

Home Infusion Benefit Change Lowers Cost for Eligible Medication Infusion Therapy Services for commercial PPO plan members Questions and Answers for Healthcare Providers

Blue Shield of California is supporting its mission to lower the cost of health care for members by improving home infusion benefits for commercial PPO plan members. Members with prescriptions for medication infusion therapy services in an outpatient hospital setting can receive their infusion at their home from a network home infusion provider at a \$45 copay.

Why should I recommend home infusion services to my patients?

For most patients (when medically appropriate), home infusion offers a convenient and more cost-effective way to receive their required medication therapy when they are not able to receive their infusion at the doctor's office. In addition to the reduced share of cost, other advantages are:

- Greater flexibility for member by scheduling home infusion nurse visit on a mutually available time and day
- Patients no longer need to travel (or incur travel-related expenses) to receive infusion treatment
- Exposure to viruses such as the flu or COVID is reduced
- Outpatient hospital drug administration costs 2–3 times more than home or in the physician office
- Member share of cost is higher when they receive care at an outpatient hospital

How does this benefit change help my patients?

Members who receive their medication infusions at an outpatient hospital are subject to a coinsurance or percent of total costs which can be in the hundreds to thousands of dollars depending on the drug. Site of service redirection requires authorization for members to receive infusion services in the outpatient hospital if there is medical necessity. Reducing the share of cost for Blue Shield commercial PPO members to a flat \$45 copayment makes it affordable for your patients to receive home infusions which can save significant out of pocket costs.

What drugs are subject to site of service redirection ?

To view drugs included in the Site of Service Program as of September 2022, please visit:
https://blueshieldca.sharepoint.com/sites/ProvCommsSite/Lists/Project%20Requests/Attachments/45/A51929_0922_REF975750_SECURE.pdf

Who should I call with questions about this program?

If you have any questions about the Site of Service Program, please call the Provider Information and Enrollment team at (800) 258-3091.