



MONTANA HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS NOTICE

December 1, 2017

All Providers

Effective December 1, 2017

Montana Medicaid Expansion Prior Authorization Changes

Effective January 1, 2018, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT) will no longer coordinate the Montana HELP Plan. Members will transition to Montana Healthcare Programs.

Members will have the same benefits under Montana Medicaid as the HELP Plan. However, there will be prior authorization requirement differences. Five scenarios have been identified below:

1. Services that require a prior authorization for BCBSMT, but not for Montana Healthcare Programs:
 - a. Prior authorizations given by BCBSMT in 2017 will expire 12/31/2017, with no changes made to Montana Medicaid.
2. Services that don't require a prior authorization for BCBSMT, but do for Montana Healthcare Programs:
 - a. Beginning 1/1/2018, providers must follow Montana Medicaid prior authorization requirements.
3. Services that require a prior authorization for BCBSMT or Montana Healthcare Programs in 2017 and will extend into 2018:
 - a. If a prior authorization span must be requested in December 2017 but will not be effective until 2018, providers must follow the Montana Healthcare Programs prior authorization requirements.
4. Services where BCBSMT has provided a prior authorization span in 2017 that extends into 2018 and requires a Montana Healthcare Programs prior authorization:
 - a. A grace period for Montana Healthcare Programs will be allowed until the span ends. For example, a prior authorization is given by BCBSMT in December 2017 for 6 months. The grace period for Montana Medicaid will last through May 2018. Upon span completion, if the member needs additional units, the provider must follow the Montana Healthcare Programs prior authorization requirements.
5. Services that don't require a prior authorization for BCBSMT or Montana Healthcare Programs:
 - a. No changes will be made.

For additional information regarding prior authorization from BCBSMT, call Provider Services at 1-877-296-8206 or fax the request to 406-437-5850.

[For additional information regarding prior authorization from Montana Healthcare Programs, go to http://medicaidprovider.mt.gov/priorauthorization.](http://medicaidprovider.mt.gov/priorauthorization)

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please contact:

[Rebecca Corbett, HELP Program Officer, email rcorbett@mt.gov](mailto:rcorbett@mt.gov) or telephone (406) 444-6869

[For additional information, contact Montana Provider Relations by email MTPRHelpdesk@conduent.com](mailto:MTPRHelpdesk@conduent.com) or telephone (800) 624-3958 or (406) 442-1837

[Visit the Montana Healthcare Programs Provider Information website at](http://www.medicicaidprovider.mt.gov)

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