



**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 10|01|2015  
**POLICY LAST UPDATED:** 12|01|2016

## **OVERVIEW**

This policy documents the prior authorization request process for certain medical procedures, using the BCBSRI online prior authorization tool. Therapies such as PT/OT, speech and pulmonary rehab, and certain drugs such as Belimumab will not be authorized by this system. Please refer to the individual policies on the web.

There is no change to the prior authorization process for specialty pharmacy drugs.

## **MEDICAL CRITERIA**

Generally InterQual criteria is used to determine medical necessity and is found in the Clear Coverage online authorization tool. However, for those policies specifically listed in the Related Policies section of this policy, BCBSRI medical criteria is used.

## **PRIOR AUTHORIZATION**

Prior authorization is required for BlueCHiP for Medicare and recommended for Commercial products.

If a service that requires prior authorization is performed on an urgent basis, a retrospective authorization must be obtained through the online tool.

If the complexity of a procedure is unknown prior to the service, a retrospective authorization must still be obtained.

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

### **BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products**

Medical Procedures are considered medically necessary when the criteria in the BCBSRI online prior authorization tool has been met.

Requests for medical procedures should be obtained via the BCBSRI online prior authorization tool, which is available only to participating providers. All other providers should fax the request to Utilization Management at 401-272-8885 to complete the prior authorization process. Please see reference to the procedures requiring prior authorization through the online tool below.

<https://www.bcsri.com/BCBSRIWeb/Login.do?redirectTo=/providers/preauth/preauthProviderOverview.jsp>

## **COVERAGE**

Benefits may vary between groups/contracts. Please refer to the appropriate Benefit Booklet, Evidence of Coverage, or Subscriber Agreement for applicable coverage for surgery.

## **BACKGROUND**

Not applicable

## **CODING**

The following CPT and HCPCS codes require prior authorization:

**Effective 3/1/2017, the services identified in red will no longer require preauthorization.**

**Effective 4/1/2017, the services identified in blue will require preauthorization.**

**Effective 4/1/2017, the services identified in purple will no longer require preauthorization.**

Anastomosis of Extracranial-Intracranial Arteries:  
61711

Angioplasty and Stent, Carotid:  
37215, 37217

Antireflux Surgery or Hiatal Hernia Repair:  
43280, 43281, 43282, 43325, 43327, 43328, 43332, 43333, 43334, 43335, 43336, 43337

Aortic Valvuloplasty, Percutaneous Balloon:  
92986

Arthroplasty, Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ):  
21010, 21240, 21242, 21243

Arthroscopically Assisted Knee Surgery:  
29855, 29856, 29882, 29883, 29888, 29889

Arthroscopy, Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ):  
29804

Artificial Disc Replacement, Cervical:  
22856

Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation:  
27412, J7330

Bariatric Surgery (Adolescent)  
Adjustable Gastric Banding: 43770  
Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass (RYGB): 43644, 43645, 43846, 43847  
Sleeve Gastrectomy: 43775

Bariatric Surgery (Adult)  
Adjustable Gastric Banding: 43770  
Biliopancreatic Diversion with Duodenal Switch: 43845, 43847  
Revisional Procedure: 43771, 43772, 43773, 43774, 43848  
Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass (RYGB): 43644, 43645, 43846, 43847  
Sleeve Gastrectomy: 43775

Blepharoplasty:  
15820, 15821, 15822, 15823

Bone Marrow Transplant:  
Members with FEP coverage requiring a bone marrow transplant require prior authorization.

Brachytherapy, Prostate:  
55875, 55876

Breast Implant Removal:  
11971, 19328, 19330

Breast Reconstruction: for conditions other than part of reconstruction due to cancer  
11920, 11921, 19316, 19324, 19325, 19340, 19342, 19350, 19357, 19361, 19364, 19366, 19367, 19368, 19369,  
19370, 19371, 19380, 19396

Capsule Endoscopy:  
91110, 91111

Cardiac Hemodynamic Monitoring:  
93701 (Medicare Only)

Discectomy:  
Lumbar: 22224  
Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ): 21060

Discectomy and Fusion, Anterior Cervical:  
22220, 22551, 22554, 63075

Endoscopic Antireflux Procedures:  
43235

Epidural Injection, For Pain Management Only  
The following codes would not be used for maternity delivery or as an anesthetic for surgical procedures.  
62321, 62323, 62325, 62327, 64479, 64483

Enhanced External Counterpulsation (EECP):  
G0166 (Medicare only)

Facet Joint Injection:  
64490, 64493

Fusion:  
Cervical Spine: 22548, 22551, 22554, 22590, 22595, 22600  
Lumbar Spine: 22533, 22558, 22612, 22630, 22633, 22800, 22804, 22810, 22812  
Thoracic Spine: 22532, 22556, 22610

Hemilaminectomy:  
Cervical: 63020, 63040, 63045, 63075  
Lumbar: 63030, 63042, 63047, 63056

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBO):  
99183, G0277

Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) Insertion:  
33202, 33203, 33216, 33217, 33224, 33230, 33231, 33240, 33241, 33249, 33262, 33263, 33264  
Subcutaneous Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (S-ICD): (Medicare Only) 33270, 33271, 33273

**Effective 4/1/2017, Subcutaneous Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (S-ICD) will require preauthorization for both BlueCHIP for Medicare and Commercial Products.**

Implantation of Intrastromal Corneal Ring Segments:  
65785

Infertility Services:  
58970, 58974, 58976, 76948, 89250, 89251, 89253, 89254, 89280, 89281, 89255, 89268, 89272, S4011, S4013, S4014, S4015, S4016, S4017, S4018, S4020, S4021, S4022, S4023, S4025, S4042

Injectable Clostridial Collagenase for Fibroproliferative Disorders:  
20527, J0775

Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy: 77301, 77338, G6015, G6016  
For more detail, see each of the individual policies as referenced in the Related Policies section below.  
Abdomen and Pelvis  
Breast and Lung  
Central Nervous System  
Head and Neck or Thyroid  
Prostate

Joint Replacement:  
Elbow: 24360, 24361, 24362, 24363  
Shoulder: 23470, 23472  
Wrist: 25441, 25442, 25443, 25444, 25445, 25446

Keratoplasty:  
65710, 65730, 65750, 65755, 65756

Kyphoplasty or Vertebroplasty:  
22510, 22511, 22513, 22514

Laminectomy:  
Cervical, with or without Fusion: 22590, 22595, 22600, 63001, 63015, 63020, 63045, 63050, 63051  
Lumbar, with or without Fusion: 22612, 22630, 63005, 63012, 63017, 63047  
Thoracic, with or without Fusion: 22206, 22610, 63003, 63016, 63046, 63077

Laser Treatment for Proliferative Vascular Lesions:  
17106, 17107, 17108

Lid Lesion Excision with or without Reconstruction:  
67800, 67801, 67805, 67808, 67810, 67840, 67961, 67966, 67971, 67973, 67974, 67975

**Non-Contact, Non-thermal Ultrasound Treatment for Wounds:  
97610 (Medicare only)**

Orthognathic Surgery:  
(Commercial Only) 21141, 21142, 21143, 21145, 21146, 21147, 21150, 21151, 21154, 21155, 21159, 21160, 21188, 21193, 21194, 21195, 21196, 21198, 21199, 21206, 21208, 21209

Panniculectomy, Abdominal:  
15830

Percutaneous Coronary Interventions (PCI):  
92920, 92924, 92928, 92933, 92937, 92941, 92943

Percutaneous Left Atrial Appendage Closure Devices for Stroke Prevention in Atrial Fibrillation  
33340

Posterior Tibial Nerve Stimulation (PTNS) for Urinary Dysfunction:  
64566 (Medicare Only)

Proton Beam Radiotherapy (PBRT):  
77520, 77522, 77523, 77525

Ptosis Repair:  
67900, 67901, 67902, 67903, 67904, 67906, 67908, 67909, 67911

Radiofrequency Ablation of Miscellaneous Solid Tumors Excluding Liver Tumors  
20982, 32998

Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA), Liver:  
47370, 47380, 47382

Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA) or Cryoablation, Renal:  
50250, 50542, 50592, 50593

Reconstruction, Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ):  
21050, 21070, 21244, 21245, 21247, 21255

Reduction Mammoplasty:  
19318

Removal and Replacement, Total Joint Replacement (TJR):  
Hip: 27132, 27134, 27137, 27138  
Knee: 27486, 27487  
Shoulder: 23470, 23472, 23473, 23474

### **Removal of Non-Covered Implantable Devices**

Aortic Counterpulsation Ventricular Assist System and components: 0455T, 0456T, 0457T, 0458T

Artificial Intervertebral Disc: 22865

Bone Conduction Hearing Device: 69711

Carotid Sinus Baroflex Activation Device: 0269T, 0270T, 0271T

Chest Wall Respiratory Sensor Electrode: 0468T

Esophageal Sphincter Augmentation Device: 43285

Gastric Electrical Stimulation: 43648, 43882, 64595

Interstitial Glucose Sensor: 0447T

Neurostimulator System for Treatment of Central Sleep Apnea: 0428T, 0429T, 0430T

Occipital Nerve Stimulation: 64570

Permanent Cardiac Contractility System: 0412T, 0413T

Permanent Leadless Pacemaker, Ventricular: 0388T

**Subcutaneous Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator: 33272 (Commercial Only)**

Rhinoplasty:  
30410, 30420, 30435, 30450, 30460, 30462

Sacroiliac (SI) Joint Injection:  
27096

Scoliosis Surgery:  
22800, 22802, 22804, 22808, 22810, 22812, 22818, 22819, 22849, 22850

Septoplasty:  
30520

Skin Repair/Reconstruction:  
13151, 13152, 14060, 14061, 15120, 15260, 15576, 15630

Sleep Studies  
Multiple Sleep Latency Test (MSLT): 95805  
Polysomnogram (PSG), Facility Based Only: 95808, 95810, 95811  
Note: Home Sleep Studies are covered without preauthorization requirement.

Spinal Cord Stimulator (SCS) Insertion:  
63650, 63655, 63663, 63685

Stereotactic Radiation:  
32701, 77373, 77435

Total Joint Replacement (TJR):  
Ankle: 27702  
Hip: 27130, 27132  
Knee: 27447

Transarterial Chemoembolization (TACE), Liver:  
37242, 37243

Transcatheter Aortic-Valve Implantation for Aortic Stenosis:  
33361, 33362, 33363, 33364, 33365, 33366 (Commercial Only)

Unicondylar Knee Replacement:  
27446

Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopy:  
43191, 43192, 43197, 43235

Uvulopalatopharyngoplasty (UPPP):  
42145

Vagal Nerve Stimulator:  
61885, 61886, 64553, 64568, 64575

Varicose Vein Treatment:  
36470, 36471, 36475, 36478, 37500, 37700, 37718, 37722, 37735, 37760, 37761, 37765, 37766, 37780, 37785,  
S2202

## **RELATED POLICIES**

Anastomosis of Extracranial-Intracranial Arteries  
Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation

Cardiac Hemodynamic Monitoring  
Enhanced External Counterpulsation (EECP)  
Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBO)  
Injectable Clostridial Collagenase for Fibroproliferative Disorders  
Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy of the Abdomen and Pelvis  
Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy of the Breast and Lung  
Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy: Cancer of the Head, Neck or Thyroid  
Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy: Central Nervous System Tumors  
Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy of the Prostate  
Laser Treatment for Proliferative Vascular Lesions  
Non-Contact, Non-thermal Ultrasound Treatment for Wounds  
Orthognathic Surgery  
Percutaneous Left Atrial Appendage Closure Devices for Stroke Prevention in Atrial Fibrillation  
Posterior Tibial Nerve Stimulation (PTNS) for Urinary Dysfunction  
Radiofrequency Ablation of Miscellaneous Solid Tumors Excluding Liver Tumors  
Removal of Non-Covered Implantable Devices  
Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy  
Varicose Vein Treatment

#### **PUBLISHED**

Provider Update, February 2017  
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Provider Update, September 2014

#### **REFERENCES**

Not applicable

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