

Preauthorization

WHAT IS PREAUTHORIZATION?

Preauthorization is a decision by your health plan that a health care service, treatment plan, prescription drug, or durable medical equipment is medically necessary or appropriate. Most basic medical needs, such as a trip to your primary care doctor don't need preauthorization. But things like medical tests, some prescriptions, and many types of medical equipment often do.

WHY PREAUTHORIZE SERVICES?

To make sure all services you receive are medically necessary and appropriate, some services require our authorization before you receive them. If you don't contact us to get our preauthorization reimbursement may be denied for these services or you may have to pay a penalty.

Common services that require preauthorization include high-cost durable medical equipment (like oxygen equipment and wheelchairs), advanced imaging scans (like an MRI), elective surgery (non-emergency surgery), and therapy services. For a full list of services that require preauthorization, please go to WEATrust.com/Preauthorization.

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IN FOCUS: SLEEP STUDIES

Sleep studies are a great example of how preauthorization helps improve your quality of care and save money. Research shows that sleep studies done at home are more effective (and about one-sixth the cost of sleep studies done in a specialty clinic). That's why we require preauthorization for clinical sleep studies in hopes of guiding members to have sleep studies at home instead of a clinic so we can make sure our members are getting necessary and appropriate care.