

July 2023

Federal Employee Program Encouraging Breast Cancer Screening for Members

Florida Blue patients (women between the ages of 50 to 74) insured under the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Federal Employee Program® (FEP) will receive a letter this month encouraging them to screen for breast cancer. In the letter, our medical director recommends your FEP patients contact a Primary Care Physician, OB/GYN, or preferred (in-network) mammogram imaging center to schedule **mammograms**. The member cost share is \$0 for these diagnostic tests when they visit an in-network provider.

One in every eight women will get breast cancer in her lifetime. Routine mammograms can find breast changes early before symptoms even develop. When detected early, cancer treatment is typically most effective.

How You Can Help

- Discuss the importance of breast cancer screening and ensure your patients are up to date with an annual mammogram.
- Document the screening for breast cancer in the medical record; ensure the **specific date** and **result** of the screening are indicated.
- Document medical and surgical history of the breast, including dates, in the medical record.
- **MRIs, ultrasounds, or biopsies do not apply to this measure.** Although these procedures may be indicated for evaluating women at higher risk for breast cancer or for diagnostic purposes, they are performed as an adjunct to mammography and do not alone count towards the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®¹) care gap compliance.
- Submit the appropriate diagnosis and procedure codes for the services rendered.

Thank you in advance for speaking with your patients about the appropriate test for them.

If your patients have questions about their benefits and claims, they may contact our Customer Service team for help at 1-800-333-2227 (TTY users, call 711). We are available Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon, ET. Members may also visit [FEPblue.org](https://www.fepblue.org) for more information.

To learn more about the Breast Cancer Screening HEDIS measure for FEP members, click [here](#) or visit [FloridaBlue.com](https://www.floridablue.com). Select Tools & Resources, Programs, Federal Employee Program, then FEP Quick Reference Guide.

¹HEDIS is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

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