clinical information has been received and reviewed.
- Institutional admissions — All facilities must notify us within 24 hours or the next business day (whichever is earlier) after admission.