Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue Care Network of Michigan

Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

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 (availity.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

Zilretta® (triamcinolone acetonide extended-release injectable suspension, for intra-articular use only)

HCPCS CODE: J3304

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This form is to be used by participating physicians to obtain coverage for Zilretta®. 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**
Diagnosis		**City /State/Zip**
Drug Name	☐Zilretta®	**Phone/Fax: P**: ( ) - **F**: ( ) -
Dose and Quantity		**NPI**
Directions		**Contact Person**
Date of Service(s)		**Contact Person Phone / Ext.**

STEP 1: DISEASE STATE INFORMATION

1. Is this request for: ☐ Initiation ☐ Continuation *Date patient started therapy:* _____

2. Administered by patient or a medical professional? ☐ patient (self) ☐ health care professional (physician, nurse, etc.)

3. Please provide the NPI number for the place of administration: _____

4. **Initiation AND Continuation of therapy:**
   a. Requested Anatomical Location of Injection: ☐ Left Knee ☐Right Knee ☐ Both Knees ☐ Other (please specify): _____

   b. Kellgren-Lawrence Grade: ☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4

   c. Please check all non-pharmacological therapies tried by patient:
   ☐ Resistance or Cardiovascular Exercise
   ☐ Weight Reduction (Please indicate % weight loss from baseline): _____
   ☐ Durable Medical Equipment (Please Specify): _____
   ☐ Physical Therapy or Occupational Therapy

   d. Please check all pharmacological therapies tried by patient:
   ☐ Oral NSAID at maximal tolerated Dose (If contraindicated please specify): _____
   ☐ Topical NSAID, List the name: _____
   ☐ Immediate release intra-articular triamcinolone acetonide injection (please list dates and reason for failure):
   _____

   e. Please provide a credible explanation why Zilretta is expected to work if triamcinolone acetonide has not:
   _____

   f. Has the patient had a previous intra-articular corticosteroid injection within the past 3 months? ☐ YES ☐NO

5. **Continuation of therapy:**
   a. Has the patient previously received a Zilretta® injection into the same joint currently being requested? ☐ YES ☐NO

6. ***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	
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**

7/23/2018; 8/15/2018, 9/18/2018;11/30/2018; 10/1/2020