Radiation Therapy Management

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama’s Radiation Therapy Management (RTM) Program helps to ensure that the radiation therapy services provided to members are consistent with nationally recognized clinical guidelines. It promotes quality and patient safety for members who require radiation therapy services. Participation in RTM is required for Preferred Medical Doctors (PMDs) in Alabama and contiguous counties. You can determine if precertification is required for a member's radiation therapy treatment plan by checking eligibility and benefits through ProviderAccess on our website, AlabamaBlue.com/providers, or your practice management software.

In partnership with eviCore healthcare the RTM Program will utilize disease-specific, evidence-based criteria to manage the appropriate utilization of radiation therapy services and will include medical necessity reviews and authorizations for outpatient radiation therapy services.

The RTM Program will officially launch on December 1, 2014, with a 120-day grace period to give physicians the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the precertification process. Prior to the May 1, 2015, effective date for eviCore’s RTM policies, all treatment plans will continue to be subject to current Blue Cross claims processing guidelines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>RTM Implementation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 1, 2014 – March 31, 2015</td>
<td>Grace Period – Providers encouraged to begin RTM precertification through eviCore. No adverse impact to claims due to RTM. Treatment plans subject to current Blue Cross claims processing guidelines.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1 – 30, 2015</td>
<td>Precertification through eviCore required. Claims will be denied if precertification is not initiated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1, 2015 and after</td>
<td>Precertification must be initiated and approved through eviCore and treatment plans must be followed.</td>
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The RTM Medical Advisory Board, consisting of nationally recognized radiation oncologists, reviews and approves the criteria/medical policies that are used to compare against the treatment plan requests. These policies are based on guidelines of the:

- American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO)
- American College of Radiology (ACR)
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN)
- American Medical Association (AMA)

The criteria utilized by eviCore Medical Directors have been vetted by an expert physician review board of nationally recognized radiation oncologists to ensure that authorizations are consistent with published research and guidelines. Peer-to-peer conversations for non-covered or partially covered treatment plans will always be conducted with a board-certified radiation oncologist.
Two Ways to Initiate a Precertification:
(Choose Option 1 or 2)

**1. Online Precertification**

**COVERED TAB**

Select Service Type “Radiation Therapy” from the drop-down list. Click on update result. Scroll down and click on “Initiate Online Precertification for Radiation Therapy.”

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE TAB**

Under Coverage Basis, scroll down and click on “Initiate Online Precertification for Radiation Therapy.”

**2. Telephone Precertification**

1-866-803-8002 Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern Time
Treatment Plan Authorization Process

- Physician’s office contacts eviCore via phone or Web
- Physician’s office supplies cancer diagnosis/treatment plan
- Patient demographic, ordering physician and treating facility information collected and verified
- Clinical criteria gathered and reviewed by eviCore Clinical Reviewer
- Clinical criteria reviewed by eviCore Medical Director
- Request additional information or discuss with eviCore Radiation Oncologist
- Fax request sent to physician’s office
- Additional clinical criteria reviewed
- Appeal Authorization
- Non-Certified
- Approved

eviCore Radiation Oncologists/Authorization Request Status:
1-866-803-8002

Program Information:
AlabamaBlue.com/providers
Select “Radiation Therapy Management” under Provider Resources.

eviCore National, LLC is an independent company that provides specialty benefit management of radiology and radiation therapy services.