600 E. Lafayette Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48226-2998
bcbsm.com

Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue Care Network of Michigan

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan/Blue Care Network Radiation Oncology Gold Carding Program-Year 10 (2027)

In 2017, BCBSM/BCN developed and implemented the Gold Card program in collaboration with the Michigan Radiation Oncology Quality Consortium (MROQC) collaborative quality initiative. The program provides "gold carding" for radiation oncology procedures at MROQC facilities who met specific criteria.

The Criteria for Year 10 (*measurement period: 1/1/2026-09/30/2026; effective 3/1/2027-2/28/2028*) is listed below. Facilities must meet 5 of the 6 measures to be eligible for Year 10 of the Gold Card Incentive Program. All measures are scored at the facility level.

1. Membership in MROQC. (*facility that provides data to MROQC*)
2. Increase the baseline and post-radiation treatment (RT) completion rate of standard of care arm measurements for lymphedema assessment in node positive breast cancer patients treated to regional fields by meeting both A and B.
   A. ≥50% of breast patients treated to regional fields with a baseline measurement (B7 or B9) in 2024 must have a follow-up measurement (B10 or B14) completed within Q1-Q3 of 2025.
   B. ≥50% of breast patients treated to regional fields with a RT start date within Q1-Q3 of 2025 must have a baseline measurement (B7 or B9).
3. The utilization rate of bone mets treatments consisting of 5 fractions or fewer should be at least 75%.
4. For 50% or more of bone mets reirradiation cases, it is documented that physics was consulted.*
   *For cases where there is concern for toxicity due to cumulative dose (Type 1 or Type 2 reirradiation), the physics consult must occur prior to physician approval. For Type 1 reirradiation cases with no concern for toxicity, the consult must occur prior to the start of treatment.
5. The percentage of patients with intact, localized, high-risk prostate cancer receiving definitive radiotherapy that are recommended to receive long-term androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) is ≥65%.
6. MRI utilization for intact prostate cancer patients receiving definitive radiotherapy is ≥70%.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. 1st Time Gold Card Eligibility process: For a facility to be eligible for the Gold Card Program, the following must be met:
   - *Have contributed data to MROQC's clinical data registry for at least one year's worth of baseline data*
   - *Meet the performance targets set by the collaborative*
2. If my facility received gold carding status, are all additional facilities in my health system gold carded as well?
   - *No, each facility is gold carded on an individual basis.*
3. What documentation do I need in place in order to be gold carded?
   - *Each organization must have a participation agreement, which includes a business associate agreement (BAA) and data use agreement (DUA) signed with MROQC. The*

agreement only needs to be signed and reviewed once, and this took place in 2017/2018 or at the time your site joined MROQC (2019-on).

4. What are the effective dates of the gold carding?
    - *BCBSM will reach out to each newly qualified facility to let them know when their site Gold Status has been activated and to provide instructions on how to proceed with the new approvals process. There should be no change for facilities who were previously gold carded.*
    - *The gold carding effectiveness dates for Year 10 will be as follows:* ***3/1/2027-2/28/2028****. This coincides with the specialist value-based reimbursement schedule.*
5. How often will the criteria to be gold carded be reviewed and changed?
    - *On an annual basis, MROQC and BCBSM/BCN will review the criteria and add or change measures as necessary. Any changes will be shared with MROQC participants as soon as criteria are finalized.*
6. Will patients with any BCBSM/BCN insurance coverage be included under the gold carding?
    - *Gold carding will cover BCBSM Medicare Plus Blue, fully insured PPO, BCN commercial and BCNA members.*
    - *Gold carding does not include Proton Beam Therapy for the Medicare Advantage lines of business.*
    - *Gold carding is* ***NOT*** *applicable for the radiation therapy program handled through Carelon for UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust (URMBT) non-Medicare members*
7. Who is reviewing my rates to determine if I am eligible?
    - *The MROQC coordinating center is using their data registry and definitions to determine eligibility and will provide a list of eligible facilities to BCBSM/BCN.*
8. Is my facility responsible for providing any information to BCBSM/BCN?
    - *Yes. It is the facility's responsibility to provide the correct NPI to be used in gold carding.*
9. What will change for my facility now that we are gold carded compared to the normal preauthorization process?
    - *Being gold carded allows select providers to get an auto approval for radiation therapy authorizations submitted to eviCore*
    - *Providers must continue to request authorization through the eviCore portal, providing:*
        - *Member demographic information*
        - *Diagnosis code(s)*
        - *CPT codes (if prompted to enter)*
10. What other standards will my facility need to meet to get radiation services paid for?
    - *Authorization/claims matching logic and clinical edits will still apply.*
    - *CMS and ASTRO guideline edits will still apply.*
        - *If CMS says you should only bill code 12345 once in the entire treatment period, the 2nd time a provider bills it, they should expect a rejection.*

Questions for BCBSM/BCN regarding the Gold Card Program may be submitted via goldcardinginquiry@bcbsm.com