

ORGAN TRANSPLANTS

Effective July 1, 2009 Covered Services for Covered Organ Transplant Procedures must be incurred at a Blue Cross Blue Shield Center of Excellence known as the Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT). The BDCT includes transplant programs that demonstrate exceptional clinical judgment and technical skill and selects them based on strict criteria including outcomes. The BDCT is available to our participants for all COVERED TRANSPLANTS except Kidney and Cornea. The Blue Cross/Blue Shield PPO Provider network will be used for Kidney and Cornea transplants.

COVERED ORGAN TRANSPLANT PROCEDURES: Bone Marrow, Heart, Heart and Lung, Lung, Liver, Cornea, Kidney, Stem Cell (after review), Pancreas and combinations such as Kidney/Pancreas and Kidney/Liver (after review).

COVERED SERVICES INCLUDE: Organ and tissue procurement; Transportation, lodging, and meal costs for recipient and companion or two companions if the recipient is a minor; Hospital and surgical charges; Radiology and laboratory services; private duty nursing care (as needed based on review of the facts and circumstances); Durable medical equipment; Local ambulance services; Medications; and Charges for services to a donor without medical coverage.

Prior authorization is required for ALL COVERED TRANSPLANTS so you will need to call the Administrative Office. Coverage is limited to human-to-human organ or tissue transplants. Travel expenses are limited to \$10,000. Donor expenses for a donor without medical coverage are limited to \$25,000. There is no coverage for transplants performed outside of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Centers of Excellence known as the Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants. There is no coverage for Kidney and Cornea transplants performed outside of the Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO Provider network. Participants who donate their organs, are not covered for their donor expenses unless the donation is to another covered participant; in which case donor expenses up to \$25,000 are covered.