PROVIDER Blue

Reminder: Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 To End

BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina has closely monitored the status of COVID-19 to ensure our provider community reained abreast of any changes in policy or procedure related to the care of your patients, our members. On Feb. 9, 2023, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the public health emergency (PHE) for COVID-19 will end on **May 11, 2023**.
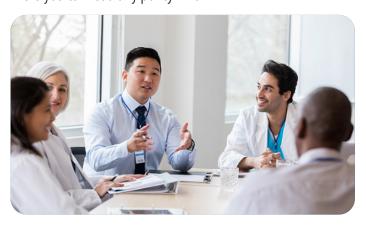
As COVID-19 remains a priority over the next several months, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will work to ensure a smooth transition. Throughout the PHE, CMS used a combination of emergency authority waivers, regulations, enforcement discretion and sub-regulatory guidance to ensure patients had access to care. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, expanded some of these flexibilities. Others are no longer needed.

BlueCross will continue to keep its providers aware of the upcoming changes. We encourage you to review the *fact sheet** on the HHS website. Read details from CMS regarding *waivers and flexibilities** to learn more about the changes to come.

Medical Policy Updates

BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina frequently revises the medical policies used to make clinical determin tions for a member's coverage. Review the *latest medical policy updates*.

We strongly encourage you to visit the *Medical Policies and Clinical Guidelines* pages to stay abreast of these changes. There you can read any policy in full.

Upcoming Webinars

During the first two quarters, we host webinars to educate our provider community. We are presenting these topics this year:
- Provider 101 – May 10, 2023
- Provider Enrollment – May 17, 2023

We host all webinars through Microsoft Teams. Each one is from noon – 1 p.m. You can *sign up* for any available sessions. We look forward to your attendance.

*This links to a third-party website. HHS and CMS are responsible for the content and privacy policies on their sites.