

#### **OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION SUBMISSION**

Submitted through Availity Essentials

Commercial, Medicare, and FEP

#### **AUTHORIZATIONS – OUTPATIENT SERVICES AND SUPPLIES**



- Outpatient authorizations are required when medical necessity determination needs to be made based on Blue Cross Medical Policy, Blue Cross MCG guidelines Medicare LCD/NCD, Blue Cross member benefits, and/or the Medical Policy of affiliated review vendors.
- The Outpatient authorization covers professional services and supplies whether done in an outpatient setting or prior to being admitted to a facility for overnight care.
- For general training assistance with the Authorization application refer to training available in the Availity Learning Center.

\*\*YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION PRIOR TO ACCESSING THIS INFORMATION. IF YOU HAVE NOT FINISHED THE REGISTRATION PROCESS, COMPLETE THAT FIRST, THEN RETURN TO THIS DOCUMENT.

#### **OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION – IS AUTH REQUIRED?**



The "Is Auth Required?" tool has been built into the Outpatient Authorization Submission process. With this change, the system will verify coverage based on the Service Start Date and use that information to check for authorization requirements.

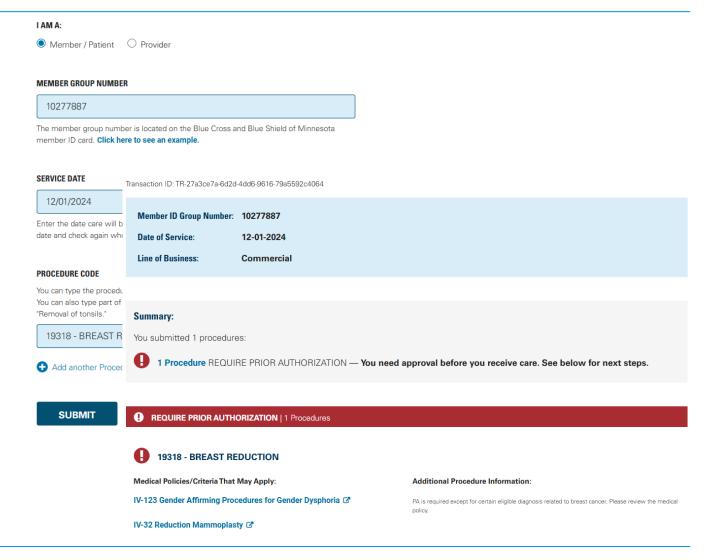
A standalone tool can be accessed on the bluecrossmn.com.

Direct link to the lookup tool is

**TOOL** 

https://www.bluecrossmn.com/providers/medical-management/prior-authorization-lookup-tool

When using this tool, the user is responsible for using the correct group that corresponds to the service date.



### OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION – IS AUTH REQUIRED? TOOL EXAMPLE



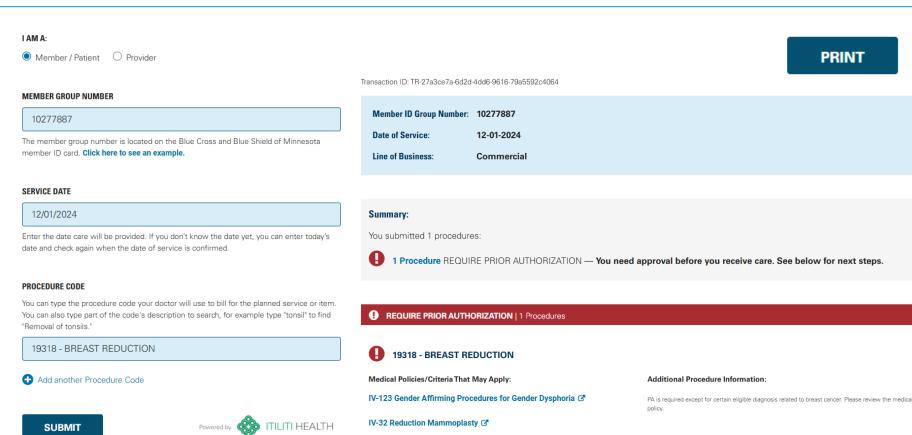
Member/Provider options are the same with a caveat that the Provider option requires an NPI.

Up to 12 CPT/HCPCS codes can be entered per submission.

The response will return authorization requirements for each code with medical policy links.

The transaction id should be captured for reference.

There is also an option to print the response.



#### **OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION SUBMISSION**

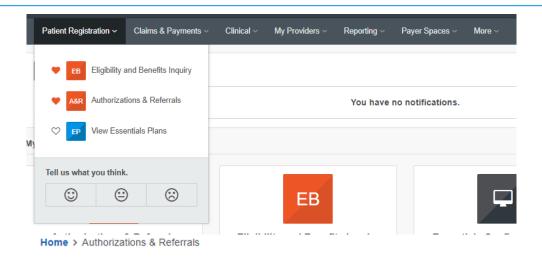


To start the process, go to the navigation bar and select:

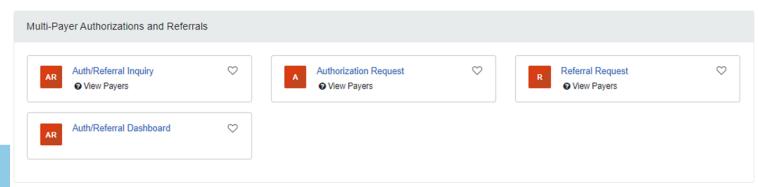
- 1. Patient Registration
- 2. Authorizations & Referrals
- 3. Authorization Request

**Tip**: If more information is needed, click **Help** & **Training** | **Find Help**. Ask your organization administrator for help if you do not find the application in your menu options.

**Tip**: Contact your organization administrator if you do not have this tool. Click **My Administrators** on your **My Account** Dashboard on the home page to find your administrator's contact information.



#### Authorizations & Referrals



#### **OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION SUBMISSION CONT.**

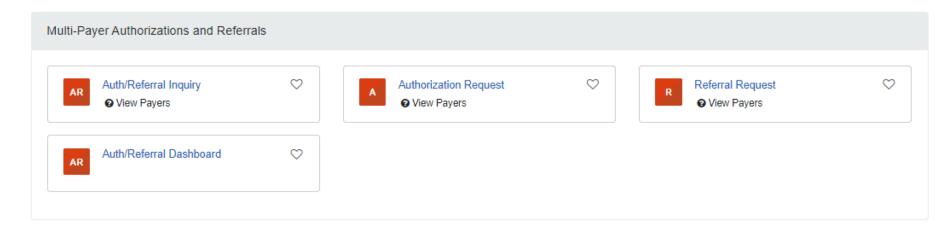


Select:

3. Authorization Request

Home > Authorizations & Referrals

#### Authorizations & Referrals



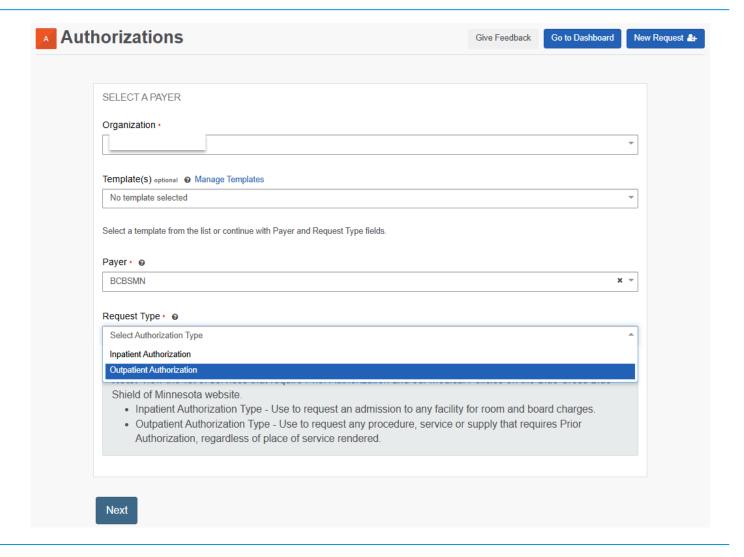
**Tip**: Contact your organization administrator if you do not have this tool. Click **My Administrators** on your **My Account** Dashboard on the home page to find your administrator's contact information.

#### **OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION**



- If you are connected to multiple organizations, select the appropriate organization from the list.
- Select BCBSMN as the Payer.
- 3. Select the Authorization Type of Outpatient Authorization.
- 4. Click **Next**.

**Tip**: From the top right of any page in the authorization process, you can provide feedback on the application, go directly to the Auth/Referral Dashboard, or start a new authorization request.



#### **OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION – START REQUEST**

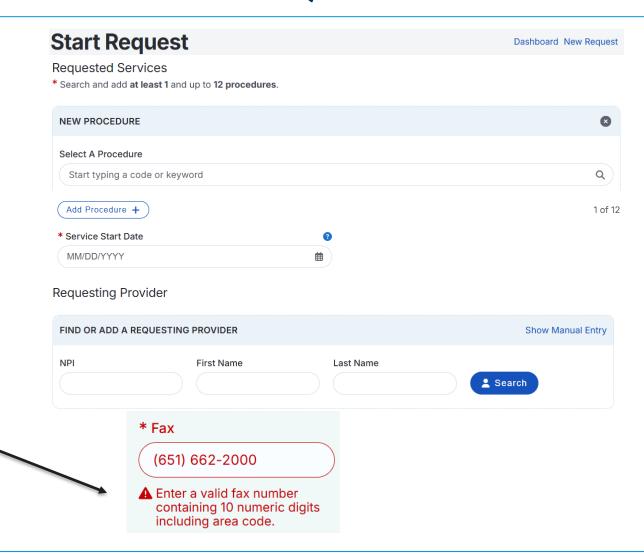


Each data section will allow entry once the prior data field is entered.

The "Is Auth Required" tool is included in the outpatient request. Use a concise Service Start Date to ensure the response is accurate.

- 1. New Procedure enter CPT or HCPCS.
  - 1. Total of 12 codes per authorization.
- Service Start Date anticipated start date of service(s).
- 3. Requesting Provider (Individual Practitioner) enter the NPI or First Name and Last Name, then click Search.
  - Select the appropriate provider from the results.
  - 2. Enter Fax Number (the red notice remains after entering fax number)

\*\*If no results returned, click "Show Manual Entry" and enter all required provider data.

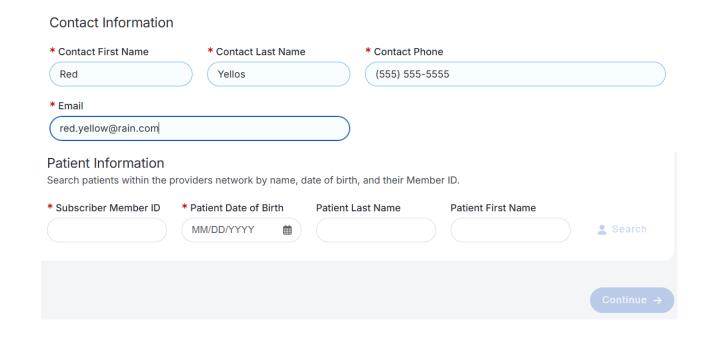


#### **OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION – START REQUEST**



Each data section will allow entry once the prior data field is entered.

- Contact Information fields will auto populate from the submitters Availity Essentials account.
- Patient Information enter patient's id with prefix and date of birth. Add first and/or last name to help distinguish between same name or same date of birth family members then click Search.
- 3. The response will return member information with a date and time stamp.
  - The Eligibility and Benefit response is run using the Service Start Date at the top of the page to ensure that the correct group is being used for the Is Auth Required inquiry.
- 4. Click Continue



# OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATON- START REQUEST EXAMPLE



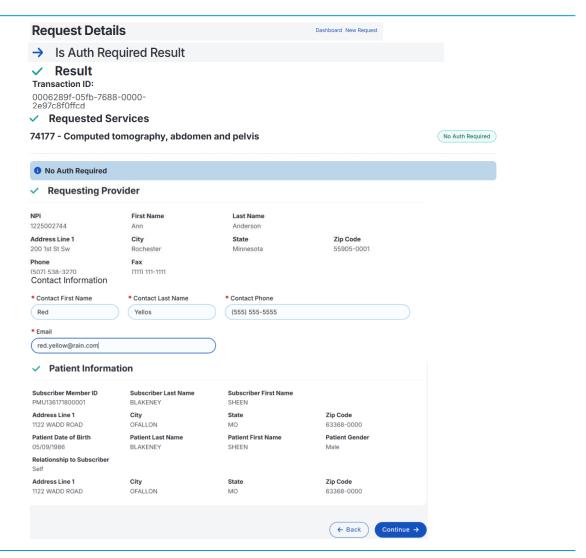
Start Request		Dashboard New Request	Contact Information				
Requested Services * Search and add at least 1 and up to 12 procedures.			* Contact First Name	* Contact Last Name	* Contact Phone		
			Red	Yellow	(555) 555-5555		
74177 - COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY, ABDOMEN	N AND PELVIS	•	* Email				
Add Procedure +		1 of 12	red.yellow@rain.com				
Service Start Date	<b>3</b>						
01/06/2025			Patient Information				
Requesting Provider							
ANDERSON, ANN 1225002744		•	Born: (40 yrs	s)			8 ~
NPI First Name	Last Name		Subscriber Member ID	Subscriber Last Name	Subscriber Middle Name	Subscriber First Name	
	<b>≜</b> Seal	rch	Address His a	Oltro-		The Oads	
			Address Line 1	City	State	Zip Code	
* NPI 1225002744	* First Name		Patient Date of Birth	Patient Last Name	Patient Middle Name	Patient First Name	
* Last Name			Patient Gender	Relationship to			
Anderson				Subscriber Self			
Address Line 1	Address Line 2		Address Line 1	City	State	Zip Code	
200 1st St Sw					• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
* City	* State * Zip Co	ode					
Rochester	Minnesota X 55905	5-0001	Eligibility checked: 12/06/2	024 - 13:12			
* Phone							
	er						Continue -
▲ Enter a valid fax numb containing 10 numeric including area code.	digits						

# OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION— "NO AUTH REQUIRED" REQUEST DETAILS



The next page shows the results of the Is Auth Required inquiry.

- A transaction id will display for any result of "No Auth Required".
- "No Auth Required" indicates that the user does not need to proceed. They should click "New Request" to start the process for another patient or click another header to move off this page.
  - Clicking "Back" to start an inquiry for another
    patient will cause a cache issue and the IAR result
    will not be accurate.
- 3. The rest of the page is the information entered on the first page.
- 4. To continue submission on a "No Auth Required" response, click Continue.



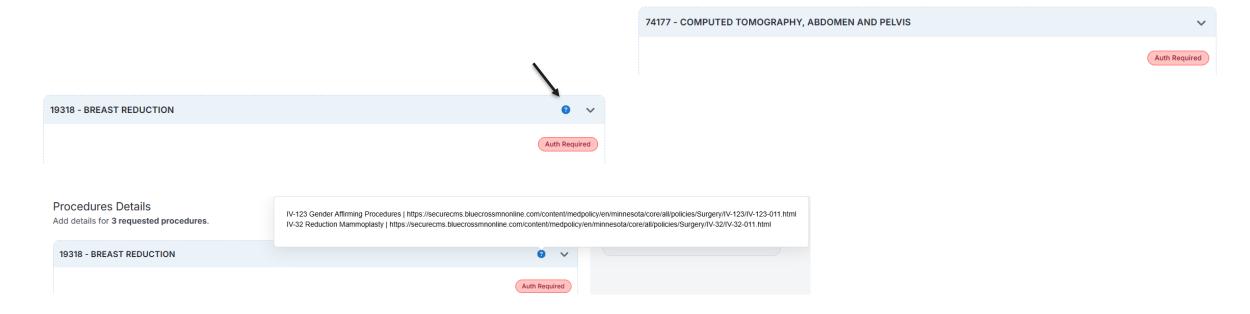
## OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION— AUTH REQUIRED MEDICAL POLICY AND MCG



Medical Policy information will be found by clicking the question mark symbol when the response is "Auth Required"

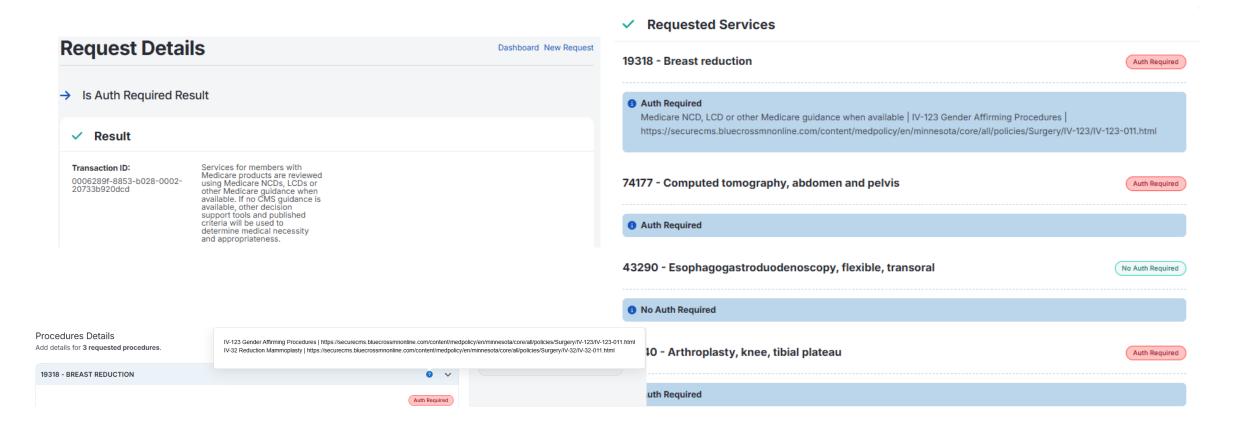
"Auth Required" responses with no '? will be found using MCG.

 MCG guidelines can be accessed via Payer Spaces → Resources



### OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION— EXAMPLE OF MULTIPLE CODE RESPONSE



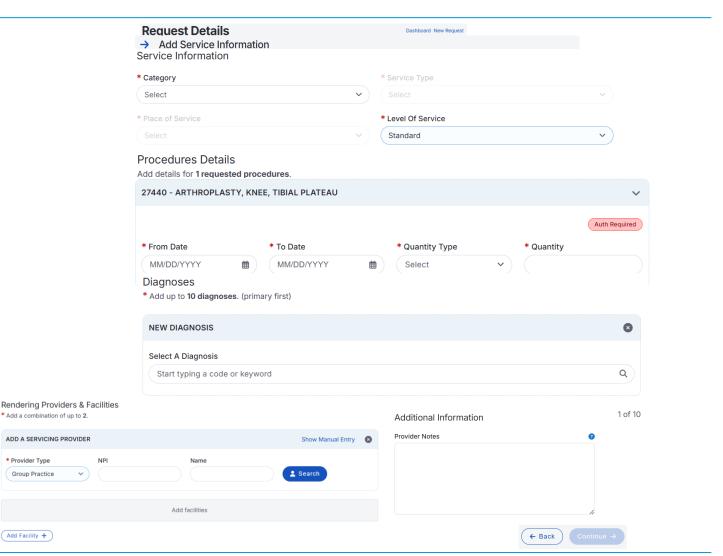


#### **OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION— "AUTH REQUIRED"** REQUEST DETAILS



The next page shows the results of the Is Auth Required inquiry.

- 1. "Auth Required" response will not display a transaction id as that id is incorporated into the authorization submission.
- 2. Begin to enter Service Information.
- 3. Category Medical or Behavioral Health.
- 4. Service Type See Appendix A for list
- Place of Service See Appendix A for list
- 6. Level of Service Standard or Urgent
- 7. Date span of request
- 8. Quantity Type
- 9. Quantity
- 10.Diagnosis up to 10 codes
- 11. Servicing Provider
  - 1. Group Practice is Clinic/Organization
  - 2. Provider is Individual Practitioner
- 12. Facility is optional
- 13.Click Continue



Confidential and proprietary.

\* Add a combination of up to 2

ADD A SERVICING PROVIDER

Group Practice

Add Facility +





Request Details	Dashboard New Request	Rendering Providers & Facilities  * Add a combination of up to 2.		BCBSMN
→ Add Service Information		ANDERSON, ANN	(Provider )	Outpatient Authorization
Service Information		1225002744	Provider	·
* Category	* Service Type	NPI First Name	Last Name	
Medical X	Surgery X			Start an Authorization
* Place of Service	* Level Of Service	* Provider Type * NPI		Ĭ
11 - Office X	Standard	Provider		Add Service Information
		* First Name	* Last Name Anderson	In Progress
rocedures Details Id details for 1 requested procedures.				
d details for frequested procedures.		* Phone		Add Attachments
27440 - ARTHROPLASTY, KNEE, TIBIAL PLATEAU	~	▲ Enter a valid fax number containing 10 numeric digits including area code.		
	Auth Required	* Address Line 1	Address Line 2	AuthAl Attestation
From Date * To Date	* Quantity Type * Quantity	200 1st St Sw		
01/06/2025	Units v 1	* City	* State * Zip Code	
iagnoses		Rochester	Minnesota X 55905-0001	Male Born [
Add up to <b>10 diagnoses</b> . (primary first)				
		Add	facilities	Member ID Group Number
M17.12 - UNILATERAL PRIMARY OSTEOARTHRITIS, LEFT KNEE	Primary &	Add Facility +		
Add Diagnosis +	1 of 10	Additional Information		
		Provider Notes	9	
		Hello		
			← Back Continue →	

## OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION – SINGLE SIGN-ON TO DELEGATED ENTITY REVIEWER

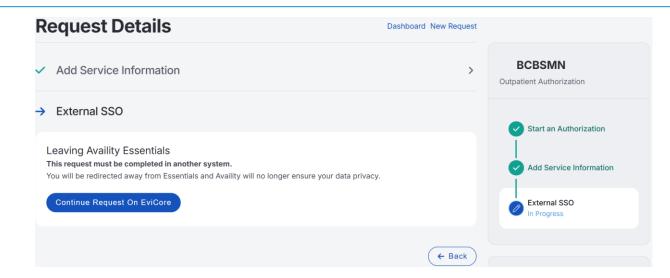


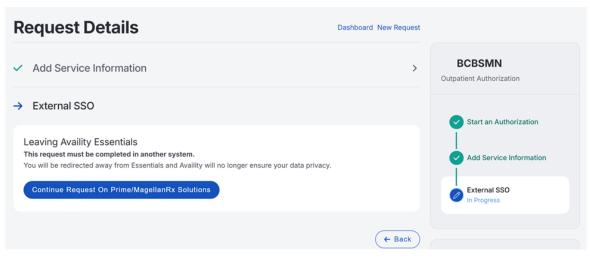
Availity will Single Sign-on any authorizations for reviews that are delegated to eviCore or Prime Therapeutics Management.

These authorization submissions will be completed in the delegated entity's portal.

Status and Determination updates will be sent to the Auth/Referral Dashboard.

eviCore and MPS portal can be accessed directly for authorization submission and status review.



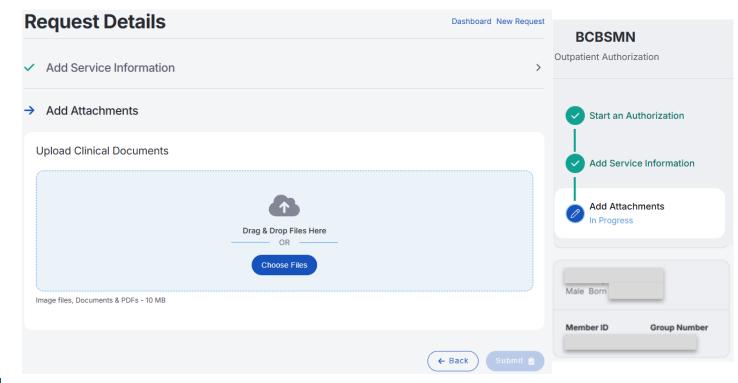


# OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION – REQUEST DETAILS CONT. – ADDING ATTACHMENTS



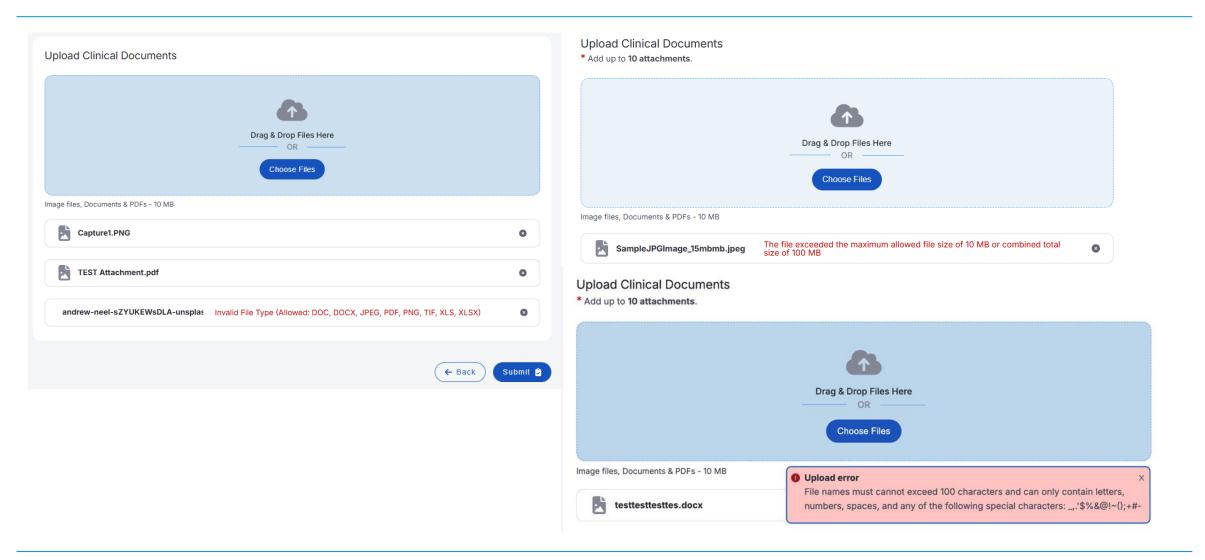
#### **Upload Clinical Documents**

- All submissions require a minimum of one attachment.
  - 1. Drag and drop from computer
  - 2. Choose file from computer drive
- Multiple attachments can be added at one time with a total capacity of 100MB.
- 3. Each attachment can be up to 10MB.
- 4. Password protected documents are not permitted.
- 5. Accepted document types are doc, docx, jpeg, xls, xlsx, pdf, tif, and png.
- File names cannot exceed 100 characters and can only contain letters, numbers, spaces, and the following special characters \_ ' \$ % & @ ! ~ (); + # -.
- 7. Click Submit.



## OUTPATIENT SUBMISSION – ATTACHMENT EXAMPLE AND ERRORS



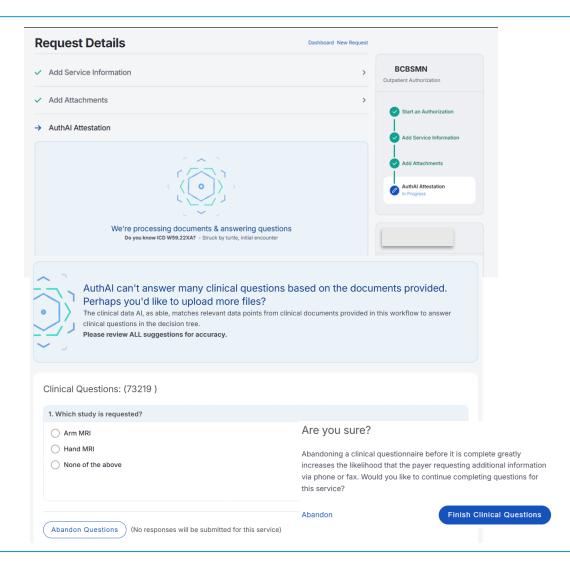


## OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION – MSK AND CARDIOLOGY/RADIOLOGY IMAGING ATTESTATION



#### Request Details AuthAl Attestation

- The system will scan all attached clinical documentation for matching data to the Medical Policy, MCG, and/or Medicare NCD/LCD.
- After the scan is complete, attestation questions will populate, as well as an option to Abandon questions.
- Choosing to "Abandon Questions" will result in a potential request for more information and a delay in final determination.
- 4. If "Abandon Questions" is chosen, a message box will appear to confirm the option chosen.
- Check the box next to "I agree to the above certifications.
- 6. Click Submit.
- \*\*Code, question, and answer are displayed for example purpose only.



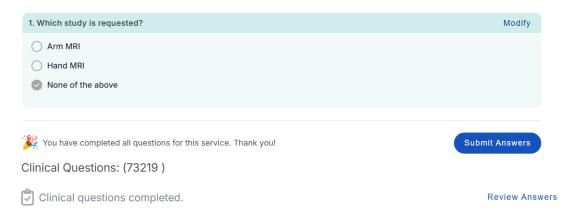
## OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION – MSK AND CARDIOLOGY/RADIOLOGY IMAGING ATTESTATION



#### Request Details AuthAl Attestation

- Questions will appear as related to policy and response to the previous questions.
- Click Next after responding to each question until "You have completed all questions for this service. Thank you!" message displays as well as the button "Submit Answers".
- Click Submit Answers.
- 4. Click on the box next to "I agree to the above certifications.
- 5. Click Submit.

\*\*Code, question, and answer are displayed for example purpose only.



This Clinical Form was created based on applicable coverage guidelines. It does not substitute for or constitute medical advice. All medical decisions are solely the responsibility of the patient and physician. I hereby certify that (i) this authorization is being requested by the treating physician/physician representative for this member, (ii) the information contained in and included with this medical determination request is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, (iii) the member's medical records contain all the appropriate documentation necessary to substantiate this information. I acknowledge that a determination based upon this Clinical Form is not necessarily a guarantee of payment and that payment remains subject to application of the provisions of the member's health benefit plan, including eligibility and plan benefits. Additionally, I further acknowledge and agree that Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota may audit or review the underlying medical records at any time and that failure to comply with such request may be a basis for the denial of a claim associated with such services.

✓ I agree to the above certifications



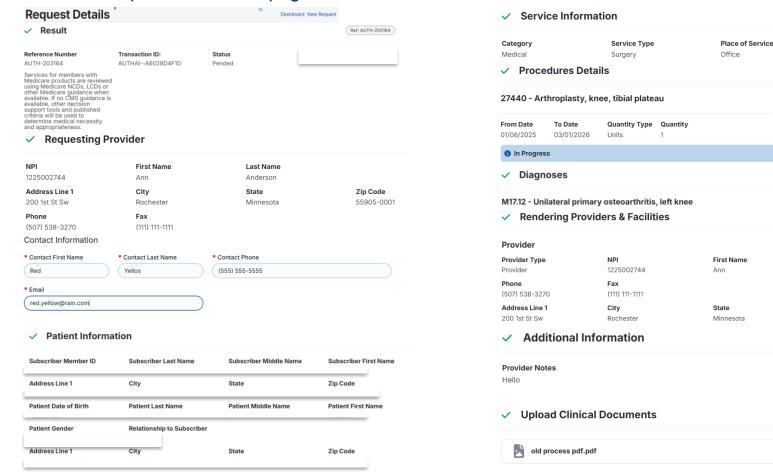
Confidential and proprietary.

Clinical Questions: (73219)

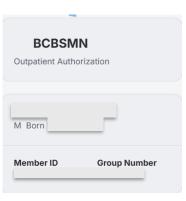
#### **OUTPATIENT AUTHORIZATION- POST SUBMISSION**



Result - The post submission page will return the information entered, the authorization number, and immediate status.



**PAGE** 



Level Of Service

In Progress

Standard

Last Name

Anderson

Zip Code

55905-0001

# STATUS DESCRIPTIONS OF SUBMITTED AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS



Availity Status Overall	Definition
Pending Review	Case is being reviewed by clinicians
Pending Action	Case requires more information from provider(s)
Cancelled	Auth is not required, or service(s) are not covered due to being experimental/investigative
Approved	Approved (case and all lines)
Modified	Outpatient – check line determinations for status of each service (combination of Approved and Denied)
Denied	Overall case/lines are denied and/or combination of denied and cancelled

### OUTPATIENT SUBMISSION – ACTIONS FROM DASHBOARD



The Auth/Ref Dashboard will show updated status when they occur.

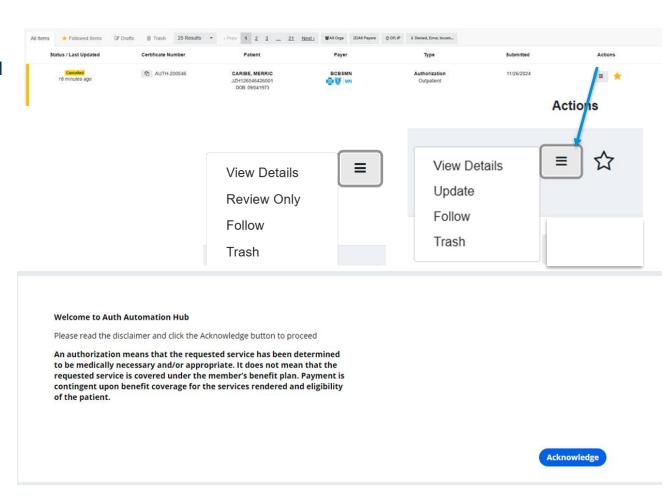
Actions can be taken on the Auth/Referral Dashboard using the 3-line menu.

Available options will depend on the status of the authorization.

Outpatient Authorizations action menu options:

- View Details similar screen to post submission.
- Review Only will SSO into Predictal.
  - View determination rationale.
  - · Download copy of denial letters.
- Update will SSO into Predictal
  - · Withdraw authorizations in pending status.
  - · Add additional clinicals on pending authorizations.

**Note:** Updates will continue to be made in Predictal AAH. Clicking "Update" will single sign on the user into Predictal with a new tab.





# APPENDIXA

# APPENDIX A – MEDICAL OUTPATIENT SERVICE TYPES



Place of Service	Service Type
Ambulance – Air or Water	Ambulance – Air
Ambulance – Land	Ambulance – Land
Home	Home Health Extended Hours Skilled nursing (Private Duty Nursing) Hospice – Home, Continuous or Respite Specialty Drugs and Chemotherapy Durable Medical Equipment (DME) or Supplies Home Health Care
Hospice	Hospice – Home, Continuous or Respite
Off Campus-Outpatient Hospital	Imaging/Radiology Dental Other Medical Outpatient Services (Not to be used for drugs/injectables) Outpatient Therapy Specialty Drugs and Chemotherapy Surgery Transplant

# APPENDIX A – MEDICAL OUTPATIENT SERVICE TYPES CONT.



Place of Service	Service Type
Office	Acupuncture Imaging/Radiology Chiropractic Spinal Manipulation Dental Genomic and Molecular Testing Other Medical Outpatient Services (Not to be used for drugs/injectables) Outpatient Therapy Specialty Drugs and Chemotherapy Surgery
On Campus-Outpatient Hospital	Imaging/Radiology Dental Other Medical Outpatient Services (Not to be used for drugs/injectables) Outpatient Therapy Specialty Drugs and Chemotherapy Surgery Transplant Radiation Therapy
Other Place of Service	Acupuncture Imaging/Radiology Chiropractic Spinal Manipulation Dental Durable Medical Equipment (DME) or Supplies Genomic and Molecular Testing Other Medical Outpatient Services (Not to be used for drugs/injectables) Outpatient Therapy Specialty Drugs and Chemotherapy Surgery Transplant Travel and Expense

# APPENDIX A – BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OUTPATIENT SERVICE TYPES



Place of Service	Service Type
Home	Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention (EIBI)/Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)
Office	Other Behavioral Health Outpatient Services Psychological/Neuropsychological Testing
Other Place of Service	Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention (EIBI)/Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Other Behavioral Health Outpatient Services Psychological/Neuropsychological Testing
Psychiatric Facility-Partial Hospitalization	Other Behavioral Health Outpatient Services Psychological/Neuropsychological Testing



#### THANK YOU

For technical support contact Availity 1-800-282-4548 or 1-800-AVAILITY. Or select **Help & Training | Availity Support** for additional Availity assistance.