

Medical Coverage Policy | Skilled Nursing Facility



EFFECTIVE DATE: 05|01|2013

POLICY LAST UPDATED: 05|21|2013

OVERVIEW

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island has created this policy to document the utilization review process for continued care in a Skilled Nursing Facility(SNF) .

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

- Prior authorization is required.

POLICY STATEMENT

Skilled Nursing facilities should contact the plan for all admissions to a SNF. Concurrent review will begin after the third day of admission to determine if the member meets all of the medical criteria for continued skilled services. This is effective for all products. Services not meeting criteria will be denied as not medically necessary. Skilled Nursing facilities must meet all of the network requirements to be a participating provider in the BCBSRI provider network.

Notification to the plan of admission to the Skilled Nursing facility is required for BlueCHiP for Medicare and recommended for all other BCBSRI products. Services in a skilled nursing facility are considered medically necessary when all of the above criteria are met.

MEDICAL CRITERIA

Skilled Care in a SNF is medically necessary if all of the following criteria are met.

- The patient requires skilled nursing services or skilled rehabilitation services, i.e., services that must be performed by or under the supervision of professional or technical personnel ; are ordered by a physician and the services are rendered for a condition for which the patient received inpatient hospital services or for a condition that arose while receiving care in a SNF for a condition for which he received inpatient hospital services;
- The patient requires these skilled services on a daily basis; and
- The services must be reasonable and necessary for the treatment of a patient's illness or injury, i.e., be consistent with the nature and severity of the individual's illness or injury, the in
- As a practical matter, considering economy and efficiency, the daily skilled services can be provided only on an inpatient basis in a SNF.
- The services must be reasonable and necessary for the treatment of a patient's illness or injury, i.e., be consistent with the nature and severity of the individual's illness or injury, the individual's particular medical needs, and accepted standards of medical practice. The services must also be reasonable in terms of duration and quantity.

BACKGROUND

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island has created this policy to document the utilization review process for continued care in a Skilled Nursing facility(SNF) .

COVERAGE

Benefits may vary between groups and contracts. Please refer to the appropriate Evidence of Coverage, Subscriber Agreement for the applicable Services Not Medically Necessary benefits/coverage.

CODING

None.

RELATED POLICIES

Skilled Nursing Facilities: Network Requirements for Participating
https://www.bcbsri.com/sites/default/files/polices/Skilled_Nursing_Facilities_Network_Requirements.pdf

PUBLISHED

Provider Update Jul 2013

REFERENCES

Medicare Benefit policy manual

<http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/bp102c08.pdf>

CLICK THE ENVELOPE ICON BELOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS

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. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

