

To: Keystone First/Keystone First Community HealthChoices (CHC) Providers
Date: May 2, 2023
Subject: Policy Update – Anesthesia Services for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (CCP.8002)

Summary: This serves as official notice Keystone First/Keystone First CHC is rescinding the previous policy requiring prior authorization for MAC for GI endoscopy services effective June 1, 2023. Please notify all relevant parties in your organization aware of this upcoming change.

In June 2020, Keystone First and Keystone First CHC distributed the above-referenced policy, specific to the administration of monitored anesthesia care (MAC) for gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopy. This policy informed Keystone First and Keystone First CHC providers that monitored anesthesia (deep sedation or general anesthesia) for gastrointestinal endoscopy (colonoscopy or EGD) procedures in average-risk patients was considered medically necessary only when certain conditions were met. Prior authorization was required for coverage of MAC for GI endoscopy to review if those conditions were present.

Please be advised that **effective June 1, 2023**, Keystone First and Keystone First CHC has rescinded this policy. **This means that starting June 1, 2023, prior authorization is no longer required for MAC for GI endoscopy services.**

To determine if notification or prior authorization is required for certain services, please continue to use the Prior Authorization Lookup Tool <https://www.keystonefirstpa.com/provider/resources/prior-authorization-lookup.aspx> (Keystone First) or <https://www.keystonefirstchc.com/providers/resources/prior-authorization-lookup.aspx> (Keystone First CHC.) The tool provides general information for outpatient services performed by a participating provider. Please keep in mind the results are not a guarantee of coverage or authorization and results are subject to change in accordance with plan policies.

If you have any questions, please contact your Provider Account Executive or the Provider Services department at **1-800-521-6007**.