

13-2019

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ALL-EMPLOYEES MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 17, 2019

EMPLOYEE MEDICAL HEALTH PLAN OF SUFFOLK COUNTY (EMHP)
IMPORTANT CHANGE TO YOUR CHIROPRACTIC BENEFITS

Effective December 1, 2019

As part of our continuing effort to provide our members with important updates regarding the Employee Medical Health Plan of Suffolk County (EMHP), the Labor/Management Committee, which oversees the EMHP, would like to provide you with important information concerning your chiropractic benefits.

Effective **December 1, 2019**, the EMHP will implement the ASH Chiropractic Medical Management Program through Empire BlueCross BlueShield (EBCBS), the plan's third party administrator, to verify the medical necessity of all Chiropractic benefits (both in and out of network) after ten (10) visits. Currently, the Chiropractic benefit requires precertification after 15 visits. Therefore, effective December 1, 2019, you, the patient, will be responsible to seek precertification for any Chiropractic services rendered after the 10th visit. Your physician can seek the precertification on your behalf.


This new rule applies to chiropractic services rendered by participating chiropractic professionals in the State of New York, who can call for precertification beyond the 10th visit.

If the participating chiropractic provider practices outside of NYS (but participates with a local "Blue" plan) then it is incumbent upon the member/patient to call. The provider may call on the member/patient's behalf but they are not obligated to.

If the chiropractic professional does not participate in EBCBS' networks in or outside of NYS, then you, the member/patient must call for precertification in order to have any visits after the 10th considered as payable. This out of network chiropractic professional may call on the member/patient's behalf as well.

If you fail to obtain precertification after your 10th visit, whether your services are in or outside of NYS, and whether rendered by an in- or out-of-network chiropractic professional, the plan will not pay benefits for the 11th visit on.

To find an in-network Chiropractor in your area please refer to the EMHP's medical administrator's, Empire BlueCross BlueShield (EBCBS), website at www.empireblue.com/emhp or call EBCBS at 1(800)939-7515.


Dennis M. Cohen
Chief Deputy County Executive

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