



Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield GA STANDARD PREAPPROVAL REQUIREMENTS

8/1/2020

Certain items and/or criteria referenced in this document applies to local fully-insured Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield GA 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 precertification if precertification is required for the member. If the program has not been purchased, precertification is not required and will not be performed for the member. For more information, please contact the phone number of the back of the member ID card.

Eligibility and benefits:

Eligibility and benefits can be verified by accessing the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield web site or by calling the number on the back of the member's identification card. Service preapproval is based on member's benefit plan/eligibility at the time the service is reviewed/approved. Benefit plans vary widely and are subject to change based on the contract effective dates. The provider is 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 will result in denial of reimbursement.

AIM Specialty Health®

AIM Specialty Health, 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 GA 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 AIM online via AIM's Provider Portal at [AIM Specialty Health](#). From the drop-down menu, select GA. You may also call AIM toll-free at 866-714-1103, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. ET.

AIM provides benefits management for the programs listed below:

- > **Imaging Level of Care**
- > **Genetic Testing**
- > **Diagnostic Imaging Management**
- > **Cardiovascular Services**
- > **Radiation Therapy Services**
- > **Outpatient Sleep Testing and Therapy Services**
- > **Oncology Drugs**
- > **Cancer Care Quality Program**
- > **Musculoskeletal (MSK)**
- > **Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopy in Adults, and Level of Care for Certain Surgical Services-Level of Care for Certain Surgical Services (LOC eff. 10/1/2020)**

For more details on these programs, please visit the AIM Specialty Health® site at [AIM Specialty Health](#).

By clicking on 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)
- Sub-acute inpatient – Long Term Care
- Skilled Nursing
- Inpatient rehabilitation

NOTE: For urgent/emergent admissions all facilities must notify Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield within 24 hours or the next business day.

- Out-of-network/out-of-area non-emergency 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 Adenoidectomy

Ambulance Services: Ground; Non-Emergent 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

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Devices/Speech Generating Devices (SGD)

Bariatric Surgery and Other Treatments for Clinically Severe Obesity Bicompartamental Knee Arthroplasty

Biofeedback and Neurofeedback

Blepharoplasty, Blepharoptosis Repair and Brow Lift 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 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 Chelation Therapy

Cochlear Implants and Auditory Brainstem Implants Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Head and Neck

Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Trunk and Groin Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services: Skin Related Cryoablation for Plantar Fasciitis and Plantar Fibroma

Cryopreservation of Oocytes or Ovarian Tissue

Cryosurgical Ablation of Solid Tumors Outside the Liver Deep Brain Stimulation

Electroencephalography and Video Electroencephalographic Monitoring Electrothermal Shrinkage of Joint Capsules, Ligaments, and Tendons Epiduroscopy

Extracorporeal Shock Wave Therapy for Orthopedic Conditions Extraosseous Subtalar Joint Implantation and Subtalar Arthroereisis

Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES); Threshold Electrical Stimulation (TES) Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery (FESS)

Gallbladder Removal Gastric Electrical Stimulation
Gender Reassignment Surgery
Hip Resurfacing
Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (Systemic/Topical)
Hyperhidrosis
Hysterectomy
Implantable Ambulatory Event Monitors and Mobile Cardiac Telemetry
Implantable Infusion Pumps
Implantable Middle Ear Hearing Aids
Inpatient Interfacility Transfers
Intensive In-home Behavioral Health Services
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
Intussusception Reduction, Surgical Kidney Transplantation
Locally Ablative Techniques for Treating Primary and Metastatic Liver Malignancies
Lung Volume Reduction Surgery
Mandibular/Maxillary (Orthognathic) Surgery
Manipulation Under Anesthesia of the Spine and Joints other than the Knee
Mastectomy for Gynecomastia
Medical Specialty Drug Reviews (non-oncology)
Microprocessor Controlled Lower Limb Prosthesis
Mohs Micrographic Surgery
MRI Guided High Intensity Focused Ultrasound Ablation for Non-Oncologic Indications
Multiplex Autoantigen Microarray Testing for Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
Myoelectric Upper Extremity Prosthetic Devices
Nasal Surgery for the Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) (Including Radiofrequency Ablation of Nasal Turbinates for Nasal Obstruction with or without OSA)
Near-Infrared Spectroscopy Brain Screening for Hematoma Detection
Non-implantable Insulin Infusion and Blood Glucose Monitoring Devices
Noninvasive Electrical Bone Growth Stimulation of the Appendicular Skeleton
Occipital nerve stimulation
Oral, Pharyngeal and Maxillofacial Surgical Treatment for Obstructive Sleep Apnea or Snoring
Oscillatory Device for Airway Clearance including High Frequency Chest Compression, Intrapulmonary Percussive Ventilation (IPV) Outpatient Cardiac Hemodynamic Monitoring Using a Wireless Sensor for Heart Failure Management
Ovarian and Internal Iliac Vein Embolization as a Treatment of Pelvic Congestion Syndrome
Panniculectomy and Abdominoplasty

Paraesophageal Hernia Repair
Partial Left Ventriculectomy
Penile Prosthesis Implantation
Photocoagulation of Macular Drusen
Physiologic Recording of Tremor using Accelerometer(s) and Gyroscope(s)
Pneumatic Compression Devices for Prevention of Deep Vein Thrombosis of the Lower Limbs
Pneumatic Pressure Devices
Powered Robotic Lower Body Exoskeleton Devices
Presbyopia and Astigmatism-Correcting Intraocular Lenses
Private Duty Nursing in the Home Setting
Prolotherapy for Joint and Ligamentous Conditions
Radiofrequency Ablation to Treat Tumors Outside the Liver
Reduction Mammoplasty
Sacral Nerve Stimulation and Percutaneous Tibial Nerve Stimulation for Urinary and Fecal Incontinence; Urinary Retention Sacral Nerve Stimulation as a Treatment of Neurogenic Bladder Secondary to Spinal Cord Injury
Selected Sleep Testing Services
Self-Expanding Absorptive Sinus Ostial Dilatation
Septoplasty
Standing Frames
Static Progressive Stretch (SPS) and Patient-Actuated Serial Stretch (PASS) Devices
Subcutaneous Hormone Replacement Implants
Suprachoroidal Injection of a Pharmacologic Agent
Surgical and Ablative Treatments for Chronic Headaches
Surgical and Minimally Invasive Treatments for Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) and Other Genitourinary Conditions
Total Ankle Replacement
Transcatheter Closure of Patent Foramen Ovale and Left Atrial Appendage for Stroke Prevention
Transcatheter Uterine Artery Embolization
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation for Depression
Transmyocardial/Periventricular Device Closure of Ventricular Septal Defects
Transtympanic Micropressure for the Treatment of Ménière's Disease
Treatment of Varicose Veins (Lower Extremities)
Tropism Testing for HIV Management
Ultrasound Bone Growth Stimulation

Vagus Nerve Stimulation

Venous Angioplasty with or without Stent Placement or Venous Stenting Alone

Viscocolostomy and Canaloplasty

Wearable Cardioverter Defibrillators

Wheeled Mobility Devices: Manual Wheelchairs – Ultra Lightweight

Wheeled Mobility Devices: Wheelchairs – Powered, Motorized, With or Without Power Seating Systems and Power Operated Vehicles (POVs)

Wireless Capsule Endoscopy for Gastrointestinal Imaging and the Patency Capsule

Wireless Capsule for the Evaluation of Suspected Gastric and Intestinal Motility Disorders

Wireless Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy for Left Ventricular Pacing

Service coverage:

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

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

(Non-urgent) Preapproval-notification process for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield

- Submit all required clinical information 15 calendar days before the proposed procedure when possible. A minimum time frame of three (3) 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.

Contact numbers:

AIM Specialty HealthSM: For the Cancer Care Quality Program, Cardiovascular Services, Diagnostic Imaging Management, Genetic Testing, Outpatient Sleep Tests and Sleep Therapy Services, Radiation Therapy Services, Oncology Drugs and Level of Care call 866-714-1103 Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. ET or use the provider portal available at www.aimspecialtyhealth.com/goweb.

Medical Specialty Drug Reviews (non-oncology)-Reviews performed by IngenioRX: Call 833-293-0659, fax 888-223-0550 or use the provider portal available at www.Availity.com.

Mental health and substance abuse services: Call 800-292-2879 or fax 866-737-8503

Transplant evaluations, pre-determinations and inpatient admits: Call 800-824-0581

Preapproval requests can be submitted as follows: Routine, emergent/urgent requests call 800-722-6614 or fax 877-254-4971