



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Illinois**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois Provider Manual

HMO Scope of Benefits Section

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, a Division of Health Care Service Corporation,
a Mutual Legal Reserve Company, an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Abortion

Benefit

Coverage for Pregnancy termination (Abortion) is a covered benefit if referred by the Primary Care Physician (PCP) Women's Principal Health Care Provider (WPHCP). In the case of IPAs that do not retain the responsibility for abortion referrals the HMO must refer for the procedure.

Effective June 13, 2019, for policies that are newly issued, or upon those that are revised, renewed or amended the lifetime limit will be removed upon that event.

Effective June 13, 2019, Group Blue Precision HMOSM members (Group # starting with an R) and BlueCare DirectSM members (Group # starting with an A): elective abortions are in benefit upon the new issue, revision, renewal or amendment.

Effective Jan. 1, 2020, elective abortions are in benefit for Individual Blue Precision HMO, BlueCare Direct and Blue FocusCareSM members (Group #s starting with an I).

Non-surgical abortions (RU 486) are a covered medical benefit if the employer group's policy provides coverage of elective abortions. The abortion pill is not available through pharmacies and is only distributed to physicians who have signed the FDA Prescriber's Agreement Form. (Information can be found on the FDA website: www.fda.gov).

Paid by	Professional Charges (including drug charges for RU 486)	IPA (if referred by IPA) HMO (if referred by HMO)
	Facility Charges	HMO

Coverage and IPA Variations

Blue Precision HMO, BlueCare Direct and Blue FocusCare members – Elective abortions were not a covered benefit. An abortion was only covered in cases of rape, incest or endangerment to mother. (See above reference regarding coverage change).

Effective July 1, 2017, elective and Therapeutic abortions are not in benefit for members of the Archdiocese of Chicago Employer Group. The group numbers are: H00120, H00119, B00599, and B00598.

Effective Jan. 1, 2020, Abortion services are not in benefit for members of the Wheaton College Employer Group. The group number is B93046. The Abortion pill (Plan B/RU 486), is also not in benefit.

Certain employer groups do not provide any coverage for abortion in their HMO contract. **Eligibility for benefit should be predetermined in all cases.**

IPAs vary in retention of responsibility for abortion referrals. If the IPA does not retain the responsibility for abortion referrals, members should be directed to call 312-653-6600 for a referral for abortion.