



Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York is a trade name of Highmark Western and Northeastern New York Inc., an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

Subject	Preventive Schedule Updates for HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Medication
Effective Date	9.17.2021
Purpose	The purpose of this announcement is to provide you with information about mandated first dollar coverage requirements for certain related services for members taking HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (Prep) Medication who are not infected with HIV.
Background/Overview	<p>Members who follow the Highmark preventive schedules already have first dollar coverage for HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) medication. The Departments of Labor, Health &amp; Human Services and the Treasury have issued an FAQ mandating certain related services also have first dollar coverage when a member is taking the HIV PrEP medication, as long as <b>HIV infection and diagnosis codes are not</b> reported on the claim. The additional related services updates are listed below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Hepatitis B and C Screening</b> – Already on the preventive schedule. Allowing up to 4 times per year for all those taking PrEP medication. NEW: Adding Diagnosis codes Z1159 and B18.0 or B18.1 or B18.2 without Z21 or B20 with procedure code 87517 only for members with chronic hepatitis taking PrEP medication. Allowing up to 2 time per year.</li><li>• <b>Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Counseling to Prevent STD Infection</b> – Already on preventive schedule with procedure code G0445. Allow up to 4 times per year for members taking PrEP medication.</li><li>• <b>Certain Kidney Function Tests</b> – Diagnosis Z11.4 or Z20.6 without B20 or Z21 with procedure 82565 82575 twice a year for each procedure code for those taking PrEP medication</li><li>• <b>Urine Pregnancy Test</b> – Diagnosis Z11.4 or Z20.6 with procedure 81025 without B20 or Z21. Allow up to 2 times per year for members taking PrEP medication.</li><li>• <b>Adherence Counseling</b> – Z717 encounter for HIV counseling 99401-99404 without B20 or Z21. Allow up to 4 times a year for members taking PrEP medication. Do not bill if done during office visit below as it is included in that office visit.</li><li>• <b>Office Visit for Related Services</b> – Z11.4 or Z20.6 without B20 or Z21 with 99202-99205, 99211-99215. Allow up to 4 times per year for members taking PrEP medication. Deny 99401-99404 in same office visit as the office visit includes adherence counseling.</li><li>• <b>HIV PrEP Medication for Adolescents</b> – Allow first dollar coverage for adolescents who are not infected with HIV and are at high risk of HIV infection. The treating physician determines if the adolescent patient is eligible.</li></ul>