



Clinical Utilization Management Guidelines

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield (Highmark BCBS) partners with Wellpoint companies to administer certain services to Medicaid Managed Care (MMC), Health and Recovery Plan (HARP), Child Health Plus (CHPlus), and Essential Plan (EP) members. Please note, this information is specific to the MMC, HARP, CHPlus, and EP programs only.

Below is a list of the Clinical Utilization Management (UM) Guidelines Highmark BCBS has adopted.

The full list of Medical Policies and Clinical UM Guidelines is publicly available on the [Medical Policy and Clinical UM Guideline subsidiary website](#). Their purpose is to help you provide quality care by reducing inappropriate use of medical resources.

InterQual® Criteria or MCG Care Guidelines are used for:

- Medical necessity review for medical and behavioral health inpatient review.
- Inpatient site of service appropriateness.
- Inpatient rehabilitation and skilled nursing facility review.
- Outpatient-based service(s) or procedure(s) where there is not an established Medical Policy or Clinical UM Guideline.

In addition, Level of Care for Alcohol and Drug Treatment Referral 3.0® is used for substance use disorder services according to state requirements.

Medicaid state contracts, regulatory guidance, CMS requirements, and our Medical Policy/Clinical UM Guidelines supersede MCG Care Guidelines and InterQual Criteria.

Note: We make determinations of medical necessity on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the definition of medical necessity that is contained within the Medicaid state contract, regulatory guidance, CMS requirements, or in our Medical Necessity Criteria Policy ADMIN.00004.

If the request does not meet established criteria guidelines, it will be referred to a licensed physician reviewer with the appropriate clinical expertise to make a decision.

The Clinical Utilization Management Guidelines (CUMG) below, which are indicated as *new*, were adopted by the medical operations committee for Medicaid members.

To view a guideline, visit the [Medical Policies and Clinical UM Guidelines](#) page of our website.

CUMG number	CUMG title	New item
CG-ADMIN-01	Clinical Utilization Management (UM) Guideline for Pre-Payment Review Medical Necessity Determinations When No Other Clinical UM Guideline Exists	
CG-ANC-03	Acupuncture	
CG-ANC-04	Ambulance Services: Air and Water	
CG-ANC-05	Ambulance Services: Ground; Emergent	
CG-ANC-06	Ambulance Services: Ground; Nonemergent	
CG-ANC-07	Inpatient Interfacility Transfers	
CG-ANC-08	Mobile Device-Based Health Management Applications	
CG-DME-03	Neuromuscular Stimulation in the Treatment of Muscle Atrophy	
CG-DME-04	Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation	
CG-DME-05	Cervical Traction Devices for Home Use	
CG-DME-06	Compression Devices for Lymphedema	
CG-DME-07	Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Devices with Digitized or Synthesized Speech Output	
CG-DME-08	Infant Home Apnea Monitors	
CG-DME-10	Durable Medical Equipment	
CG-DME-12	Home Phototherapy Devices for Neonatal Hyperbilirubinemia	
CG-DME-13	Lower Limb Prosthesis	
CG-DME-15	Hospital Beds and Accessories	
CG-DME-16	Pressure-Reducing Support Surfaces	
CG-DME-18	Home Oxygen Therapy	
CG-DME-19	Therapeutic Shoes, Inserts, or Modifications for Individuals with Diabetes	
CG-DME-20	Orthopedic Footwear	
CG-DME-21	External Infusion Pumps for the Administration of Drugs in the Home or Residential Care Settings	
CG-DME-22	Ankle-Foot & Knee-Ankle-Foot Orthoses	
CG-DME-23	Lifting Devices for Use in the Home	
CG-DME-24	Wheeled Mobility Devices: Manual Wheelchairs — Standard, Heavy Duty, and Lightweight	
CG-DME-25	Seat Lift Mechanisms	
CG-DME-26	Back-Up Ventilators in the Home Setting	

CUMG number	CUMG title	New item
CG-DME-30	Prothrombin Time Self-Monitoring Devices	
CG-DME-31	Powered Wheeled Mobility Devices	
CG-DME-33	Wheeled Mobility Devices: Manual Wheelchairs-Ultra- Lightweight	
CG-DME-34	Wheeled Mobility Devices: Wheelchair Accessories	
CG-DME-35	Electric Breast Pumps	
CG-DME-36	Pediatric Gait Trainers	
CG-DME-37	Air Conduction Hearing Aids	
CG-DME-39	Dynamic Low-Load Prolonged-Duration Stretch Devices	
CG-DME-40	Noninvasive Electrical Bone Growth Stimulation of the Appendicular Skeleton	
CG-DME-41	Ultraviolet Light Therapy Delivery Devices for Home Use	
CG-DME-42	Continuous Glucose Monitoring Devices	
CG-DME-43	High Frequency Chest Compression Devices for Airway Clearance	
CG-DME-44	Electric Tumor Treatment Field (TTF) Therapy	
CG-DME-45	Ultrasound Bone Growth Stimulation	
CG-DME-46	Pneumatic Compression Devices for Prevention of Deep Vein Thrombosis of the Extremities in the Home Setting	
CG-DME-47	Noninvasive Home Ventilator Therapy for Respiratory Failure	
CG-DME-48	Vacuum Assisted Wound Therapy in the Outpatient Setting	
CG-DME-49	Standing Frames	
CG-DME-50	Automated Insulin Delivery Systems	
CG-DME-51	External Insulin Pumps	
CG-DME-52	Continuous Passive Motion Devices in the Home Setting	
CG-DME-53	Biomechanical Footwear Therapy	
CG-DME-54	Mechanical Insufflation-Exsufflation Devices	
CG-DME-55	Automated External Defibrillators for Home Use	
CG-DME-57	Lower Extremity Pressure Gradient Compression Stockings	
CG-DME-59	Self-Operated Spinal Unloading Devices	

CUMG number	CUMG title	New item
CG-LAB-09	Drug Testing or Screening in the Context of Substance Use Disorder and Chronic Pain	
CG-LAB-10	Zika Virus Testing	
CG-LAB-11	Vitamin D Testing	
CG-LAB-12	Testing for Oral and Esophageal Cancer	
CG-LAB-13	Skin Nerve Fiber Density Testing	
CG-LAB-14	Respiratory Viral Panel Testing in the Outpatient Setting	
CG-LAB-15	Red Blood Cell Folic Acid Testing	
CG-LAB-16	Serum Amylase Testing	
CG-LAB-17	Molecular Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel (GIPP) Testing for Infectious Diarrhea in the Outpatient Setting	
CG-LAB-19	Laboratory Evaluation of Vitamin B12	
CG-LAB-20	Thyroid Testing	
CG-LAB-21	Serum Iron Testing	
CG-LAB-22	Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests Using Algorithmic Analysis for the Diagnosis of Bacterial Vaginosis	
CG-LAB-24	Outpatient Urine Culture	
CG-LAB-25	Outpatient Glycated Hemoglobin and Protein Testing	
CG-LAB-26	Outpatient Alpha-Fetoprotein Testing	
CG-LAB-27	Human Chorionic Gonadotropin Testing	
CG-LAB-28	Prostate Specific Antigen Testing	
CG-LAB-29	Gamma Glutamyl Transferase Testing	
CG-LAB-30	Outpatient Laboratory-based Blood Glucose Testing	
CG-LAB-32	Cancer Antigen 125 Testing	
CG-LAB-33	Carcinoembryonic Antigen Testing	
CG-LAB-35	Cancer Antigen 19-9 Testing	
CG-LAB-36	Partial Thromboplastin Time (PTT)	
CG-LAB-37	Prothrombin Time (PT)	New
CG-LAB-38	Standard Lipid Panel Testing	New
CG-MED-02	Esophageal pH Monitoring	
CG-MED-08	Home Enteral Nutrition	
CG-MED-19	Custodial Care	
CG-MED-21	Anesthesia Services and Moderate ("Conscious") Sedation	
CG-MED-23	Home Health	

CUMG number	CUMG title	New item
CG-MED-24	Electromyography and Nerve Conduction Studies	
CG-MED-26	Neonatal Levels of Care	
CG-MED-28	Iontophoresis	
CG-MED-34	Monitored Anesthesia Care for Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Procedures	
CG-MED-35	Retinal Telescreening Systems	
CG-MED-37	Intensive Programs for Pediatric Feeding Disorders	
CG-MED-40	External Ambulatory Cardiac Monitors	
CG-MED-41	Moderate to Deep Anesthesia Services for Dental Surgery in the Facility Setting	
CG-MED-46	Ambulatory Electroencephalography	
CG-MED-47	Fundus Photography	
CG-MED-49	Auditory Brainstem Responses (ABRs) and Evoked Otoacoustic Emissions (OAEs) for Hearing Disorders	
CG-MED-50	Visual, Somatosensory, and Motor Evoked Potentials	
CG-MED-52	Allergy Immunotherapy (Subcutaneous)	
CG-MED-53	Cervical Cancer Screening Using Cytology and Human Papillomavirus Detection	
CG-MED-54	Strapping	
CG-MED-57	Cardiac Stress Testing with Electrocardiogram	
CG-MED-59	Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopy in Adults	
CG-MED-61	Preoperative Testing for Low-Risk Invasive Procedures and Surgeries	
CG-MED-62	Resting Electrocardiogram Screening in Adults	
CG-MED-65	Manipulation Under Anesthesia	
CG-MED-66	Cryopreservation of Oocytes or Ovarian Tissue	
CG-MED-68	Therapeutic Apheresis	
CG-MED-69	Inhaled Nitric Oxide	
CG-MED-70	Wireless Capsule Endoscopy for Gastrointestinal Image and the Patency Capsule	
CG-MED-71	Chronic Wound Care in the Home or Outpatient Setting	
CG-MED-73	Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (Systemic/Topical)	
CG-MED-78	Anesthesia Services for Interventional Pain Management Procedures	
CG-MED-79	Diaphragmatic/Phrenic Nerve Stimulation and Diaphragm Pacing Systems	

CUMG number	CUMG title	New item
CG-MED-81	High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) for Oncologic Indications	
CG-MED-83	Site of Care: Specialty Pharmaceuticals	
CG-MED-84	Non-Obstetric Gynecologic Duplex Ultrasonography of the Abdomen and Pelvis in the Outpatient Setting	
CG-MED-85	Posterior Segment Optical Coherence Tomography	
CG-MED-86	Enhanced External Counterpulsation in the Outpatient Setting	
CG-MED-89	Home Parenteral Nutrition	
CG-MED-90	Chelation Therapy	
CG-MED-91	Remote Therapeutic and Physiologic Monitoring Services	
CG-MED-92	Foot Care Services	
CG-MED-94	Vestibular Function Testing	
CG-MED-95	Transanal Irrigation	
CG-MED-96	Prefabricated External Infant Ear Molding Systems	
CG-MED-97	Biofeedback and Neurofeedback	
CG-MED-98	Parenteral Antibiotics for the Treatment of Lyme Disease	
CG-MED-99	Intradialytic Parenteral Nutrition	
CG-MED-100	Surface Electrical Stimulation Devices for Headache and Migraine	
CG-MED-101	Home Hospice	
CG-MED-102	Dichoptic Digital Therapy for Amblyopia	
CG-MED-103	Assisted Reproductive Technology	
CG-MED-104	Percutaneous Electrical Nerve Field Stimulation (PENFS)	
CG-MED-105	Selected Sleep Testing Services	
CG-OR-PR-02	Prefabricated and Prophylactic Knee Braces	
CG-OR-PR-03	Custom-made Knee Braces	
CG-OR-PR-04	Cranial Remodeling Bands and Helmets (Cranial Orthoses)	
CG-OR-PR-05	Myoelectric Upper Extremity Prosthesis Devices	
CG-OR-PR-06	Spinal Orthoses: Thoracic-Lumber-Sacral (TLSO), Lumbar-Sacral (LSO), and Lumber	
CG-OR-PR-08	Microprocessor Controlled Lower Limb Prosthesis	
CG-OR-PR-09	Microprocessor Controlled Knee-Ankle-Foot Orthosis	

CUMG number	CUMG title	New item
CG-OR-PR-10	Osseointegrated Limb Prostheses	
CG-RAD-26	Maternity Ultrasound in the Outpatient Setting	
CG-RAD-27	Scrotal Ultrasound	
CG-RAD-28	Transrectal Ultrasonography	
CG-RAD-29	X-rays for Low Back Pain	
CG-RAD-30	Non-Obstetrical Transvaginal Ultrasonography	
CG-RAD-31	Three-Dimensional (3-D) Rendering of Imaging Studies	
CG-RAD-32	Bone Mineral Density Testing Measurement	
CG-REHAB-02	Outpatient Cardiac Rehabilitation	
CG-REHAB-03	Pulmonary Rehabilitation	
CG-REHAB-07	Skilled Nursing and Skilled Rehabilitation Services (Outpatient)	
CG-REHAB-08	Private Duty Nursing in the Home Setting	
CG-REHAB-12	Rehabilitative and Habilitative Services in the Home Setting: Physical Medicine/Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech-Language Pathology	
CG-SURG-01	Colonoscopy	
CG-SURG-03	Blepharoplasty, Blepharoptosis Repair and Brow Lift	
CG-SURG-07	Vertical Expandable Prosthetic Titanium Rib	
CG-SURG-09	Temporomandibular Disorders	
CG-SURG-10	Ambulatory or Outpatient Surgery Center Procedures	
CG-SURG-12	Penile Prosthesis Implantation	
CG-SURG-15	Endometrial Ablation	
CG-SURG-17	Trigger Point Injections	
CG-SURG-18	Septoplasty	
CG-SURG-24	Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery (FESS)	
CG-SURG-25	Injection Treatment for Morton Neuroma	
CG-SURG-29	Lumbar Discography	
CG-SURG-30	Tonsillectomy for Children with or without Adenoidectomy	
CG-SURG-31	Treatment of Keloids and Scar Revision	
CG-SURG-34	Diagnostic Infertility Surgery	
CG-SURG-35	Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)	
CG-SURG-36	Adenoidectomy	
CG-SURG-37	Destruction of Pre-Malignant Skin Lesions	

CUMG number	CUMG title	New item
CG-SURG-40	Cataract Removal Surgery for Adults	
CG-SURG-41	Surgical Strabismus Correction	
CG-SURG-46	Myringotomy and Tympanostomy Tube Insertion	
CG-SURG-50	Assistant Surgeons	
CG-SURG-51	Outpatient Cystourethroscopy	
CG-SURG-56	Diagnostic Fiberoptic Flexible Laryngoscopy	
CG-SURG-57	Diagnostic Nasal Endoscopy	
CG-SURG-58	Radioactive Seed Localization of Nonpalpable Breast Lesions	
CG-SURG-61	Cryosurgical or Radiofrequency Ablation to Treat Solid Tumors Outside the Liver	
CG-SURG-70	Gastric Electrical Stimulation	
CG-SURG-71	Reduction Mammoplasty	
CG-SURG-72	Endothelial Keratoplasty	
CG-SURG-73	Balloon Sinus Ostial Dilation	
CG-SURG-75	Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgical (TEM) Excision of Rectal Lesions	
CG-SURG-76	Carotid, Vertebral, and Intracranial Artery Stent Placement with or without Angioplasty	
CG-SURG-77	Refractive Surgery	
CG-SURG-78	Cryosurgical, Radiofrequency, Microwave, or Percutaneous Ethanol Ablation to Treat Solid Tumors in the Liver	
CG-SURG-79	Implantable Infusion Pumps	
CG-SURG-81	Cochlear Implants and Auditory Brainstem Implants	
CG-SURG-82	Bone-Anchored and Bone Conduction Hearing Aids	
CG-SURG-83	Bariatric Surgery and Other Treatments for Clinically Severe Obesity	
CG-SURG-84	Mandibular/Maxillary (Orthognathic) Surgery	
CG-SURG-88	Mastectomy for Gynecomastia	
CG-SURG-89	Radiofrequency Neurolysis and Pulsed Radiofrequency Therapy for Trigeminal Neuralgia	
CG-SURG-90	Mohs Micrographic Surgery	
CG-SURG-91	Minimally Invasive Ablative Procedures for Epilepsy	
CG-SURG-92	Paraesophageal Hernia Repair	
CG-SURG-95	Sacral Nerve Stimulation for Urinary Retention, Urinary Incontinence, and Fecal Incontinence	

CUMG number	CUMG title	New item
CG-SURG-99	Panniculectomy and Abdominoplasty	
CG-SURG-100	Laser Trabeculoplasty and Laser Peripheral Iridotomy	
CG-SURG-101	Ablative Techniques as a Treatment for Barrett Esophagus	
CG-SURG-103	Penile Circumcision	
CG-SURG-104	Intraoperative Neurophysiological Monitoring	
CG-SURG-105	Corneal Collagen Cross-Linking	
CG-SURG-106	Venous Angioplasty with or without Stent Placement or Venous Stenting Alone	
CG-SURG-108	Stereotactic Radiofrequency Pallidotomy	
CG-SURG-112	Carpal Tunnel Decompression Surgery	
CG-SURG-113	Tonsillectomy with or without Adenoidectomy for Adults	
CG-SURG-114	Ophthalmic use of Nd: YAG Laser for Posterior Capsulotomy	
CG-SURG-115	Mechanical Embolectomy for Treatment of Stroke	
CG-SURG-116	Surgical Treatment of Hyperhidrosis	
CG-SURG-117	Balloon Dilation of the Eustachian Tubes	
CG-SURG-118	Intraocular Anterior Segment Aqueous Drainage Devices (without extraocular reservoir)	
CG-SURG-120	Vagus Nerve Stimulation	
CG-SURG-121	Fetal Surgery for Prenatally Diagnosed Malformations	
CG-SURG-122	Lingual Frenotomy for Ankyloglossia-Related Feeding Difficulties	
CG-SURG-123	Autologous Fat Grafting and Injectable Soft Tissue Fillers	
CG-SURG-124	Viscocalanostomy	
CG-SURG-125	Canaloplasty	
CG-SURG-126	Tibial Nerve Stimulation	
CG-SURG-127	Products for Wound Healing and Soft Tissue Grafting: Medically Necessary Uses	
CG-SURG-129	Internal Rib Fixation Systems	
CG-SURG-130	Microsurgical Procedures for the Prevention or Treatment of Lymphedema	
CG-SURG-131	Transcatheter Aortic Heart Valve Procedures	New
CG-SURG-132	Transendoscopic Therapy for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, Dysphagia, or Gastroparesis	New

CUMG number	CUMG title	New item
CG-SURG-133	Intraluminal Left Atrial Appendage Closure Devices	New
CG-THER-RAD-07	Intravascular Coronary and Non-Coronary Brachytherapy	
CG-TRANS-02	Kidney Transplantation	
CG-TRANS-03	Donor Lymphocyte Infusion for Hematologic Malignancies after Allogeneic Hematopoietic Progenitor Cell Transplantation	
CG-TRANS-04	Umbilical Cord Blood Progenitor Cell Collection, Storage, and Transplantation	New