

# Bulletin

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December 2021 - Providers Volume 5

## Welcome

Welcome to the fifth edition of the Texas Health Aetna provider bulletin! TH+A is excited to share new additions to our Texas Health + Aetna website and key integrating initiatives. We hope you appreciate our efforts to be more interactive and collaborative. If you are receiving this bulletin from another source and would like to receive it directly, contact us at [texashealthaetnaneetworkteam@aetna.com](mailto:texashealthaetnaneetworkteam@aetna.com).

This will be TH+A's last newsletter for 2021; the next edition will release April 2022. Feel free to let us know if there are specific topics you would like covered in the future by emailing us at the e-mail above. Please enjoy this bulletin and the holiday season.

## Maternity Landing Page

Texas Health Aetna has designed a maternity landing page. The page will provide a listing of resources available to the Texas Health Aetna members. The site is available to members, care managers and providers. To access the site, click on the following link:

<https://www.texashealthaetna.com/en/members/maternity-programs.html>

## Oncology Landing Page

Texas Health Aetna has designed an oncology landing page. The page will provide a listing of resources available to the Texas Health Aetna members. The site is available to members, care managers and providers. To access the site, click on the following link:

<https://www.texashealthaetna.com/en/members/support-for-cancer-patients.html>

## Diabetic Retinopathy Exam

CVS® MinuteClinic® locations, including those within the new CVS® HealthHUB™ facilities, are now offering diabetic retinopathy exams. During the appointment, the provider will assess the patient and then perform the diabetic retinopathy exam. The images will be sent for interpretation and a written report will be provided. To share the results with the patient's provider, the patient must agree to release the results. MinuteClinic locations are unable to take electronic referrals at this time, so a hardcopy referral sent with the patient is recommended. If a patient does not have a referral, the provider at these facilities will perform a higher-level assessment to establish care with the patient. An appointment may be scheduled on-line using the following link:

<https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/services/diabetic-retinopathy-exam>

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## OBGYN to Gynecology?

Are you an OBGYN who is now only focusing on Gynecology & Women's Health and no longer delivering babies? Please let us know to best help our members navigate their provider choice! Email us at [TexasHealthAetnaNetworkTeam@aetna.com](mailto:TexasHealthAetnaNetworkTeam@aetna.com)

## Changing Hospital Privileges

The use of in-network facilities is essential for enhanced data sharing and overall cost savings for TH+A members. If your hospital privileges have changed, this may have a significant impact on our member's cost of care. Please let us know if any of your hospital privileges have changed by emailing us at [TexasHealthAetnaNetworkTeam@aetna.com](mailto:TexasHealthAetnaNetworkTeam@aetna.com)

For a listing of in-network hospitals, please see our list here:

[https://www.texashealthaetna.com/en/documents/THA\\_HospitalList.pdf](https://www.texashealthaetna.com/en/documents/THA_HospitalList.pdf)

## Site of Care & Site of Service Reminder

This is a reminder that Texas Health Aetna has implemented on December 1, 2021, a medical necessity requirement and preauthorization requirement change that were previously announced in September 2021 Office Link:

### eviCore health care Site of Care medical necessity requirement

Texas Health Aetna & Aetna® added a Site of Care medical necessity requirement to the Enhanced Clinical Review program for fully insured commercial members. As part of this change, advanced radiology imaging procedures (MR and CT scans) will be reviewed by eviCore healthcare for applicable medical necessity criteria prior to authorization of services in the hospital outpatient setting. An advanced imaging procedure at a hospital outpatient site is considered medically necessary when cases involve certain factors. Examples are those where:

- the individual is under 18 years of age
- obstetrical observation is required
- perinatology services are required
- there are imaging needs related to transplant services at an approved transplant facility
- there is a known contrast allergy, and use of that contrast agent is planned
- there is a known chronic disease for which prior high-tech imaging procedures have been used for the diagnosis, management, or ongoing surveillance of the disease at the hospital-affiliated imaging department
- there is a COVID-19 diagnosis after positive test for SARS-CoV-2
- there are no other appropriate alternative sites for the individual to undergo the imaging procedure for any of the following reasons:
  1. the surgery or procedure is being performed at the hospital, and preoperative/procedural or postoperative/procedural imaging is an integral component of the care

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2. moderate or deep sedation or general anesthesia is required for the imaging procedure, and a freestanding facility capable of providing such sedation is not available
3. equipment needed to accommodate the size of the individual is available only at a hospital-affiliated imaging facility
4. the individual has a documented diagnosis of claustrophobia requiring open magnetic resonance imaging, which is not available in a freestanding facility
5. imaging outside the hospital-affiliated imaging department or facility is expected to adversely impact or delay care

All requested advanced radiology procedures that don't meet the required criteria will be considered non- medically necessary unless performed at a freestanding or office location. This policy will apply to all existing Enhanced Clinical Review program markets.

### Site-of-service precertification requirements

We implemented site-of-service precertification requirements for certain procedures. We do not require precertification for services performed in an ambulatory surgical facility or an office. We do require precertification for procedures performed in an outpatient hospital setting. Our goal is to ensure that our members receive quality care at the most appropriate site of service based on individual needs.

We consider the following during the precertification process:

- The need for access to more intensive services or medical support
- The availability of a participating network facility
- Physician privileges
- Other specialty requirements

For a list of procedure codes that require precertification under this policy, log in to the [Availity provider portal](#) and go to:

- Texas Health Aetna Payer Space
- Resources
- Clinical Resources
- Site of Service Outpatient Surgical Procedure List

### Let's keep in touch

Accurate e-mail addresses are important for disseminating information to providers and practices quickly and efficiently.

**To update or share your e-mail address with TH+A, please send an email to [texashealthaetnainetworkteam@aetna.com](mailto:texashealthaetnainetworkteam@aetna.com).**