

RE: New specialty benefits program effective September 1, 2020

Healthy Blue Dual Advantage (HMO D-SNP) is always looking for ways to create value for all our stakeholders. With that in mind, we are pleased to announce a multisolution program beginning September 1, 2020. Effective August 15, 2020, Healthy Blue Dual Advantage will transition review of radiology, cardiology, sleep, musculoskeletal, rehabilitation, genetic testing, medical oncology and radiation oncology services for Healthy Blue Dual Advantage members to AIM Specialty Health® (AIM),* specialty benefits management company.

This relationship with AIM enables Healthy Blue Dual Advantage to ensure that care aligns with established evidence-based medicine. AIM will follow the clinical hierarchy established by Healthy Blue Dual Advantage for medical necessity determination. Healthy Blue Dual Advantage makes coverage determinations based on guidance from CMS, including national coverage determinations, local coverage determinations, other coverage guidelines and instructions issued by CMS and legislative changes in benefits. When existing guidance does not provide sufficient clinical detail, AIM will determine medical necessity using an objective, evidence-based process.

AIM will continue to use criteria documented in Healthy Blue Dual Advantage clinical guidelines *CG.REHAB.04*, *CG.REHAB.05* and *CG.REHAB.06* for review of these services. These clinical guidelines can be reviewed online at <https://bit.ly/3ca4yx5>.

Detailed prior authorization requirements are available online <https://www.availity.com> by accessing the Precertification Lookup Tool under “Payer Spaces.” Contracted and noncontracted providers should call Provider Services at the phone number on the back of the member’s ID card for prior authorization requirements.

Providers are strongly encouraged to verify that an AIM order number has been obtained before scheduling and performing services.

Resources for your practice

Our provider websites help you learn more and provide access to helpful information and tools:

- Order entry checklists
- Clinical guidelines
- FAQs

Go to:

- **Radiology provider website**
- **Cardiology provider website**
- **Sleep provider website**
- **Musculoskeletal provider website**
- **Rehabilitation provider website**
- **Genetic Testing provider website**
- **Medical Oncology – Cancer Care Quality Program provider website**
- **Radiation Oncology provider website**

* AIM Specialty Health is an independent company providing some utilization review services on behalf of Healthy Blue.

Prior authorization review requirements

For surgeries and pain treatments that are scheduled to begin on or after September 1, 2020, all providers must contact AIM beginning August 15, 2020, to obtain prior authorization review for the following non-emergency services:

Radiology services:

- Computed tomography (CT)
- Computed tomography angiography (CTA)
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- Magnetic resonance angiography (MRA)
- Positron emission tomography (PET and PET-CT)
- Nuclear cardiology:
 - Myocardial perfusion imaging (MPI)
 - Blood pool imaging
 - MUGA
 - First pass ventriculography
 - Infarct imaging

Cardiology services:

- Diagnostic:
 - Coronary angiography
 - Arterial ultrasound
 - Stress echocardiography (SE)
 - Resting transthoracic echocardiography (TTE)
 - Transesophageal echocardiography (TEE)
- Interventional Services:
 - Percutaneous coronary interventions (PCIs) such as coronary stents and balloon angioplasty

Sleep services:

- Home sleep test (HST)
- In-lab sleep study (PSG, MSLT, MWT)
- Titration study
- Initial treatment order (APAP, CPAP)
- Ongoing treatment order (APAP, CPAP)
- Oral appliances

Musculoskeletal services:

- Spine surgery – cervical, thoracic, lumbar and sacral:
 - Automated percutaneous and endoscopic discectomy
 - Bone grafts
 - Bone growth stimulators

- Cervical/lumbar foraminotomies
- Cervical/lumbar spinal fusions
- Cervical/lumbar spinal laminectomy
- Cervical/lumbar spinal discectomy
- Cervical/lumbar spinal disc arthroplasty (replacement)
- Spinal deformity (scoliosis/kyphosis)
- Vertebroplasty/kyphoplasty
- Joint surgery:
 - Total and partial hip replacement or hip arthroplasty
 - Total and partial knee replacement or knee arthroplasty
 - Shoulder arthroplasty
 - Hip arthroscopy
 - Knee arthroscopy
 - Shoulder arthroscopy
 - Treatment of osteochondral defects
 - Meniscal allograft transplantation
- Interventional pain management:
 - Epidural adhesiolysis
 - Epidural injections (interlaminar/caudal and transforaminal)
 - Facet joint injections/medial branch blocks
 - Facet joint radiofrequency nerve ablation
 - Implanted spinal cord stimulators
 - Regional sympathetic blocks
 - Sacroiliac joint injections
 - Thermal intradiscal procedures

The musculoskeletal program also includes level of care review of the inpatient setting for select joint and spine surgeries. These reviews will be based on the AIM Level of Care Guidelines for Musculoskeletal Surgeries and Procedures. The level of care program aligns with CMS guidance for procedures that should only be performed in an inpatient setting.

Rehabilitation services:

- Physical therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Speech therapy

Genetic testing services:

The program promotes evidence-based, high-value care for our members requiring genetic testing, including:

- Genetic testing for hereditary cardiac disease.
- Genetic testing for hereditary cancer susceptibility.
- Genetic testing for single-gene and multifactorial conditions.
- Pharmacogenetic testing and genetic testing for thrombotic disorders.
- Reproductive carrier screening and prenatal diagnosis.
- Molecular testing of solid and hematologic tumors and malignancies.
- Whole exome and whole genome sequencing.

Medical oncology (cancer care quality program) services:

As a provider of medical oncology services, Healthy Blue Dual Advantage requires that medical oncology providers participate in the new program and contact AIM for prior authorization review of all cancer treatment and supportive drugs administered in an outpatient setting:

- Application of proprietary AIM Cancer Treatment Pathways (298 Pathways) covering 23 tumor types and 100+ unique clinical scenarios
- Management of more than 100 chemotherapeutic agents and 10 supportive drugs

Medical oncology services performed in inpatient setting are not part of the AIM program.

Radiation oncology services:

Healthy Blue Dual Advantage requires radiation oncology providers participate in the new program and contact AIM for pre-service review for the following services:

- 2D conventional and 3D conformal radiation therapy
- Brachytherapy
- Proton beam therapy
- Intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT)
- Intraoperative radiation therapy (IORT)
- Selective internal radiation therapy (SIRT)
- Stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT)
- Stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS)
- Fractionation in bone metastases, non-small cell lung cancer, and breast cancer when requesting external beam radiation therapy (EBRT) and intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT)
- Image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT)
- Special procedures and consultations associated with treatment planning (CPT® codes 73370 and 77470)

Radiation oncology performed in an inpatient setting are not part of the AIM program.

How to place a review request:

Online

Get fast, convenient online service via the **AIM ProviderPortalSM**. **ProviderPortal** is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, processing requests in real-time using clinical criteria. Go to **<http://aimspecialtyhealth.com/goweb.html>** to register. Registration opens July 1, 2020.

By phone

Call AIM Specialty Health toll-free at **1-800-714-0040** Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CT.

For more information:

Online

For resources to help your practice get started with our specialty benefits program, visit our provider websites listed above to learn more and gain access to useful information and tools such as order entry checklists, clinical guidelines, FAQ.

By phone

Call the provider services number on the back of the Healthy Blue Dual Advantage member ID card.

We value your participation in our network and look forward to working with you to help improve the health of our members.