

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ALL-EMPLOYEES MEMORANDUM

DATE:

SEPTEMBER 16, 2021

EMPLOYEE MEDICAL HEALTH PLAN OF SUFFOLK COUNTY (EMHP) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARGING THE INFUSION SITE OF CARE CHANGE EFFECTIVE October 1, 2021

As you are aware on July 26, 2021, the Employee Medical Health Plan of Suffolk County announced that effective **October 1, 2021**, any member utilizing infusion benefits for the first time, with the exception of any infusion relating to oncology treatment, shall be required to receive the infusion in a non-hospital based setting. However, if it is determined that the infusion must be administered in a hospital setting due to medical necessity and appropriateness, as determined by the EMHP's third party administrator, Empire BlueCross BlueShield ("EBCBS"), it will be covered based on EMHP plan rules. All Infusion Therapies require Prior Authorization before the commencement of treatment, which Prior Authorization is subject to annual review by EBCBS.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: For those members who are currently receiving Infusion Therapy in a hospital based setting and have a Prior Authorization which extends past October 1, 2021, you will be able to continue your Infusion Therapy at your current location up until your Prior Authorization expires.

Please be advised that once the Prior Authorization expires, you will be required to change your Site of Care to a non-hospital based setting for any future treatment unless it is determined by EBCBS that a hospital based setting is medically necessary and appropriate.

To locate a non-hospital based infusion site, you can call and speak with an Empire Health Guide representative at 1-800-939-7515 OR visit the Empire BlueCross BlueShield/EMHP website at www.empireblue.com/emhp and search the "Find Care" page to find a location nearest to you.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Employee Benefits via email at ebu@suffolkcountyny.gov or by phone at 631-853-4866

LISA BLACK
CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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