

Blue Edge Newsletter



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF WYOMING FOR LARGE EMPLOYERS

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Rooted in Wyoming, BCBSWY proudly supports our neighbors, businesses and local community events.

INTERIM LEGISLATURE NEWS

Prior Authorization and White Bagging Legislation Proposed

The Labor, Health and Social Services (LHSS) Committee met in Casper on April 27 and 28 to discuss key topics of concern to Blue Cross Blue Shield Wyoming, which included two proposed bills; one limiting prior authorizations and one limiting white bagging and other cost saving measures applied to specialty drug administration.

BCBSWY uses prior authorizations to pre-approve some tests, treatments, and expensive prescriptions to ensure members receive the appropriate care in a timely fashion. This helps prevent costly and unsafe treatment, which could also burden members financially.

Medical providers would like to greatly reduce the number of prior authorizations because they view them to be administratively burdensome.

Testimony was taken from both sides of the topic and ultimately, the Committee decided to form a small work group consisting of insurers, PBMs, providers, hospitals, and legislators to draft language for discussion at the next LHSS meeting on June 22. The Prior Authorization Work Group has already met, which BCBSWY

attended. As a result of those discussions, BCBSWY anticipates a drafted bill preserving prior authorizations while adding requirements to streamline prior authorizations to be presented to LHSS on June 22.

The other proposed legislation of interest addresses white bagging. White bagging occurs when insurers direct expensive specialty drugs to be sent from specialty pharmacies to facilities for treatment. This practice can save plans and self-funded clients money on expensive specialty medications.

However, some hospital representatives oppose the practice of white bagging suggesting it disrupts drug supply chain integrity and creates administrative and treatment challenges.

The Wyoming Hospital Association provided a bill example from Louisiana. Unfortunately, this bill would not only prevent white bagging, but it would also prevent other cost-saving measures insurers use to reduce expensive specialty medication costs and administration. BCBSWY hopes discussions throughout the legislative process will yield a Wyoming solution, which addresses the safety, timeliness and quality of specialty medications while minimizing costs to our members and self-funded groups.

The white bagging bill is expected to be presented for discussion at the next LHSS meeting on June 22.

BCBSWY believes patient safety, product quality, and delivery timeliness are of paramount concern for the best treatment of our members. Accordingly, we will advocate for legislative language to ease the burdens of obtaining health care while still managing the cost of treatments and expensive medications.

The next Labor, Health and Social Services Committee meeting will be held June 22-23 in Evanston and BCBSWY will be there to provide input on proposed legislation, which may impact our members and employer clients. We will keep you updated in future newsletters.

ANew360 WELLNESS RESOURCE

Men's Health Awareness

June is Men's Health Awareness Month. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming is proud to work with our employers by sharing tips this quarter on how men can better prioritize their well-being.

Men visit a doctor to get their annual wellness exams at only half of the rate that women do. These visits save lives and money.

Download the poster below.

[Men's Health Poster](#)



EMPLOYER PORTAL ENHANCEMENTS COMING SOON

The Employer Portal is Getting a New Look

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming is excited to announce we are enhancing the overall visuals of our employer portal. These aesthetic updates aim to improve the look and feel and user experience of the employer portal.

In the upcoming weeks, your plan administrators will receive an email with more details of these updates.

TELEMEDICINE IMPROVES WYOMING'S CARE ACCESS

Telemedicine Provider MDLive Begins in Fall

MDLIVE
An Evernorth Company



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming is partnering with MDLive to bring 24/7/365 telemedicine solutions to members this fall. This popular benefit can reduce urgent care visits to less than 10 minutes and save your business money.

Experienced licensed therapists are available to treat a scope of needs, including depression, trauma, addiction, and more.

MDLive is a great solution for Wyoming companies who want more convenience and provider options for their employees.

Telemedicine solutions improve employee productivity by eliminating travel and reducing wait time for faster diagnosis and treatment plans.

PHARMACY UPDATES

GuidedHealth[®] Enhances Employee Safety

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming uses many tools to improve prescription benefit management for all groups and members. One tool, GuidedHealth[®], helps groups make informed decisions and take control of their health plans and allows members and their doctors to make better medication management decisions.

GuidedHealth[®] uses retrospective drug utilization review programs to analyze pharmacy and medical claims data (when available) to provide actionable clinical intelligence to doctors, members, and health plans.

Powered by Prime's clinical engine and population health database, GuidedHealth[®] facilitates improved care, safer medication use, better health outcomes, and lower overall cost of care. These results can positively influence employee health and better manage group costs.

Impact of adverse drug events:

- The impact and management of adverse drug reactions can cost Americans up to \$30.1 billion annually; stemming from increased hospitalizations, prolonged hospital stays and additional clinical investigations.^[1]
- Adverse drug events are potentially preventable 50 percent of the time. ^[2]

Informed members and doctors can make better decisions, which results in improved health outcomes.

Through Prime's unique connection with health plans, GuidedHealth[®] has a distinct vantage point and insight into a member's total care. GuidedHealth[®] offers a comprehensive approach to medication management with a suite of clinical programs designed to:

- Discontinue unsafe medicine use;
- Identify potential misuse and abuse;
- Improve adherence;
- Close gaps in care.

These programs work to improve care and lower costs through a series of the following steps:

- Analyzing pharmacy and medical claims data (when available) against evidence-based clinical rules;
- Identifying drug therapy opportunities;
- Combining the opportunities (based on selected programs) into a holistic health guide;
- Targeting outreach to members and/or providers through a variety of channels to encourage adherence to therapies.

BCBSWY, with Prime's collaboration, is a true partner committed to better, safer, and more affordable care. We are taking steps to ensure our groups' employees are getting the right medication, at the right time, for the right condition, at the right interval. GuidedHealth[®] helps us achieve this goal.

COTIVITI FINDS SAVINGS

Cotiviti Pushes Claim Accuracy Even Further

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming sets a high standard for claims accuracy with a rating of 95%, which is above the national average. Cotiviti's technology and review platform helps us push accuracy and client savings even further!

There are three areas of focus:

1. **DRG (Diagnostic Related Grouping)** - DRG audits an examined patient's presentation, diagnoses, and treatment; and then evaluates how the provider coded the claim.
2. **RCA (Retrospective Claims Accuracy)** - Data Mining helps identify health care trends, best practices, and detect fraud and abuse. Cotiviti's analytics and tools find and recover high-value overpayments. They also help uncover previously unknown patterns that flag for investigation.
3. **Payment Policy Management** - Payment Policy Management helps tailor, test, and execute best-practice clinical and payment policies helping ensure compliance and avert incorrect payments.

BCBSWY is increasing accuracy and group savings through the usage of Cotiviti's technology and review platform by determining responsibility, ensuring accuracy, and detecting patterns within our three focused areas.

[Employer Resources Available](#)



As a reminder, [BCBSWY.com](https://www.bcbswy.com) has an assortment of resources available for employers. Find useful information to share with your employees to help alleviate questions they may have.

[See Employer Toolkit](#)

For more information or if you have questions, please contact your Account Executive.

[Find Your Account Executive](#)

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