



HIGH-TECH IMAGING TESTS REQUIRE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Outpatient, Non-Emergency Advanced Radiology Imaging Services

It's your life. It's your health. And now you have more control. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City (Blue KC) wants to make sure you have the most appropriate tests and are not exposed to unnecessary radiation. And with this new program we are giving you more authority over what treatments you receive.

ATTENTION

YOUR BENEFITS MAY BE DENIED OR REDUCED IF PRIOR AUTHORIZATION IS NOT OBTAINED.

It is estimated that Americans spend \$100 billion a year on high-tech imaging tests like MRIs, CT and PET scans. While high-tech imaging tests can help doctors diagnose serious diseases, experts agree that many times these tests add little or no information to improve a patient's diagnosis or treatment and expose individuals to unnecessary radiation.

Blue KC wants you to receive the most appropriate care and treatment. We also want to protect you from incurring additional costs. For all outpatient high-tech imaging services, make sure your doctor requests prior authorization before tests are performed.

USING DOCTORS WITHIN THE BLUE KC SERVICE AREA IN KANSAS/MISSOURI

If you receive services from a doctor who is both in-network and in the Blue KC service area in Kansas/Missouri, your doctor will be responsible for requesting prior authorization from Blue KC before performing high-tech imaging services. However, if your doctor fails to do so, you are not responsible for the charges. If you receive services from an out-of-network doctor, you are responsible for ensuring that your doctor obtains prior authorization from Blue KC.

USING DOCTORS OUTSIDE THE BLUE KC SERVICE AREA IN KANSAS/MISSOURI

If you receive services from a doctor that is outside the Blue KC service area in Kansas/Missouri, you are responsible for ensuring that your doctor obtains prior authorization for high-tech imaging services from Blue KC. This applies regardless of whether you see an in-network or out-of-network doctor.

REQUESTING PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

To request a prior authorization for high-tech imaging your doctor can simply call the Prior Authorization phone number on the back of your member ID card.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION NEEDED

With this new program, Blue KC will require prior authorization before reimbursing any **outpatient, non-emergency advanced radiology imaging services**, including:

- CT scans (including CTA)
- MRI/MRA studies
- PET scans
- Nuclear Cardiac Imaging
- Echocardiogram

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION NOT NEEDED

Prior authorization will not be required for imaging studies related to **inpatient or emergency care, most ultrasounds, and low-tech radiology studies** (such as chest x-rays).

QUESTIONS?

For more information on your plan's coverage and benefits for high-tech imaging services, call Blue KC Customer Service at the phone number listed on your member ID card.



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