

Transplants

Transplant Case Management
1-888-207-2421

Provider Office
Quick Reference Guide

Commercial Only



Authorization Requirements

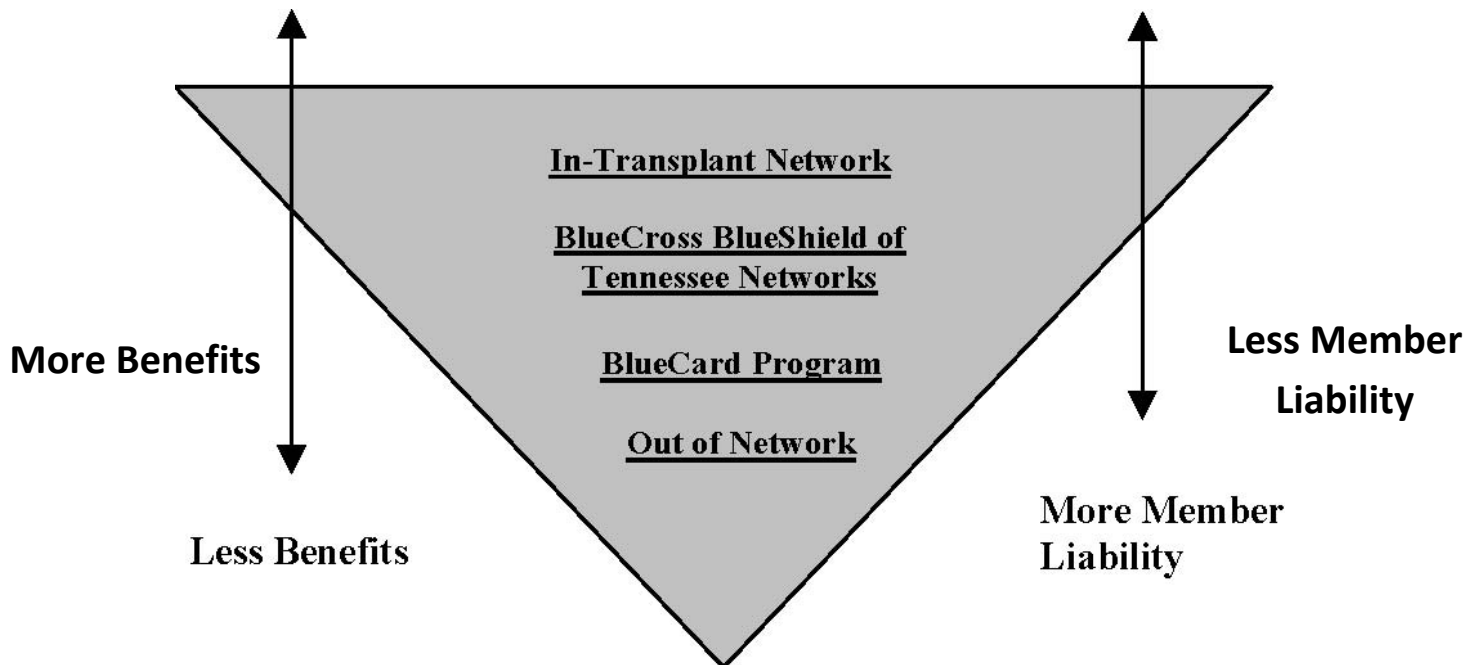
It is important to contact BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Transplant Case Management as soon as you think the member may need an evaluation for transplant.

**Call BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee
Transplant Case Management at
1-888-207-2421
for prior authorization of all transplant services.**

If prior authorization is not obtained, the transplant and transplant-related services may not be covered or reimbursement may be reduced substantially.

BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Member Benefits

Member benefits drive provider reimbursement. Benefits outlined in this guide represent the standard commercial member benefit package. Participation, amounts and percentages may differ by employer group.



Networks

Not all BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee network providers (e.g., Blue Networks P and S) or BlueCard providers participate in our **In-Transplant Network**. Seeking care outside our In-Transplant Network may reduce benefits and the member may be responsible for all or a larger share of the charges. Using a transplant center that is part of the In-Transplant Network provides the member with the highest level of benefits.

Please contact BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee's Transplant Case Management department to verify which hospitals participate in our In-Transplant Network before referring patients for transplant evaluation or services which could result in a transplant (e.g., high-dose chemotherapy).

In-Transplant Network

The BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee In-Transplant Network consists of the Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT), a national network of transplant centers. You can help your members by encouraging use of an In-Transplant Network facility where benefits are highest and less member liability applies.

Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants

The primary In-Transplant Network options for our members are facilities participating as Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT). This national network of transplant centers, administered by the BlueCross BlueShield Association, offers comprehensive transplant services through a coordinated, streamlined program of transplant management.

Participating centers of excellence are major clinical programs and leading research institutions located throughout the country. The BDCT credentials and contracts with facilities by specific organ or transplant type. Participation in the BDCT for one transplant type means the facility is only contracted for that transplant type. Facilities may be designated by additional specialties (e.g., pediatric) within the following contracted transplant types:

- Heart
- Lung (single or bilateral)
- Combination heart-bilateral lung
- Liver
- Pancreas
- Simultaneous pancreas-kidney
- Bone marrow/stem cell (allogeneic or autologous)

Benefits and reimbursement for other transplants (e.g., small bowel) may be available. Contact Transplant Case Management for more information.

BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Network Providers

Participating Blue Networks P and S providers may receive a reduced level of reimbursement when performing transplants for some members (see chart on page 5). Although these facilities are in-network facilities, they are not **In-Transplant Network** facilities. Members are not eligible for the highest level of benefits at these facilities. If benefits are available, provider reimbursement by BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee is limited to the Transplant Maximum Allowable Charge (TMAC) (defined on page 5). The member may be held liable for amounts in excess of the TMAC up to the contracted fee schedule amount.

Kidney Transplants – Participating Blue Networks P and S providers will be reimbursed in accordance with member benefits and network participation for kidney transplants. Kidney transplant claims are not bundled and do not have a transplant global period (see Transplant Global Periods). The BDCT does not contract for kidney transplants. Members may access their standard BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee network for kidney transplants.

Out of Network

If a facility is not contracted with the BDCT, the member's BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee network (e.g., Blue Networks P and S), or with the local BlueCross BlueShield plan, the facility is considered Out of Transplant Network. PPO members may have benefits at these facilities; however, benefits and allowable reimbursement are subject to the TMAC (defined on page 5). Reimbursement and benefits are reduced as compared with In-Transplant Network benefits and reimbursement. Amounts in excess of the TMAC are non-covered and may result in substantial member liability.

In-Transplant Network Global Claims

In-Transplant Network facilities bundle the transplant claims for all inpatient and outpatient services during the transplant global period (see following) and bill the global rate agreed upon in their transplant contract.

Transplant Global Periods

Transplant benefits and reimbursement are calculated as transplant global periods. The global period for these transplant types includes all inpatient and outpatient charges beginning one day prior to the date of admission for transplant for the number of days listed below:

- Bone Marrow/Stem Cell: 50 days
- Lung: 38 days
- Liver: 39 days
- Heart: 38 days
- Combination Heart-Bilateral Lung: 43 days
- Simultaneous Pancreas-Kidney: 34 days
- Pancreas: 34 days
- Kidney: not applicable (see kidney transplants, page 4)

Transplant Maximum Allowable Charge (TMAC)

The Transplant Maximum Allowable Charge (TMAC) is a member benefit limit. The TMAC is the minimum global rate (hospital, physician or ancillary) available at any In-Transplant Network Facility for each transplant type. BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee will pay transplant-related claims (hospital, physician or ancillary) for dates of service during the transplant global period on a claim-by-claim basis until the transplant benefit (TMAC) is exhausted. Member liability beyond the TMAC is listed below and **may be substantial**.

BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Member Liability and Reimbursement Comparison by Facility Type

Facility Type	Member Liability	Reimbursement
In-Transplant Network Facility	Lowest Member Liability	Contracted global rate
	In-Network Copay, Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum	TMAC not applicable
In member's network (Blue Networks P and S) or out-of-state BlueCard facility but not in Transplant Network	Higher Member Liability	
Out-of-Network facility	Highest member liability	