

Medical Oncology Prior Authorizations Transition to AIM Specialty Health® for Employees Retirement System of Texas (ERS)

06/30/2022

What's changing:

Starting **September 1, 2022**, AIM Specialty Health® (AIM) will begin managing prior authorization requests for the "Specialty Drug Medical Oncology" care category for HealthSelect of Texas®, including Consumer Directed HealthSelectSM, participants enrolled in the in-area and out-of-state plans. (HealthSelectSM Secondary participants are **not** included).

Important reminders:

- AIM will review requests for this care category with an **oncology diagnosis**. If the specialty drug requested is not associated with an oncology diagnosis, it will be reviewed by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX).
- Always check eligibility and benefits first through [Availity® Essentials](#) or your preferred prior to rendering services. This step will confirm prior authorization and referral requirements if applicable.

Key dates and scenarios for the transition to AIM for Specialty Drug Medical Oncology:

- *For Dates of Service prior to September 1, 2022:*
 - Continue to submit prior authorization requests to BCBSTX Medical Management for dates of service prior to September 1, 2022.
 - Continue to contact BCBSTX Medical Management to extend an active authorization for dates of service prior to September 1, 2022.
 - Authorizations initiated with BCBSTX will remain active with BCBSTX until the request expires, including dates before or after September 1, 2022.
- *For Dates of Services on September 1, 2022 and after:*
 - Utilize the [AIM ProviderPortal](#) to initiate a new or extend an AIM active authorization.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you submit a Specialty Drug Medical Oncology prior authorization request to BCBSTX Medical Management for a date of service on or after September 1, 2022, you will be redirected to AIM. AIM's ProviderPortal and call center will begin accepting prior authorization requests on August 22, 2022, **for dates of service on or after September 1, 2022.**

What should providers do ahead of this change?

Make sure you're registered in the AIM Provider Portal prior to September 1, 2022. [If you're already registered with AIM, you don't need to register again.] There are two ways to register:

- **Online** – Go to the [AIM ProviderPortal](#); or
- **By Phone** – Call the AIM Contact Center at **1-800-859-5299**, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., CT.

More Information

Procedure codes and services have been updated on the [Prior Authorization Lists for Designated Groups](#) located on the [Utilization Management](#) page.

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The [AIM microsite](#) will be updated with additional information closer to September 1, 2022. Reminders, announcements, and educational resources, including AIM Speciality Drug Medical Oncology training webinars, will be posted to the [News and Updates](#) section.

Checking eligibility and/or benefit information and/or obtaining prior authorization is not a guarantee of payment. Benefits will be determined once a claim is received and will be based upon, among other things, the member's eligibility and the terms of the member's certificate of coverage, including, but not limited to, exclusions and limitations applicable on the date services were rendered. If you have any questions, call the number on the member's ID card.

AIM Specialty Health (AIM) is an independent company that has contracted with BCBSTX to provide utilization management services for members with coverage through BCBSTX.

Availity is a trademark of Availity, LLC, a separate company that operates a health information network to provide electronic information exchange services to medical professionals. Availity provides administrative services to BCBSTX.

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