

Medical Coverage Policy



Hospital Utilization Review

Device/Equipment Drug Medical Surgery Test Other

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| Effective Date: | 12/1/2011 | Policy Last Updated: | 11/1/2011 |
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Prospective review is recommended/required. Please check the member agreement for preauthorization guidelines.

Prospective review is not required.

NOTE:

The effective date of this policy reflects the date that BCBSRI documented a long-standing reimbursement policy. The information in this policy does not indicate a change in the way that BCBSRI covers/reimburses the services/procedures described in this policy.

Description:

The following are general requirements for participating hospitals; individual contracts may differ and supersede this information.

This is an administrative policy.

BCBSRI performs utilization review of admissions to the hospitals in the state of Rhode Island under the authority granted by the state's **The Utilization Review Act (RIGL 23-17.12)**.

The hospital, through its utilization review staff, agrees to provide concurrent medical updates to the BCBSRI designee upon request. BCBSRI may send a representative to the hospital for a review of the records and attend conferences and /or discharge planning meetings related to members.

The current guidelines utilized by BCBSRI are Interqual. BCBSRI agrees to give the hospitals sixty (60) days notice if the guidelines will be materially changed. In addition, the hospitals also agree to accept all BCBSRI medical and administrative policies issued and /or modified from time to time by BCBSRI for the purpose of establishing reimbursable covered health services. The hospitals will be provided no less than (60) days notice prior to the implementation.

BCBSRI and the hospitals agree to work cooperatively towards ensuring that all services proposed for members are medically appropriate and rendered in the most cost-effective setting. BCBSRI's medical management team will make every effort to verbally notify the hospital's medical management team of potential denials. The BCBSRI onsite nurse utilizes a written daily communication sheet notifying the hospital case management team of any adverse determination, pending adverse determination, and anticipated discharge (**See attachment A**). The hospital medical management team may discuss the potential denial with the attending physician and will notify BCBSRI if concurrence on a less intensive level of care is reached. BCBSRI agrees to reciprocate by keeping the hospital medical management team updated on decisions reached following discussion with attending physicians. BCBSRI onsite nurse provides an end-of-day communication sheet to the hospital payor liaison indicating any adverse determination (**See attachment B**).

BCBSRI will not reimburse hospital inpatient days occurring as a result of delays in treatment, including failure to perform or obtain physician consultations, laboratory, radiology, and machine tests, or providing the results of such tests in an expeditious manner.

The hospital agrees to provide daily admission and discharge lists to BCBSRI.



Attachment A: bcbsri daily com.sheet.xls



Attachment B: bcbsri end of day sheet.xls

Policy:

See above.

Coverage:

N/A

Related Topics:

N/A

Published:

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This medical policy is made available to you for informational purposes only. It is not a guarantee of payment or a substitute for your medical judgment in the treatment of your patients. Benefits and eligibility are determined by the member's subscriber agreement or member certificate and/or the employer agreement, and those documents will supersede the provisions of this medical policy. For information on member-specific benefits, call the provider call center. If you provide services to a member which are determined to not be medically necessary (or in some cases medically necessary services which are non-covered benefits), you may not charge the member for the services unless you have informed the member and they have agreed in writing in advance to continue with the treatment at their own expense. Please refer to your participation agreement(s) for the applicable provisions. This policy is current at the time of publication; however, medical practices, technology, and knowledge are constantly changing. BCBSRI reserves the right to review and revise this policy for any reason and at any time, with or without notice.