

2025 Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan - Standard and Basic Option
Section 10. Definitions of Terms We Use in This Brochure
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Clinical trials

An approved clinical trial includes a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial that is conducted in relation to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening disease or condition, and is either Federally funded; conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA); or is a drug trial that is exempt from the requirement of an investigational new drug application.

Coinsurance

See Section 4.

Concurrent care claims

A claim for continuing care or an ongoing course of treatment that is subject to prior approval. See Section 3.

Congenital anomaly

A condition that existed at or from birth and is a significant deviation from the common form or norm. Examples of congenital anomalies are protruding ear deformities; cleft lip; cleft palate; birth marks; ambiguous genitalia; and webbed fingers and toes. Note: Congenital anomalies do not include conditions related to the teeth or intra-oral structures supporting the teeth.

Copayment

See Section 4.

Cosmetic surgery

Any surgical procedure or any portion of a procedure performed primarily to improve physical appearance through change in bodily form, except for repair of accidental injury, or to restore or correct a part of the body that has been altered as a result of disease or surgery or to correct a congenital anomaly.

Cost-sharing

See Section 4.

Covered services

Services we provide benefits for, as described in this brochure.

Custodial or long-term care

Facility-based care that does not require access to the full spectrum of services performed by licensed healthcare professionals that is available 24 hours a day in acute inpatient hospital settings to avoid imminent, serious, medical or psychiatric consequences. By “facility-based,” we mean services provided in a hospital, long-term care facility, extended care facility, skilled nursing facility, residential treatment center, school, halfway house, group home, or any other facility providing skilled or unskilled treatment or services to individuals whose conditions have been stabilized. Custodial or long-term care can also be provided in the patient’s home, however defined.

Custodial or long-term care may include services that a person not medically skilled could perform safely and reasonably with minimal training, or that mainly assist the patient with daily living activities, such as:

1. Personal care, including help in walking, getting in and out of bed, bathing, eating (by spoon, tube, or gastrostomy), exercising, or dressing;
2. Homemaking, such as preparing meals or special diets;
3. Moving the patient;
4. Acting as companion or sitter;
5. Supervising medication that can usually be self-administered; or
6. Treatment or services that any person can perform with minimal instruction, such as recording pulse, temperature, and respiration; or administration and monitoring of feeding systems.

We do not provide benefits for custodial or long-term care, regardless of who recommends the care or where it is provided. The Carrier, its medical staff, and/or an independent medical review determine which services are custodial or long-term care.

Durable medical equipment

Equipment and supplies that are:

1. Prescribed by your physician (i.e., the physician who is treating your illness or injury);
2. Medically necessary;

3. Primarily and customarily used only for a medical purpose;
 4. Generally useful only to a person with an illness or injury;
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