

Subject: Aetna Monthly OfficeLink Updates, January 2022 — policy changes and updates
Pre-header: Learn about important policy updates, material changes and amendments

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Hello there.

We have important news for you.

January 2022

New reminders and 90-day notices

We regularly review and adjust our clinical, payment and coding policies. Review our policies and claim edits on our provider portal, Availity®. Just go to **Payer Space > Resources > Expanded Claim Edits**. Or you may visit [Aetna.com](https://www.aetna.com) to see them.

Here's what you need to know:

Expansion to our Mid-Level Practitioners policy*

Effective April 1, 2022, we will expand our current Mid-Level Practitioners policy to include a new reimbursement tier for specific practitioners.

Our Mid-Level Practitioners policy will now include audiologists, genetic counselors, massage therapists, nutritionists, respiratory therapists and registered dietitians, allowing reimbursement at 75% of the negotiated fee or recognized charge for covered services.

This expansion will apply to Commercial business only.

*This is subject to regulatory review and separate notification in Washington state.

Important update on the COVID-19 vaccine and its administration for Medicare Advantage patients as of January 1, 2022



You can always find these policies on our Availity provider portal.

[Access Availity](#)

In the December OLU newsletter, we stated that “Beginning January 1, 2022, Aetna® will pay for COVID-19 vaccines (including approved booster doses) *and their administration* with no member cost share.”

Instead, as of January 1, 2022, Aetna will pay *only* for administering the vaccines without member cost share. Currently, the cost of the COVID-19 vaccine itself is covered by the federal government.

Changes to our National Precertification List (NPL)

The following new-to-market drugs require precertification

- Byooviz™ (ranibizumab-nuna) — precertification is required effective January 1, 2022. This drug is part of the ophthalmic medical injectables drugs category.
- Tivdak™ (tisotumab vedotin-tftv) — precertification is required effective January 1, 2022.

Submitting precertification requests

Be sure to submit precertification requests at least two weeks in advance. To save time, request precertification online. Doing so is fast, secure and simple.

You can submit most requests online through our [Availity provider portal](#).* Or you can use your practice’s Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system if it’s set up for electronic precertification requests. Use our “Search by CPT code” search function on our [precertification lists](#) page to find out if the code requires precertification.

Learn more about [precertification](#).

Are you asking for precertification on a specialty drug for a commercial or Medicare member? Then submit your request through Novologix®, also available on [Availity](#).

Not registered for Availity®? Go to [Availity](#) to register and learn more.

These changes apply to our commercial and Medicare members.

*Availity is available only to U.S. providers and its territories.

Custodial care

Custodial care, in the absence of skilled care, is not a covered service. Custodial care could include personal care, adult day care, homemaker services, or assistance with activities of daily living for non-medical services.

This information applies to our commercial and Medicare members.

Physical exams for non-medical treatment

We don't cover office visits that do not treat or diagnose a specific illness, symptom, complaint or injury unless covered under a member's benefits plan. Some examples of services not covered are exams to:

- Get or keep a job
- Travel
- Go to a school
- Go to a camp
- Join a sport or other recreational activity

This information applies to our commercial and Medicare members.

Quick reminder that you can also use our Code Edit Lookup tools on Availity. Just go to **Payer Space > Applications > Code Edit Lookup Tools**. And keep your Aetna® provider ID number handy to access them.

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