

October 2025

## Medical and Payment Policy Updates

Effective December 1, 2025, payment and medical policy updates go into effect. Please be sure to take time to review them.

[Medical Policy Updates](#)

[Payment Policy Updates](#)

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## Vaccine Coverage

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont is committed to ensuring access to vaccines that protect individuals and communities from serious illness. The decision to receive a vaccine is made between patients and their health care providers, and we remain committed to maintaining rigorous, evidence-based processes to evaluate coverage policies.

We will continue covering all immunizations that were recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) on January 1, 2025, with no cost-sharing through 2026.

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## Pharmacy Updates

Starting January 1, 2026, new formulary change will go into effect. More information will be shared next month, so you'll know what to expect and how to plan ahead.

If you have drug coverage or clinical questions, reach out to our Clinical Pharmacist, Amy Stoll, PharmD at [stolla@bcbsvt.com](mailto:stolla@bcbsvt.com) or 802-371-3657.

- [Current Drug Policies](#)
- [List of Covered Medications](#)

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## 2026 Coverage Changes for GLP-1 Drugs FDA-Approved for Weight Loss

### Coverage Changes

Beginning January 1, 2026, Blue Cross VT will no longer cover prescription GLP-1 drugs that are FDA-approved for weight loss, such as Wegovy®, Zepbound®, and Saxenda®, for Qualified Health Plan (QHP), Blue Edge Business, and Vermont Education Health Initiative (VEHI) members.

Blue Cross VT and VEHI members who are impacted by this coverage change will be notified by mail. If they choose to continue using GLP-1 medications for weight loss on or after January 1, 2026, they will be responsible for the full cost. For additional information on this upcoming change in drug coverage, please contact our Customer Service team at (800) 247-2583, or [view our member FAQ document](#).

## Coverage Not Impacted

Coverage for GLP-1 drugs will continue for all plan members who meet the following criteria:

- Members with diagnosed Type 2 diabetes.
- Adult members with established cardiovascular disease and obesity who are prescribed Wegovy® to reduce the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE).

**Potential Exception:** Our large group clients in our fully insured products and our Blue Edge Classic clients have the option to continue coverage for GLP-1s for weight loss in their plan.

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## Risk Coding Initiative

Our Risk Adjustment Data Validation audit (RADV) with our vendor Reveleer is coming to a close. Please submit any current medical record requests to them as soon as possible.

As early as October, you may start receiving medical record requests from our new vendor, Datavant. These requests are different from the RADV audit; they are for our Risk Coding Initiative project that takes place in the fall, winter, and spring. If you receive a medical record request from them, please be sure to submit the requested records.

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## ICD-10 Code Updates

Every October 1, ICD-10-CM codes undergo major updates, including the additions and deletions of codes and changes to code descriptions and guidelines. Recent additions include the appearance of COVID-19, the necessity of “in remission” codes for certain types of cancers, and for atrial septal defects.

It is important to use the most up-to-date code set to avoid incorrectly describing a member’s medical condition, impacting claim denials and additional work for your office staff. Check out our new coding tips sheets on our website.

[Coding Tip Sheets](#)

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## Prior Approval List Update

Code Added: Code 0047U was previously omitted from the Gene Expression Profiling and Protein Biomarkers for Prostate Cancer Management Medical Policy. The code has been added to our prior approval list.

[View Update](#)

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## Preventive Care Guide Updates

The preventive care guide has additional codes for the Antiretroviral Therapy for Prevention of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Breast Pump and Related Supplies sections.

[View Guide Updates](#)

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## Provider Handbook Updates

The following sections of the provider handbook have been updated: Claim Specific Guidelines, Dental Care, and Blue Cross VT/The Vermont Health Plan (TVHP) Contracts.

Handbook Updates

## Fourth Quarter CAA Directory Validation

### Important Reminders

- Fourth Quarter CAA Directory validations will be released on or around October 4, 2025.
- You must complete the directory validation by Tuesday, November 4, 2025, or you will be removed from our provider directory and risk possible contract termination.
- The CAA directory validation is sent by email from [noreply@onbaseonline.com](mailto:noreply@onbaseonline.com).
  - If you receive more than one email, please respond to all emails received. Some providers have multiple providers files, and therefore, multiple verifications need to occur.
- If your practice was removed from the network directly due to non-response of a previous quarterly validation, this is your opportunity to be added back into the network directory.

Details about the CAA Directory Validation and instructions to complete the process are located on the [Enrollment and Credentialing webpage](#), under the “CAA Directory Validation” section.

If you have questions, please call (888) 449-0443 option 2 or email [CAA@bcbsvt.com](mailto:CAA@bcbsvt.com).

### Adaptive Maintenance Reminder

We sent our quarterly adaptive maintenance email on September 16, outlining the new and revised codes for October 1, 2025. Be sure to check your email or visit our [Provides News & Updates webpage](#) to view the notification.

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