

BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF KANSAS
HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
CHANGES FOR 2011

Following is a summary of the changes to Blue Shield Home Medical Equipment Supplier Policies and Procedures for 2011. The policy memos in their entirety will be available in the provider publications section of www.bcbsks.com in December 2010.

NOTE: Changes in numbering due to insertion or deletion of sections are not identified. All items herein are identified by the numbering assigned in the 2011 Policy Memo. Deleted wording is noted in brackets []. New verbiage is identified in **bold**.

Home Medical Equipment Supplier Policy Memo

SECTION I. CONTENT OF SERVICE

- **Page 1:** Wording deleted after the bulleted items.

[Content of service issues related to specific services and/or procedures are identified throughout the policy and procedure documents.]

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SECTION II. PRE-CERTIFICATION (REQUIRED BY CERTAIN MEMBERS' CONTRACTS)

- **Pages 1-2:** Changed title of section (as seen above) from [UTILIZATION REVIEW AND MEDICAL NECESSITY]. Deleted sections A., B., C., D. under Section II. Revised wording to more accurately describe requirements.

- A. [PRE-CERTIFICATION (REQUIRED BY CERTAIN MEMBERS' CONTRACTS)]
- B. [IDENTIFY ANY TRENDS OR PATTERNS OF PATIENT CARE WHICH APPEAR INCONSISTENT WITH OVERALL PATTERNS OR TRENDS]
- C. [BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARDS OF GOOD HEALTH CARE PRACTICE]
- D. [NOT BE FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE PATIENT OR SUPPLIER]

[Prior to providing large dollar priced items or items of questionable medical necessity, c] **Certain members' contracts require [the item] home medical equipment to be pre-certified [or authorized by calling or] by writing [the Company] Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas, Inc. (BCBSKS). This pre-approval must be received before delivery. [or benefits may be reduced or excluded.] Suppliers will be told of [member groups with this option] such requirements when the provider calls to verify member benefits.**

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SECTION III. NON-COVERED SERVICES

- **Page 2:** Under Section B. MEMBER CONTRACT EXCLUSIONS, "infusion therapy" and "pharmaceuticals" were deleted from the listed examples.

Some member contracts may exclude an item or service in its entirety or parts of the service thereof. An example[s] would be total enteral nutrition (TEN).

- **Page 2:** Under Section D. DELUXE FEATURES, the last sentence was deleted.

[Failure to provide prior notification to the member will result in a contracting provider write-off.]