



MESSA's list of services requiring mandatory prior authorization

The tables that follow are not all-inclusive lists of procedures and services that require authorization. For more information, visit messa.org/priorauthorization.

Behavioral health services (mental health and substance use disorders)

Procedure or service	Is authorization required?	Who makes the determination?
Routine outpatient therapy in clinic or provider office	No	N/A
Outpatient autism services (applied behavior analysis)	Yes	Blue Cross Behavioral Health SM Refer to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Autism page.
Outpatient TMS	Yes	Blue Cross Behavioral Health Refer to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Behavioral Health page.
Inpatient, residential or partial hospital (participating facility)	Yes	Blue Cross Behavioral Health Refer to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Behavioral Health page.
Inpatient, residential or partial hospital (non-participating facility)	Yes	Blue Cross Behavioral Health Refer to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Behavioral Health page.
Intensive outpatient treatment	No	N/A
Subacute detox (participating facility)	Yes	Blue Cross Behavioral Health Refer to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Behavioral Health page.
Subacute detox (non-participating facility)	Yes	Blue Cross Behavioral Health Refer to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Behavioral Health page.

Non-behavioral health services

Procedure or service	Is authorization required?	Who makes the determination?
Air ambulance	Yes	Alacura Medical Transport Management, for non-emergency flights only. Refer to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Air Ambulance page.
Cardiology (See also: Echocardiology)	Yes	Carelon Medical Benefits Management. Refer to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Cardiology Services page.
Chiropractic services	No	N/A
Durable medical equipment	No	N/A
Echocardiology (See also: Cardiology)	Yes	Carelon Medical Benefits Management. Refer to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Cardiology Services page.
Genetic and molecular testing	No	N/A
Home health care services	No	N/A
Inpatient admissions, acute care (In-state participating hospitals)	Yes	Blue Cross Utilization Management Refer to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Acute Inpatient Medical and Surgical Admissions page.
Inpatient admissions, acute care (Out-of-state hospitals)	Yes	MESSA - Submit requests through the MESSA provider portal . Refer to the MESSA Prior Authorization page .
Joint surgery – knee, hip, shoulder (See also: Musculoskeletal procedures, other)	No	N/A
Medical oncology (See also: Radiation oncology)	No	N/A
Musculoskeletal procedures (See also: Joint surgery – knee, hip, shoulder)	No	N/A
Pain management	No	N/A
Physical, occupational and speech therapy with an autism diagnosis	No	N/A

Procedure or service	Is authorization required?	Who makes the determination?
Physical and occupational therapy with a non-autism diagnosis	No	N/A
Post-Acute Care (Rehab, LTAC)	Yes	MESSA - Submit requests through the MESSA provider portal . Refer to the MESSA Prior Authorization page.
Post-acute care; skilled nursing facility (SNF)	No	N/A
Private duty nursing HCPCS codes S9123 and S9124	Yes	MESSA - Submit requests through the MESSA provider portal . Refer to the MESSA Prior Authorization page.
Proton beam therapy (For information about other radiation oncology procedures, see Radiation oncology below)	Yes	Carelon Medical Benefits Management. Refer to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Oncology Services page.
Radiology procedures (high-tech imaging)	Yes	Carelon Medical Benefits Management. Refer to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Radiology Services, High Tech page.
Radiation oncology, other than proton beam therapy (For information about proton beam therapy, see Proton beam therapy above.)	No	N/A
Sleep studies	Yes	Carelon Medical Benefits Management. Refer to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Sleep Studies page.
Speech therapy with a non-autism diagnosis	No	N/A
Spine surgery	No	N/A
Transplants	Yes	Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Utilization Management. Refer to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Transplant Services page.

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