

Special Bulletin

Updated January 23, 2023
December 30, 2022

For professional and facility providers

Medicare Advantage Medical Policy Search Removal From Provider Resource Center

Effective **February 13, 2023**, access to the Medicare Advantage Medical Policy search site will be removed from the Highmark Provider Resource Center (PRC) – and the search site will be taken down.

The search site removal is taking place in conjunction with the transition to MCG Health clinical guidelines. Highmark's move from Change Healthcare (InterQual) to MCG will more fully support our [Living Health](#) strategy and allow us to upgrade our Utilization Management (UM) capabilities and automation.

Providers should use the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [Medicare Coverage Database website](#) to search National Coverage Determinations (NCDs), Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs), and Local Coverage Articles (LCAs).

The Medicare Advantage Medical Policy search site and Medicare Coverage Database contain identical information on NCDs, LCDs, and LCAs – so providers will still be able to access the same information, just on a different website. The [CMS site](#) is where you will find the most up-to-date coverage determinations.

For more information on the switch to MCG Health, you can read our Special Bulletin: [MCG Chosen as Utilization Management Clinical Criteria Vendor](#) and the article in our December 2023 *Provider News* newsletter which can be found under **NEWSLETTERS/NOTICES** in the left-hand menu of the PRC.

This information is issued on behalf of Highmark Blue Shield and its affiliated Blue companies, which are independent licensees of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Highmark Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Shield and certain of its affiliated Blue companies serve Blue Shield members in 21 counties in central Pennsylvania and 13 counties in northeastern New York. As a partner in joint operating agreements, Highmark Blue Shield also provides services in conjunction with a separate health plan in southeastern Pennsylvania. Highmark Inc. or certain of its affiliated Blue companies also serve Blue Cross Blue Shield members in 29 counties in western Pennsylvania, 13 counties in northeastern Pennsylvania, the state of West Virginia plus Washington County, Ohio, the state of Delaware, and 8 counties in western New York. All references to Highmark in this document are references to Highmark Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Shield and/or to one or more of its affiliated Blue companies.