

# MEDICAL POLICY UPDATE

#### IN THIS ISSUE

MCG Custom Guideline Number Changes	5
Additional Notifications	5
Medicare Advantage Policy Changes	4
Commercial Policy Changes	1



# **Policy**

This notification provides an overview of upcoming medical policy changes affecting our Commercial and Medicare Advantage lines of business. Details are outlined in the tables below.

For new policies or those with updated criteria, a direct link is provided in the title of each policy. This link will allow you to view a draft version highlighting the specific changes. Within the draft, additions to the policy are indicated by red underlined text, while deletions are shown as highlighted text with a strikethrough.

### **Commercial Policy Changes**

Policy Change	Commercial Policy Number and Title	Anticipated Issue Date	Impacted States
Archiving	E-5 - Tumor Treatment Fields	10/13/2025	All
Archiving	I-285 - Fidanacogene elaparvovec-dzkt (Beqvez)	10/27/2025	All
Archiving	M-94 - Somatostatin Receptor Scintigraphy	10/6/2025	All
Archiving	S-285 - Spinal Cord and Dorsal Root Ganglion Stimulation	7/18/2025	Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia
Archiving	X-588 - Thyroid Carcinoma Metastases Imaging	10/6/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	E-49 - Seat Lift Mechanisms	10/13/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	I-149 - Chelation Therapy for Off-Label Uses	10/6/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	I-173 - Edaravone (Radicava)	10/13/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	I-199 - Interleukin-23 Antagonists (Ilumya SC and Skyrizi IV)	10/13/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	I-214 - Luspatercept (Reblozyl)	10/6/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	I-253 - Betibeglogene autotemcel (Zynteglo)	10/20/2025	All

No Change in Coverage	I-259 - Entranacogene dezaparvovec (Hemgenix)	10/20/2025	All
No Change	I-271 - Valoctocogene Roxaparvovec-rvox		
in Coverage	(Roctavian)	10/20/2025	All
No Change	I-282 - Lovotibeglogene autotemcel	10/27/2025	All
in Coverage	(Lyfgenia)	10/21/2023	ΛII
No Change	I-76 - Ziconotide (Prialt)	10/13/2025	All
in Coverage No Change	, , ,		
in Coverage	I-90 - Abatacept (Orencia)	10/20/2025	All
No Change	L-284 - Laboratory Testing: Medical	40/40/0005	N
in Coverage	Necessity	10/13/2025	New York
No Change	L-285 - General Approach to Genetic Testing	10/13/2025	New York
in Coverage	2 200 General Approach to General Testing	10/10/2020	NOW TOIK
No Change in Coverage	M-34 - Electroencephalogram	10/20/2025	All
No Change	M-81 - Implantable Pulmonary Artery		
in Coverage	Pressure Measurement Device	10/13/2025	All
No Change	M-88 - Mobile Cardiac Outpatient Telemetry	40/42/202E	ΛII
in Coverage	(MCOT)	10/13/2025	All
No Change	Q-5 - Ambulance Services: Air and Water	10/13/2025	All
in Coverage		10, 10, 2020	, w
No Change in Coverage	S-118 - Small Bowel, Small Bowel/Liver and Multivisceral Transplant	10/13/2025	All
No Change			
in Coverage	S-141 - Ablation of Liver Tumors	10/13/2025	All
No Change	S-180 - Recombinant and Autologous		
in Coverage	Platelet-Derived Growth Factors for Wound	10/27/2025	All
	Healing and Other Non-Orthopedic	10/21/2020	,
No Change	Conditions S-186 - Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)-		
in Coverage	Guided Focused Ultrasound Surgery	10/13/2025	All
iii oovolago	(MRgFUS)	10/10/2020	/ \li
No Change	S-315 - Hip Surgery: Labral Repair or	10/20/2025	New York
in Coverage	Reconstruction	10/20/2023	New Tork
No Change	S-316 - Hip Surgery: Femoroacetabular	10/20/2025	New York
in Coverage	Impingement (FAI) S-317 - Hip Surgery: Avascular Necrosis		
No Change in Coverage	(AVN)	10/20/2025	New York
No Change		40/00/0005	N
in Coverage	S-318 - Hip Surgery: Synovectomy	10/20/2025	New York
No Change	S-319 - Hip Surgery: Open or Arthroscopic	10/20/2025	New York
in Coverage	o o to Trip ourgory. Open of Artifioscopic	10/20/2020	TYOW TOTA
No Change	S-325 - Lysis of Epidural Adhesions	10/13/2025	New York
in Coverage No Change	·		
in Coverage	S-582 - Cervical Fusion, Anterior	10/20/2025	New York
No Change	C. ESE. Comingel Lorein sets res	40/00/0005	Mayy Vards
in Coverage	S-585 - Cervical Laminectomy	10/20/2025	New York
No Change	X-21 - Mammography	10/29/2025	All
in Coverage	<b>5</b> . ,	. 5, 25, 2525	/ ui
No Change in Coverage	X-584 - Computed Tomography Perfusion Imaging of the Brain	10/6/2025	New York
	I maging of the Diam		

No Change in Coverage	Z-104 - Basivertebral Nerve Ablation	10/6/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	Z-27 - Eligible Providers	10/13/2025	All
New Policy	E-92 - Alternating Electric Field Therapy- MCG*	10/13/2025	All
New Policy	G-50 - Prademagene zamikeracel (Zevaskyn)	9/1/2025	All
New Policy	I-306 - Injectable Dermal Fillers for Cosmetic	0/0/2025	All
•	Procedures	9/8/2025	All
New Policy	M-89 - Remote Patient Monitoring	11/24/2025	All
Criteria	E-9 - Non-Custom/Custom-Made Gradient	10/13/2025	All
Update	Compression Garments/Stockings/Sleeves	10/13/2023	All
Criteria	G-49 - Beremagene geperpavec-svdt	9/1/2025	All
Update	(Vyjuvek)		
Criteria Update	I-122 - Treatment of Hereditary Angioedema (HAE)	9/8/2025	All
Criteria Update	I-129 - Vedolizumab (Entyvio)	10/13/2025	All
Criteria Update	I-218 - Crizanlizumab-tmca (Adakveo)	10/6/2025	All
Criteria Update	<u>I-27 - Certolizumab (Cimzia)</u>	10/20/2025	All
Criteria	I-273 - ADAMTS13, recombinant-krhn		
Update	(Adzynma)	10/20/2025	All
Criteria Update	I-280 - Secukinumab (Cosentyx)	10/20/2025	All
Criteria Update	I-288 - Imetelstat (Rytelo)	9/1/2025	All
Criteria	I-305 - Intravesical Mitomycin (Zusduri)	9/1/2025	All
Update	1-003 - Intravesical Millornyclin (Zusuun)	9/1/2023	All
Criteria Update	<u>I-35 - Golimumab (Simponi, Simponi Aria)</u>	10/20/2025	All
Criteria Update	<u>I-37 - Ustekinumab (Stelara) and</u> Ustekinumab Biosimilars	9/1/2025	All
Criteria	I-38 - Rituximab (Rituxan), Rituximab		
Update	Biosimilars, and Rituximab and	10/13/2025	All
0.11	Hyaluronidase Human (Rituxan Hycela)		
Criteria	I-4 - Hemophilia Treatment Clotting	9/29/2025	All
Update Criteria	<u>Factors/Coagulant Blood Products</u>		
Update	<u>L-28 - Tumor Markers</u>	12/8/2025	All
Criteria Update	S-262 - Eustachian Tube Balloon Dilation	10/13/2025	All
Criteria	S-275 - Prostate Disease: Diagnosis,	11/24/2025	All
Update	Staging, and Treatment	11/24/2023	All
Criteria Update	S-281 - Percutaneous Tenotomy	10/13/2025	All
Criteria Update	S-333 - Osteotomy, Metatarsal	10/13/2025	All
Criteria Update	S-568 - Septoplasty- MCG*	10/13/2025	All
Criteria Update	S-579 - TAVR- MCG*	10/13/2025	All

Criteria Update	S-589 - Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery (FESS)- MCG*	10/13/2025	All
Criteria Update	S-67 - Cochlear Implantation	12/8/2025	All
Criteria Update	Z-112 - Epidural Corticosteroid Injection- MCG*	10/13/2025	New York

### \*MCG Customized Guidelines will be available on the issue date

# Medicare Advantage Policy Changes

Policy Category	Medicare Advantage Policy Number and Title	Anticipated Issue Date	Impacted States
Archiving	MA I-296 - Fidanacogene elaparvovec-dzkt (Beqvez)	10/27/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA G-55 - Beremagene geperpavec-svdt (Vyjuvek)	9/1/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-173 - Edaravone (Radicava)	10/13/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-184 - Certolizumab (Cimzia)	10/20/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-199 - Interleukin-23 Antagonists	10/13/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-218 - Golimumab (Simponi, Simponi Aria)	10/20/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-221 - Crizanlizumab-tmca (Adakveo)	10/6/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-223 - Luspatercept (Reblozyl)	10/6/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-269 - Entranacogene dezaparvovec (Hemgenix)	10/20/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-280 - Valoctocogene Roxaparvovec- rvox (Roctavian)	10/20/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-289 - Secukinumab (Cosentyx)	10/20/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-291 - Lovotibeglogene autotemcel (Lyfgenia)	10/27/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-292 - ADAMTS13, recombinant-krhn (Adzynma)	10/20/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-299 - Betibeglogene autotemcel (Zynteglo)	10/20/2025	All
No Change in Coverage	MA I-90 - Abatacept (Orencia)	10/20/2025	All
New Policy	MA G-56 - Prademagene zamikeracel (Zevaskyn)	9/1/2025	All
Criteria Update	MA I-122 - Treatment of Hereditary Angioedema (HAE)	9/8/2025	All
Criteria Update	MA I-129 - Vedolizumab (Entyvio)	10/13/2025	All
Criteria Update	MA I-139 - Ustekinumab (Stelara) and Ustekinumab Biosimilars	9/1/2025	All
Criteria Update	MA I-298 - Imetelstat (Rytelo)	9/1/2025	All

Criteria Update	MA I-313 - Intravesical Mitomycin (Zusduri)	9/1/2025	All
Criteria Update	MA I-38 - Rituximab	10/13/2025	MA Delaware, MA Pennsylvania, MA New York



# **Policy**

### **Additional Notifications**

### **MCG Custom Guideline Number Changes**



Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield has updated the numbers for customized MCG guidelines. Please see the table below for the old and new policy numbers.

These changes went into effect on August 11, 2025.

Customized MCG Guideline Number	Title	New Policy Section	New Number
A-0001	HMK Cardiac Cath and Angiography	Diagnostic Medical	M-93
A-0048	HMK Breast MRI	Radiology	X-586
A-0087	HMK Somatostatin Receptor Scintigraphy	Diagnostic Medical	M-94
A-0101	HMK Breast Ultrasound	Radiology	X-587
A-0167	HMK Cardiac Pacemaker Implantation or Replacement	Surgery	S-347
A-0171	HMK Sclerotherapy Plus Ligation, Saphenofemoral Junction	Surgery	S-348
A-0172	HMK Saphenous Vein Stripping	Surgery	S-349
A-0174	HMK Saphenous Vein Ablation, Radiofrequency	Surgery	S-567
A-0182	HMK Septoplasty	Surgery	S-568
A-0184	HMK Rhinoplasty	Surgery	S-591
A-0225	HMK Epidural Corticosteroid Injection	Miscellaneous	Z-112
A-0250	HMK Hyperbaric Oxygen	Therapy	S-588
A-0270	HMK Brachytherapy	Radiation Therapy & Nuclear Medicine	R-108
A-0340	HMK Intermittent Pneumatic Compression with Extremity Pump	DME	E-91

A-0423	HMK Stereotactic Radiosurgery	Radiation Therapy & Nuclear Medicine	R-109
A-0425	HMK Saphenous Vein Ablation, Laser	Surgery	S-569
A-0455	HMK Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy	Radiation Therapy & Nuclear Medicine	R-110
A-0532	HMK Breast Cancer Gene Expression Assays	Lab	L-312
A-0579	HMK Thyroid Carcinoma Metastases Imaging	Radiology	X-588
A-0694	HMK Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy	Radiation Therapy & Nuclear Medicine	R-111
A-0735	HMK Stab Phlebectomy	Surgery	S-571
A-0930	HMK Alternating Electric Field Therapy	DME	E-92
A-0948	HMK Disk Arthroplasty, Lumbar	Surgery	S-573
A-1024	HMK Saphenous Vein Ablation, Adhesive Injection	Surgery	S-574
A-1025	HMK Saphenous Vein Ablation, Mechanical Occlusion Chemical Ablation (MOCA)	Surgery	S-575
M-157	HMK Electrophysiologic Study and Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillator (ICD) Insertion	Surgery	S-576
P-1015	HMK Renal Transplant, Pediatric	Surgery	S-590
P-795	HMK Liver Transplant, Pediatric	Surgery	S-577
S-1015	HMK Renal Transplant	Surgery	S-578
S-1320	HMK TAVR	Surgery	S-579
S-310	HMK Cervical Diskectomy or Microdiskectomy, Foraminotomy, Laminotomy	Surgery	S-581
S-320	HMK Cervical Fusion, Anterior	Surgery	S-582
S-330	HMK Cervical Fusion, Posterior	Surgery	S-583
S-340	HMK Cervical Laminectomy	Surgery	S-585
S-795	HMK Liver Transplant	Surgery	S-586
S-820	HMK Lumbar Fusion	Surgery	S-587



# **Comments on These Medical Policies?**

We want to know what you think about our new medical policy changes. Send us an email with any questions or comments that you may have on the new medical policies in this edition of Medical Policy Update.

Write to us at medicalpolicy@highmark.com



# **eSubscribe**

Subscribe to receive electronic email updates and stay informed about changes to medical policies. Sign up here: <a href="Provider Resource Center">Provider Resource Center</a>



# **About this Newsletter**

Medical Policy Update is a monthly newsletter for the health care providers who participate in our networks and submit claims to Highmark using the appropriate HIPAA transactions or claim forms as required by Highmark. This publication focuses only on medical policy and claims administration updates, including coding guidelines and procedure code revisions, and is the sole source for this information. For all other news, information, and updates, be sure to read *Provider News*, available on the <u>Provider Resource Center</u>.

The following entities, which serve the noted regions, are independent licensees of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association: Western and Northeastern PA: Highmark Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Highmark Choice Company, Highmark Health Insurance Company, Highmark Coverage Advantage Inc., Highmark Benefits Group Inc., First Priority Health, First Priority Life or Highmark Senior Health Company. Delaware: Highmark BCBSD Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. West Virginia: Highmark West Virginia Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Highmark Health Insurance Company or Highmark Senior Solutions Company. Western NY: Highmark Western and Northeastern New York Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield.

All references to "Highmark" in this document are references to the Highmark company that is providing the member's health benefit administration and/or to one or more of its affiliated Blue companies.

Note: This publication may contain certain administrative requirements, policies, procedures, or other similar requirements of Highmark Inc. (or changes thereto) as well as interpretations of certain administrative requirements, policies and procedures (hereinafter collectively "requirements") which are binding upon Highmark Inc. and its contracted providers. Therefore, the requirements in this publication supplement the Provider Manual. Pursuant to their contract, Highmark Inc. and such providers must comply with any requirements included herein unless and until such item(s) are subsequently modified in whole or in part.