

How to submit prior authorization requests for medical benefit drugs

For Blue Cross commercial and BCN commercial

Revised October 2025

Follow these steps to submit prior authorization requests when prescribing most drugs covered under the medical benefit for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network commercial members.

Note: The information below doesn't apply to oncology medical benefit drugs.

Michigan prescribers

To submit prior authorization requests electronically:

1. Log in to our provider portal (availability.com*).
2. Click *Payer Spaces* on the menu bar and click the BCBSM and BCN logo.
3. Click the *Medical and Pharmacy Benefit Drug Prior Auth* tile on the Applications tab.
4. In the Medical and Pharmacy Drug PA Portal, click the *Authorization* menu and select *Add New*.
5. Enter the member's last name, date of birth, subscriber ID and authorization start date.
6. Click *Search* and then select the appropriate member in the member list.
7. Complete all required fields and submit the request.

If you're registered for Availity Essentials™ but aren't able to access it, submit the prior authorization request using the *Medication Authorization Request Form*, or *MARF*, that's on the next page. Fax it to the number on the form.

Non-Michigan prescribers

When submitting prior authorization requests, prescribers located outside of Michigan should complete the appropriate steps on the [Getting Started](#) page on **authorizations.bcbsm.com**. Look in the *Submit prior authorization requests* section.

If a non-Michigan prescriber is unable to submit a prior authorization request using the instructions on the webpage, submit the request using the *Medication Authorization Request Form*, or *MARF*, that's on the next page. Fax it to the number on the form.

Information about the Medical and Pharmacy Drug PA Portal

To learn how to use the Medical and Pharmacy Drug PA Portal, view a recorded demo by going to Blue Cross and BCN's Provider Training site, searching on *drugs* and launching the *Medical and Pharmacy Drug Prior Auth portal overview mini module*.

For detailed information about accessing the Provider Training site, see the "Online training" section of the [Training Tools](#) page on **authorizations.bcbsm.com**.

*Clicking this link means that you're leaving the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network website. While we recommend this site, we're not responsible for its content.

Availity® is an independent company that contracts with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network to offer provider portal and electronic data interchange services.

Blue Cross Blue Shield/Blue Care Network of Michigan
Medication Authorization Request Form
Spravato™ (esketamine) HCPCS CODE: J0013



This form is to be used by participating physicians to obtain coverage for Spravato. For commercial members only, please complete this form and submit via fax to 1-877-325-5979. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact BCBSM Provider Relations and Servicing or the Medical Drug Helpdesk at 1-800-437-3803 for assistance.

PATIENT INFORMATION	PHYSICIAN INFORMATION
Name	Name
ID Number	Specialty
D.O.B. ☐ Male ☐ Female	Address
Pt weight (in kg) Date recorded: _____	City /State/Zip
Diagnosis	Phone/Fax: P: () - F: () -
Drug Name ☐ Spravato	NPI
Dose and Quantity	Contact Person
Directions	Contact Person Phone / Ext.
Date of Service(s)	

STEP 1: DISEASE STATE INFORMATION

1. Is this an initial request or continuation of therapy? ☐ Initiation ☐ Continuation *Date patient started therapy:* _____
2. Please provide the NPI number for the place of administration: _____
3. **Initiation AND Continuation of therapy:**
 - a. Please check the patient's diagnosis: ☐ Resistant depression
☐ Depressive symptoms with major depressive disorder with acute suicidal ideation ☐ Other: _____
 - b. Has the patient had tried and failed at least two different combinations of an oral antidepressant AND an augmentation therapy for at least 6 weeks? We require each combination to include a different antidepressant and a different augmentation therapy than previous combinations. (Augmentation therapies include but not limited to lithium, buspirone, and olanzapine)?
☐ Yes ☐ No **Comment:** _____
 - i. Antidepressant therapy: _____ + Augmenting therapy: _____ **Dates:** _____ - _____
 - ii. Antidepressant therapy: _____ + Augmenting therapy: _____ **Dates:** _____ - _____
 - iii. Other: _____
 - c. Will the patient use Spravato with cognitive behavioral therapy or interpersonal psychotherapy weekly for at least 8 weeks of treatment?
☐ Yes ☐ No **Comment:** _____
 - d. Will the patient use Spravato in combination with an oral antidepressant?
☐ Yes ☐ No **Comment:** _____
 - i. Has the patient previously experienced non-response with the oral antidepressant to be used in combination with Spravato?
☐ Yes ☐ No **Comment:** _____
 - e. If Spravato is self-administered at home, will a healthcare provider be present? _____
☐ Yes ☐ No, Please provide rationale: _____
 - f. Will the patient be on Spravato with Ketamine IV?
☐ Yes, Please provide rationale: _____ ☐ No
4. **Continuation request: Spravato start date:** _____
 - a. Has the patient's signs and symptoms improved with Spravato? ☐ Yes ☐ No **Comment:** _____
 - b. For acute suicidal ideation: no further authorization will be provided after 1 month of therapy.
5. Please add any other supporting medical information necessary for our review

Coverage will not be provided if the prescribing physician's signature and date are not reflected on this document.

☐ Request for expedited review: I certify that applying the standard review time frame may seriously jeopardize the life or health of the member or the member's ability to regain maximum function

Physician's Name	Physician Signature	Date
Step 2: Checklist	☐ Form Completely Filled Out ☐ Attached Chart Notes	☐ Prior Treatments with other medications
Step 3: Submit	By Fax: BCBSM Specialty Pharmacy Mailbox 1-877-325-5979	By Mail: BCBSM Specialty Pharmacy Program P.O. Box 312320, Detroit, MI 48231-2320

Confidentiality notice: This transmission contains confidential information belonging to the sender that is legally privileged. This information is intended only for use of the individual or entity named above. The authorized recipient of this information is prohibited from disclosing this information to any other party. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or action taken in reliance on the contents of this document is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please notify the sender to arrange for the return of this document.

4/3/2019; 3/16/2020; 10/8/2020; 1/1/2021, 04/01/2023