

Provider Bulletin

April 2020

Prior authorization extension for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services during COVID-19 emergency

Background: In response to the COVID-19 emergency, Healthy Blue is extending concurrent authorizations for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services through at least June 30, 2020, to ensure continuity of care for members as clinically indicated. Healthy Blue encourages providers to notify us of any needs for continued service continuity, or needs to expand service coordination.

What is the impact of this change?

For Healthy Blue members continuing to meet medical necessity for ABA services beyond June 30, we will extend those prior authorizations further as necessary (not to exceed six months). If the previous authorization was for a shorter duration of time, Healthy Blue will extend the authorization for the previously approved amount of time. If an extension is requested for a greater length of time than previously approved, Healthy Blue will review the request for medical necessity.

Additional ABA guidance

For additional guidance related to the provision of ABA services during the COVID-19 emergency, please see *Healthy Louisiana Informational Bulletin 20-5: COVID-19 Provider Update*: <http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/1198>.

What if I need assistance?

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services at **1-844-521-6942**.