

Important Update **Changes Coming for Hip and Knee Surgery** **Utilization Management Program**

We continuously review our business processes to ensure they meet the needs of our members. As a result of a recent review, we are making changes to our commercial hip and knee surgery utilization management (UM) program. Currently, our hip and knee surgery UM program for commercial health plans is administered by Magellan Healthcare. Effective **Dec. 19, 2021**, Florida Blue will administer the program and manage preservice review requests.

What This Means for You

- Starting Dec. 19, 2021, Magellan Healthcare will no longer manage preservice review requests for our commercial hip and knee surgery UM programs, meaning you will no longer contact Magellan for these surgeries.
- On or after Dec. 19, 2021, you will submit preservice review requests for hip and knee surgeries to Florida Blue through Availity®¹ at [availity.com](https://www.availity.com). Please note: If you do not request a preservice review for non-emergency hip and knee surgeries from Florida Blue starting Dec 19, claims may be denied if medical necessity criteria are not met.
- You will be able to appeal preservice and post-service review decisions through Florida Blue's standard appeal process.

This change will apply to Florida Blue patients enrolled in the following commercial health plans:

- BlueCare® HMO (Health Options)
- myBlue HMO (Health Options)
- SimplyBlue HMO (Health Options)
- BlueSelect (BlueSelect)
- BlueOptionsSM (NetworkBlue)

Note: This change does not apply to our Florida Blue Medicare Advantage HMO and PPO health plans.

¹Availity, LLC is a multi-payer joint company venture company. For more information, visit [availity.com](https://www.availity.com). Florida Blue is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Procedures Included in the Hip and Knee Surgery UM Program

The following non-emergency surgeries performed in any setting require preservice review:

Knee Surgery

- Revision Knee Arthroplasty
- Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA)
- Partial-Unicompartmental Knee Arthroplasty(UKA)
- Knee Manipulation under Anesthesia (MUA)
- Knee Ligament Reconstruction/Repair
- Knee Meniscectomy/Meniscal Repair/Meniscal Transplant
- Knee Surgery – Other (includes synovectomy, loose body removal, diagnostic knee arthroscopy, debridement with or without chondroplasty, lateral release/patellar realignment, articular cartilage realignment, articular cartilage restoration)

Hip Surgery

- Revision/Conversion Hip Arthroplasty
- Total Hip Arthroplasty/Resurfacing
- Femoroacetabular Impingement (FAI) Hip Surgery (includes: CAM/pincher & labral repair)
- Hip Surgery – Other (includes synovectomy, loose body removal, debridement, diagnostic hip arthroscopy, and extra-articular arthroscopy)

Procedures included in the program are subject to change. For a detailed list of hip and knee surgeries that are part of this UM program, please refer to the *Manual for Physicians and Providers* at floridablue.com/providers, and select [Provider Manual](#).

What Happens Next?

For now, continue to use Magellan Healthcare for preservice review of the procedures listed above following standard processes. Starting Dec. 19, 2021, submit preservice review requests to Florida Blue through Availity at availity.com.

Need More Information?

Visit our website at floridablue.com/providers and select [Provider Manual](#) to refer to the *Manual for Physicians and Providers*.

¹Availity, LLC is a multi-payer joint company venture company. For more information, visit availity.com. Florida Blue is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.