

## **Important Changes to Volunteer State Health Plan (VSHP) Behavioral and Medical Prior Authorization**

October 8, 2008

In support of the upcoming membership transition in East and West Tennessee for VSHP, the following list of BlueCare and TennCareSelect medical and behavioral health care services will require prior authorization for BlueCare members in **West Tennessee effective November 1, 2008**, and for BlueCare members in **East Tennessee effective January 1, 2009**:

- Transplants and Transplant Evaluations (Effective 11/1/08)
- Orthotics and Prosthetics > \$200
- DME > \$500 for purchase or rental (Claims in excessive of \$500 will pend for Medical Necessity Review)
- All new requests for wheelchairs and accessories require prior authorization regardless of purchase or rental price
- Global OB (Effective 11/1/08)
- SNF-Skilled Nursing Facility
- All food supplement and substitutes including formulas taken by mouth for adults age 21 years and older

Outpatient Services including, but not limited to:

- Arthroscopy
- Endoscopy
- Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy

All services performed by a plastic specialist including, but not limited to:

- Abdominoplasty/Panneculectomy
- Blepharoplasty
- Breast Reduction
- Treatment for Gynecomastia
- Reconstructive Repair for Pectus Excavatum
- Breast Reconstruction
- Vein Ligation
- Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy

High-Technology Radiology (HTI) to be reviewed by Med Solutions (1-800-924-7141): CT, CTA, MRI, MRA, MR Spectroscopy, PET Scans and Nuclear Cardiology, (HTI required for **BlueCare Only**)

The following inpatient behavioral health levels of care require prior authorization for **BlueCare West effective November 1, 2008, and East effective January 1, 2009**:

- Inpatient Psychiatric
- Detoxification
- Substance Abuse Rehabilitation
- Crisis Stabilization
- Residential Treatment Facility
- Partial Hospitalization
- Intensive Outpatient
- Day Treatment
- Applied Behavioral Analysis
- Supportive Employment
- Supported Housing
- Crisis Respite
- Psychiatric Rehabilitation

- 23-hour Observation
- Psychological Testing
- Subacute Psychiatric
- Subacute Substance Abuse
- Electroconvulsive Therapy

Prior authorization requirements are subject to change. Any changes will be communicated via the *BlueAlert provider* newsletter and/or quarterly updates to the *VSHP Provider Administration Manual*.

In the event of an emergency, prior authorization is required within 24 hours or the next business day.

Providers should call Utilization Management at 1-888-423-0131 prior to November 1, 2008, to check the status of an authorization, for questions regarding continuation of care plans, or to obtain prior authorization for services after November 1, 2008. Authorizations may also be obtained via BlueAccess, the secure portion of the company Web site, VSHPTN.com.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this letter, please call the appropriate Provider Service number below:

BlueCare	1-800-468-9736
TennCareSelect	1-800-276-1978

Thank you for your continued support of the TennCare program.