Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01|01|2022
POLICY LAST UPDATED: 04|19|2023

This policy documents the Rhode Island State Mandate for Prostate and Colorectal examinations.

This policy is applicable to Commercial products as State Mandates do not apply to Medicare Advantage Plans.

MEDICAL CRITERIA
Not applicable

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION
Not applicable

POLICY STATEMENT
Commercial Products
Colorectal examinations and laboratory tests for cancer are covered in accordance with Rhode Island General Law § 27-20-44 Prostate and colorectal examinations.

COVERAGE
Benefits may vary between groups/contracts. Please refer to the appropriate Benefit Booklet or Subscriber Agreement for the applicable preventive, diagnostic imaging, laboratory, and surgical benefits/coverage.

BACKGROUND
According to Rhode Island General Law § 27-20-44 Prostate and colorectal examinations – Coverage mandated.

a. Subscribers to any nonprofit medical service corporation plan shall be afforded coverage under the plan for prostate and colorectal examinations and laboratory tests for cancer for any nonsymptomatic person covered under the policy or plan contract, in accordance with the current American Cancer Society guidelines. The coverage required by this section shall include preventive colorectal cancer screening coverage for all colorectal cancer examinations and laboratory tests in accordance with American Cancer Society Guidelines, including for colorectal cancer screening of average risk individuals, including an initial colonoscopy or other medical test or procedure for colorectal cancer screening and a follow-up colonoscopy if the results of the initial medical test or procedure are abnormal.

b. An insurer or the corporation may not impose cost sharing on the coverage required by subsection (a) of this section when the services are delivered within the health insurer's provider network.

Refer to the most current American Cancer Society Guideline for Colorectal Cancer Screening:
 ACS Guideline for Colorectal Cancer Screening

CODING
Refer to the Preventive Services for Commercial Members policy for applicable codes covered without cost share.

RELATED POLICIES
Preventive Services for Commercial Members

REFERENCES
1. Rhode Island General Law § 27-20-44 Prostate and colorectal examinations
2. American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Colon and Rectal Cancer:
http://www.cancer.org/cancer/colonandrectumcancer/moreinformation/colonandrectumcancerearlydetecti
on/colorectal-cancer-early-detection-acs-recommendations