# Medical underwriting guidelines

#### **Overview**

In this section, we give you four resources that will help you assess your clients' eligibility for our health plans:

- 1. Height and weight tables
- 2. Declinable conditions
- 3. Probable action guideline
- 4. IFP Probable Underwriting Decision Request

#### How to use this section

We recommend that you cross-reference the four resources in this section as needed to compile a complete picture for your clients. For example, while some forms of aneurysm are listed in the declinable conditions table, there are two scenarios that qualify for possible eligibility at the Tier 1 rate or at a higher tier rate.

#### 1. Height and weight tables

The height and weight guidelines are for IFP only, and apply to applicants who do not qualify for HIPAA guaranteed-issue coverage.

#### 2. Declinable conditions

IFP applicants age 19 or older and Medicare Supplement applicants with any of the conditions listed in this table may be automatically declined. In this case, clients may qualify for acceptance in a HIPAA guaranteed-issue IFP or Medicare Supplement plan. Find out more by referring to:

- Application for Blue Shield Individual and Family Health Plans; or
- Guaranteed Acceptance Guide for Medicare Supplement plans.

#### 3. Probable action guideline

This section applies only to IFP (HIPAA non-guaranteedissue) applicants. It lists Blue Shield's probable actions guideline for a single applicant who has a listed condition as the only health condition. The guideline identifies medical conditions and the three possible underwriting determinations:

- Possible eligibility for coverage at the Tier 1 rate
- Possible eligibility for coverage at a higher tier rate
- Possible or probable decline (for applicants age 19 or older)

Remember, approval to add a dependent to an existing contract in a grandfathered plan is not guaranteed. Applicants under age 19 may be declined.

#### 4. IFP Probable Underwriting Decision Request form

If you want to know how Blue Shield might underwrite your client in advance of submitting an actual application, complete a Probable Underwriting Decision Request form (available on page 55) and fax it to Underwriting. We can tell you if your client is likely to be covered, and at what tier rating. Underwriting provides this service as a courtesy to help you understand possible eligibility. Blue Shield's response is based on the information provided on the form. Please note: Blue Shield only makes final decisions for coverage based on a signed, complete application.

Multiple conditions, treatment type (including medication), and multiple family members with health conditions may affect the probable action and final determination for an applicant.

#### Guideline scope

This guideline covers the more common disorders. Of course, not all conditions in existence can be captured in this type of list. Any conditions not on this list would require underwriting, and some conditions on this list might require underwriting upon further review of an individual's application.

# This chart is not a guarantee of a specific medical underwriting decision.

- Only Blue Shield underwriters may make the final decision to accept or decline an application, or determine the rate level or an effective date.
- Decisions are based on an applicant's medical history, the overall risk the applicant poses, and current underwriting guidelines (which may change throughout the year).
- Blue Shield may use any medical information in reviewing an application, including any medical condition that occurs after the signature and submission of the application and before an underwriting decision is made (or before the effective date of coverage).
- Brokers are not authorized to bind or guarantee coverage for a specific rate or an effective date.

To help you assess probable underwriting decisions, we offer the IFP Probable Underwriting Decision Request. See the "Broker Resources" section for details.

#### **Condition time frames**

- Any time frames specified refer to a continuous time period before applicants applied for coverage, during which they were symptom-free and did not require any treatment for the condition.
- If no timeframes are indicated, the applicant must be fully recovered without further treatment anticipated or recommended to qualify for possible eligibility.

Coverage consideration cannot be made if:

- Symptoms are undiagnosed or untreated.
- Recovery from recent treatment or procedures is not complete.
- Further evaluation or treatment for symptoms or conditions is recommended, anticipated, or pending.

#### Surrogate pregnancies and coverage

Coverage will be declined until after the delivery of a child, or for two years after the surrogacy process has been discontinued, for applicants who:

- Plan to serve as a surrogate for a pregnancy; or
- Have applied to a surrogate agency; or
- Have begun surrogacy workup or treatment; or
- Intend to contract or have contracted for a surrogate pregnancy; or
- Plan to adopt a baby or babies resulting from a surrogate pregnancy.

#### 1. Height and weight table

**General**: These height and weight guidelines apply to all IFP applicants who do not qualify for HIPAA guaranteed-issue coverage. These guidelines do **not** apply to Medicare Supplement plan applicants.

**Overweight**: All IFP applicants whose weight falls between the maximum and overweight categories require underwriting review, and must provide results of a physical examination performed within the past 12 months. However, applicants age 19 and older, whose weight equals and/or exceeds the values in the overweight column, will be declined.

**Underweight**: All IFP applicants whose weight is at or below the minimum weight category require underwriting review.

#### IFP adult height and weight table

	Male		Hei	ight	Female		
Overweight	Maximum	Minimum	Ft.	In.	Minimum	Maximum	Overweight
181	164	95	4	8	94	160	180
185	167	99	4	9	96	163	184
190	170	103	4	10	98	167	188
194	173	107	4	11	99	171	192
199	177	111	5	0	102	175	197
203	181	114	5	1	105	179	202
208	185	116	5	2	107	183	207
213	190	120	5	3	110	187	212
218	195	123	5	4	112	192	217
224	199	127	5	5	115	196	222
230	205	130	5	6	118	201	227
236	210	133	5	7	121	206	232
243	216	137	5	8	124	211	238
249	222	140	5	9	128	217	244
255	228	144	5	10	131	224	251
262	232	148	5	11	135	230	259
269	240	152	6	0	139	238	268
276	248	156	6	1	143	246	275
283	256	160	6	2	147	251	281
290	264	164	6	3	151	258	288
298	272	169	6	4	153	265	296
306	280	173	6	5	156	272	304
314	288	178	6	6	160	279	312
322	296	182	6	7	164	286	320
330	304	186	6	8	171	294	328

# Child height and weight tables

While weight is a consideration when evaluating a child's application for coverage, more than weight is considered. All children applicants are encouraged to apply regardless of their weight.

#### 2. Declinable conditions (applies to applicants age 19 and older)

Back sprain/strain, chronic

IFP and Medicare Supplement plan applicants who have any of the conditions listed below may be declined without medical record review.

Acromegaly Adoption in progress AIDS AIDS-related complex (ARC) Alzheimer's ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease Amputation, single or bilateral foot or leg Anaplastic carcinoma Anemia, aplastic Anemia, Cooley's/ Mediterranean/major thalessemia Anemia, Cooley's/ Mediterranean/minor thalessemia with symptoms Anemia, hemolytic. auto-immune Aneurysm – aortic, abdominal, thoracic Aneurysm, cerebral artery (brain) with stent/shunt Angina Anaioplasty Aortic obstruction Aortic valve stenosis Apnea (see sleep apnea) Arnold-Chiari syndrome Arteriosclerosis Arteriovenous malformation, unoperated Arteriovenous malformation, operated but shunt in place or with residuals Arteritis, necrotizing Arthritis. osteoarthritis severe Arthritis, psoriatic Arthritis, rheumatoid: chronic, severe, or under treatment Atrial fibrillation on blood thinners Atrial tachycardia Asbestosis

Banti's disease Barrett's esophageal ulceration Basal cell skin cancer, multiple removals in one site Behcet's syndrome Bicuspid aortic valve **Bipolar** disease Bladder stones, present Bradycardia with pacemaker Breast microcalcifications severe after biopsy or present without biopsy Bypass surgery – all cases Cancer, all non-localized Cancer, liver, all cases Cancer, ovarian, all cases Cancer, pancreas, all cases Cardiomyopathy Carotid artery disease Carotid endarterectomy Carotid bruit Cellulitis, chronic Chorea, Huntington's Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD): moderate to severe or smoking Christmas disease Cirrhosis Coagulation defects Colitis, ulcerative: unoperated or with colectomy Colitis, ulcerative with or lleostomy or colostomy Congestive heart disease Connective tissue disease Cor pulmonale Corneal degeneration Corneal ulcer: chronic and unoperated Coronary artery/heart disease Cretinism Cystic fibrosis

Cytomegalovirus Dandy Walker Syndrome (see hydrocephalus) Delirium tremens Demyelinating disease Dermatomyositis Diabetes with hypertension or weight exceeds the normal range or on insulin pump Diabetic neuropathy Diabetic retinopathy Dialysis Dysplastic nevus syndrome Endometriosis: symptomatic before or after surgical or natural menopause Esophageal ulcerations or varicosities Factor VIII, IX, or XI disorders/deficiencies Fanconi's syndrome Fasciitis: chronic or recurrent Fatty liver Fibromyalgia Flexion contracture Friedrich's ataxia Gallstones, unoperated Gangrene, diabetic/ arteriosclerotic Glomerulonephritis: nephritis, chronic Glomerulosclerosis Goodpasture's syndrome Gout: tophaceous or with renal involvement Guillain-Barre syndrome: present or with residuals Hamman-Rich disease Hansen's disease (leprosy) Heart attack, myocardial infarction Heart enlargement Heart pacemaker Heart valve replacement Heart valve stenosis

Hemangioendothelioma Hemochromatosis Hemoglobinuria Hemophilia Hepatitis: all those other than A.B. or F Hepatitis: any type - present, chronic or persistent Herpes Zoster: eye or ear Involvement Hirschsprung's, unoperated Hodgkin's lymphoma Huntington's chorea Hydrocephalus Hyperprolactinemia with tumor Hypertension with diabetes or renal disease or history of stroke Hypertension and exceeds the normal weight guidelines or uncontrolled or hospitalized within 1 year Hypogammaglobulinemia Immunodeficiency disorder, except HIV infection Infertility treatment within past 2 years Interstitial cystitis Ischemic attack, transient (TIA) Ischemic heart disease Joint replacements: both knees or hips Joint replacements: multiple surgeries or shoulder, elbow, wrist, ankle Kaposi's sarcoma Kidney dialysis Kidney stones, present Kimmelstiel-Wilson syndrome Kleinfelter's syndrome Leprosy (Hansen's disease) Leriche syndrome Leukemia Lou Gehrig's disease

Lupus erythematous: discoid – chronic Lupus erythematous: systemic Lyme's disease: chronic or symptomatic Lymphedema Lymphoma (Hodgkin's and non-Hodgkin's) Macular degeneration: exudative Major depression Manic depression Marfan's syndrome Mitral valve prolapse: more than trace regurgitation or not on prophylactic antibiotics Mitral valve stenosis Multiple myeloma Multiple sclerosis Muscular dystrophy Myasthenia gravis Myocardial infarction Nephrectomy: persistent renal or cardiovascular abnormalities Neuroblastoma Neurofibromatosis Nevus: dysplastic syndrome or giant melanocytic Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma Obesity with prior surgery Osler-Weber-Rendu disease Otosclerosis, unoperated Pacemaker Pancreatitis: recurrent or chronic or secondary to alcoholism Paralysis: auadrapleaia, paraplegia Parkinson's disease Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID): present Pemphigus Pericarditis: constrictive

Peripheral vascular disease Phlebitis, deep vein: present or on anti-coagulants Pleurisy, unresolved Pneumocystis Carinii Polio with bladder or bowel residuals Polycystic kidney Polycystic ovaries (Stein Levinthal syndrome) without removal of ovaries Polycythemia vera Polymyositis Polyp, anal or rectal: more than 4 and/or unoperated Polyp, bladder: present or recurrent Polyp, gastrointestinal: unoperated Pott's disease Pregnancy of self, spouse, or significant other (excludes males applying for individualonly plans) Progeria Prostate stones with prostatitis Psoriasis, severe Psoriatic arthritis Psychopathic personalities Psychotic disorders Pulmonary embolism: present Pulmonary fibrosis Pulmonary hypertension Pulmonary osteoarthropathy Pulmonic stenosis Quadriplegic paralysis Reiter's syndrome: symptomatic Renal failure: chronic or end stage Retinoblastoma Rett's syndrome Rheumatic heart disease

Rotator cuff: unoperated, symptomatic Sarcoidosis Schizophrenia Scleroderma: recurrent, extensive or diagnosed within 1 year Sezary's syndrome Shingles: eye or ear involvement Shunts or stents Sick sinus syndrome Sickle cell anemia Sjogrens syndrome Sleep apnea: obstructive or poorly controlled or requiring CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) Spina bifida, cystica: unoperated or operated with residuals Spinal curvature: kyphosis, scoliosis or kyphoscoliosis, unoperated Stein-Leventhal syndrome (polycystic ovaries) Stroke within 10 years Subdural hematoma: unoperated Superior vena cava syndrome Surrogacy planned within 2 years with surrogate mother or applicant as surrogate Syphilis: tertiary Syringomyelia Systemic lupus erythematosus Tabes dorsalis Tay-Sachs disease Temporal arteritis Temporomandibular joint syndrome (TMJ): operated with residuals Thalessemia major Thrombocytosis Tonsillitis: chronic, recurrent

(5 or more attacks per year)

Toxoplasmosis Tracheotomy: present Transient ischemic attack (TIA) Transplants: all except corneal Transposition of the great vessels: unoperated Treatment with AZT, HIVID, or pentamidine Trigeminal pulse Tuberculosis, epididymus Turner's syndrome Ulcer, peptic: active within 2 years or H. pylori positive Upper airway resistance syndrome Urethral stricture: chronic, recurrent Uterine fibroid tumor: unoperated, multiple, and/ or moderate-to-large size Valve disease, valve replacement Varicose veins: moderate to severe Ventricular fibrillation Ventricular tachycardia Von Recklinghausen's disease Von Willebrand's disease Wegener's granulomatosis Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome: without cardiac ablation

3. Probable action guideline for IFP plan applicants ("Possible or probable decline" applies to applicants age 19 and older)

Important note: A request to add a dependent under age 19 to an existing contract in a grandfathered plan is not guaranteed, and may be declined based on health risk.

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Α				
Abnormal Pap test	See cervical dysplasia			
Abnormal uterine bleeding	Postmenopausal after 1 year, resolved	X	Х	
Abscess				
Brain	After 2 years, fully recovered		Х	
Liver	Fully recovered		Х	
Lung	After 1 year, fully recovered		Х	
Peritonsillar	Unoperated, fully recovered		Х	
	Operated	X		
Pilonidal	Fully recovered	X	Х	
Acid indigestion	See esophagitis			
Acid reflux	See esophagitis			
Acne	Dependent on severity and treatment	Х	Х	Х
Acoustic neuroma	Operated, after 2 years, fully recovered		Х	
Addison's	Within 5 years or chronic			Х
	After 5 years, fully recovered		Х	Х
Agoraphobia	No episodes or medications	Х	Х	
Alcoholism	After 2 years of abstinence		Х	Х
Allergies	Testing in progress		Х	Х
	Most cases	X	Х	
Anemia				
Aplastic	All cases			Auto decline
Iron deficiency	Most cases	X		-
Hemolytic				-
Auto-immune	Without splenectomy			Auto decline
	After splenectomy, asymptomatic, fully recovered	X	Х	-
Cooley's (Thalassemia,	Major or minor with symptoms			Auto decline
Mediterranean)	Minor, asymptomatic	Х		
Macrocytic	After 1 year, recovered, no treatment	Х	Х	

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Anemia (continued)				
Pernicious	Normal blood count and hemoglobin after treatment	x	х	Х
Sickle	Sickle cell trait only	X		-
	Sickle cell anemia			Auto decline
Aneurysm	Unoperated			Auto decline
Cerebral	Operated, fully recovered, after 2 years		Х	X
Peripheral artery	Operated, fully recovered, after 1 year		Х	-
Anorexia nervosa	Recovered, no further treatment, after 1 year	Х	Х	
Aortic coarctation	See congenital heart defects			
Apnea				
Apnea of the newborn	All cases	X	Х	
Sleep apnea	Obstructive, poorly controlled, or requiring CPAP			Auto decline
	Operated, after 6 months, asymptomatic, fully recovered, no CPAP, without tracheotomy		Х	
	Tracheotomy present			Auto decline
Arteriovenous malformation				
All cases	Unoperated			Auto decline
Brain	Operated, with shunt			Auto decline
	Operated, no shunt, but residuals			Auto decline
	Operated, no shunt, no residuals, after 1 year	X	Х	
Extremity	Operated, no residuals, after 6 months	X	Х	
Lung, aorta, gastrointestinal	Operated, no residuals, after 6 months		Х	Х
Arthritis				
Osteoarthritis	Mild to moderate	X	Х	
	Severe			Auto decline
Rheumatoid, juvenile	All cases		Х	Х
Rheumatoid	After 2 years, no medication, asymptomatic		Х	Х
	Chronic, severe or under treatment			Auto decline
ASD (atrial septal defect)	See congenital heart defects			
Asthma	Mild, occasional episodes, never in emergency room or hospital	X	Х	
	Moderate to severe, frequent episodes, history of emergency room visits and hospitalizations		X	X

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Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Atrial fibrillation or flutter	Resolved, after 4 years		Х	Х
Atrial septal defect (ASD)	See congenital heart defects			
Attention deficit	Counseling and/or medication treatment		Х	Х
hyperactive disorder	Controlled, asymptomatic, no meds, no psychotherapy	Х		
Autism	Testing complete, depending on treatment		Х	
В				
Back sprain/strain	Single episode, no restrictions, fully recovered	Х	Х	
	Multiple episodes, fully recovered, no restrictions, after 6 months		X	X
	Chronic or present			Auto decline
Bell's palsy	If severe residuals		Х	
Bladder infection	Single episode, fully recovered	Х	Х	
	Multiple episodes, fully recovered, within 1 year		Х	Х
	Chronic, within 2 years		Х	Х
	Interstitial			Х
Bladder, neurogenic	Fully recovered, Within 2 years		Х	Х
Bladder stones	See kidney stones			
Bradycardia	No cardiac disease, normal EKG	Х		
	Due to complete heart block, resolved, no pacemaker, after 1 year		Х	
	Due to sick sinus syndrome			Х
	With pacemaker			Auto decline
Brain concussion	Severe or with residuals			Х
	Mild without residuals, fully recovered	Х	Х	
Breast implants				
Saline	Fully recovered from surgery and released from care with no complications	Х	Х	
Silicone	Fully recovered from surgery and released from care with no complications	Х	Х	
Breast reduction	After 6 months, fully recovered	Х	Х	
Breast	Mild to moderate after benign biopsy		Х	
microcalcifications	Severe after benign biopsy or present without biopsy			Х
Bulimia	Recovered, no further treatment, after 1 year	Х	Х	

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Burns	1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree, treatment concluded	Х	Х	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> degree, treatment concluded		Х	X
Bursitis	Asymptomatic, resolved, no residuals	Х	Х	
	Chronic, recurrent, after 2 years		Х	
С				
Cancer	Localized or Stage 0 or 1 can be considered			
Bladder, urinary	Recovered, no further treatment, after 2 years		Х	х
Bone	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	Х
Brain/nervous	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	X
Breast	Recovered, no further treatment, after 5 years		Х	Х
Cervix	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	Х
Colon/rectum	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	Х
Esophagus	Recovered, no further treatment, after 4 years		Х	Х
Eye (retinoblastosis)	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	
Gallbladder	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	Х
Kidney	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	Х
Larynx	Recovered, no further treatment, after 2 years		Х	Х
Liver	All cases			Auto decline
Lung, bronchi	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	Х
Melanoma	Recovered, no further treatment, after 1 year		Х	Х
Nasal sinus	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	Х
Oral cavity, pharynx	Recovered, no further treatment, after 2 years		Х	Х
Ovary	All cases			Auto decline
Pancreas	All cases			Auto decline
Peritoneum	Recovered, no further treatment, after 4 years		Х	Х
Prostate	Recovered, no further treatment, after 2 years		Х	Х
Skin	Basal, treated	Х	Х	
	Squamous, treated, after 2 years		Х	
Cancer (continued)				
Stomach	Recovered, no further treatment, after 4 years		Х	Х
Testicular	Recovered, no further treatment, after 3 years		Х	Х
Thyroid	Recovered, no further treatment, after 1 year		Х	Х

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable declin
Uterine	Recovered, no further treatment, after 1 year		Х	х
Cardiac arrhythmia	Present or on long-term blood thinners			Х
Carpal tunnel	Unoperated		Х	Х
syndrome	Operated, recovered, no further treatment	Х	Х	
Cataracts	Unoperated		Х	Х
	Operated, recovered, no further treatment	X	Х	
Cerebral palsy	Mild only	Х	Х	
Cervical dysplasia	Abnormal Pap smear			Х
	Two (2) normal Pap tests 6 months apart following the abnormal Pap		X	X
Chiropractic treatment or physical therapy	Rating dependent on medical diagnosis and frequency of therapy			
Cholesterol	See hypercholesterolemia			
Chronic fatigue syndrome	Fully functional without restrictions, no symptoms or medications, after 2 years	Х	Х	
Chronic obstructive	Consider pulmonary function tests, smoking history			
pulmonary disease (COPD)	Mild, after 5 years smoking cessation, no treatment		Х	
	Moderate to severe or smoking			Auto decline
Chronic pain	Within 1 year			Х
	No further treatment/medications, no symptoms	Х	Х	
Cleft lip/palate	Operated, within 2 years		Х	Х
	Operated, correction complete, after 2 years	Х	Х	
	Unoperated, over age 19		Х	Х
Club foot	No treatment anticipated/recommended	Х	Х	Х
Coarctation of the aorta	See congenital heart defects			
Coccidioidomycosis	See Valley fever			
Colitis				
Ulcerative	Total colectomy			Auto decline
	Partial colectomy or ileostomy or colostomy			Auto decline
	Unoperated			Auto decline
Colitis (continued)				
Non-ulcerative	Mild or moderate, fully recovered	X	X	
	Severe after 5 years, fully recovered		Х	
Congenital familial polyposis	Operated, after 5 years		Х	Х

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Congenital heart defects ASD – atrial septal defect PDA – patent ductus arteriosis VSD – ventricular septal defect	All cases		X	X
Coarctation of aorta	All cases	X	Х	Х
Dextrocardia	No symptoms or abnormalities	X	Х	
Convulsive disorder				
Febrile	After 1 year, seizure free		Х	Х
Others	After 2 years, seizure free		Х	Х
Corneal ulcer	Acute	Х	Х	
	Chronic and unoperated			Auto decline
	Operated, fully recovered	X	Х	
Craniosynostosis (infant)	Operated, fully recovered, after 2 years		Х	
Crohn's disease	No symptoms, after 3 years		Х	Х
	Operated, after 12 months, no ileostomy or colostomy		Х	Х
Cystocele	Operated, fully recovered	Х	Х	
D				
Depression	See mental/emotional disorders			
<b>De Quervain's</b> <b>disease</b> (stenosing tenosynovitis)	Successful surgery or medical treatment, released from care	X	Х	
Detached retina	Operated, fully recovered, after 1 year		Х	Х
Deviated septum	Unoperated		Х	Х
	Operated, fully recovered, asymptomatic	X	Х	
Diabetes				
Gestational	Normal GTT, after delivery	Х	Х	
Insipidus	Before 30 years of age, after 2 years from onset		Х	Х
	After 30 years of age, after 5 years from onset		Х	Х
Mellitus • Type 2 – treated	Controlled, no complications, within weight guidelines, normal lab work		Х	Х
with oral medications • Type 1 – insulin dependent	Other than above (with hypertension, neuropathy, retinopathy, abnormal lab work, overweight guidelines, etc.)			Auto decline
dependent	Requiring insulin pump			Auto decline

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Diaphragmatic	Unoperated: See esophagitis			
hernia	Operated, fully recovered	Х	Х	
Disc disease,	Unoperated, asymptomatic, after 1 year		Х	
herniated	Unoperated, symptomatic			Х
	Operated, asymptomatic, no treatment, after 6 months		Х	
<b>Dislocation</b> – shoulder, elbow,	Single episode, symptom/treatment-free	Х	X	
wrist, ankle	Multiple episodes, after 3 years, no residuals	Х	Х	
Diverticulitis	Resolved, responsive to treatment	Х	Х	
	Operated, recovered	Х	Х	
	All others			Х
Down's Syndrome	No cardiac or other complications		Х	
	Cardiac involvement, operated, asymptomatic, after 1 year		Х	Х
Drug addiction, history of	After 2 years of abstinence, no residuals		Х	Х
Dumping syndrome	Most cases		Х	Х
Dupuytren's	Operated, after 1 year	Х		
contracture	Unoperated, no surgery anticipated		Х	Х
Dwarfism				
Achondroplastic	Over age 25, no significant physical or mental impairment		Х	
Pituitary	Over age 20, max growth achieved, no further treatment	Х	X	
Dysfunctional uterine bleeding	Asymptomatic, after 1 year, no surgery recommended	Х	Х	
Dyspepsia	See esophagitis			
E				
Ear infections	Infrequent episodes, responsive to medication, even after surgery	Х	Х	
	Frequent or recurrent episodes, within 6 months, even after surgery		X	X
	After 6 months, asymptomatic, no recurrence, even after surgery	X		
	Chronic		Х	Х
Emphysema, pulmonary	See Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)			

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Endocarditis	Complete recovery, without residuals, after 3 years	Х	Х	
Endometriosis	Before menopause, minimal symptoms, within 5 years, only on NSAIDS		Х	Х
	Before menopause, moderate to severe symptoms			Auto decline
	After hysterectomy or menopause, asymptomatic	Х	Х	
	After menopause, symptomatic			Auto decline
Enuresis	Testing complete, consider medications	Х	Х	
Epicondylitis	No therapy, no cortisone shots	Х	Х	
Epilepsy	See convulsive disorder			
Epstein-Barr virus	See chronic fatigue syndrome or mononucleosis			
Erectile dysfunction	Testing complete, consider medications, possible further treatment/surgery		Х	Х
Erythema	Single attack, recovered	Х		
multiforme	Recurrent, severe or chronic	Х	Х	Х
Esophageal	No symptoms or treatment, after 12 months	Х	Х	Х
stricture	Severe symptoms			Х
Esophagitis	Infrequent episodes, occasional short course of meds		Х	
	Frequent episodes or those requiring long-term or ongoing drug therapy		Х	X
Exostosis	Ear involvement, symptomatic			Х
	Ear involvement but asymptomatic	Х	Х	
	Otherwise, recovered	Х	Х	
F				
Familial polyposis	See congenital familial polyposis			
Fasciitis	Acute, no steroid injections, within 1 year		Х	
	Recovered, symptom-/treatment-free, after 1 year	X		
	Chronic/recurrent or steroid injections, within 3 years			Auto decline
	History chronic/recurrent, fully recovered, symptom/ treatment free, after 3 years	X		
Fasciitis, necrotizing	Fully recovered, after 2 years		Х	Х
Fetal alcohol syndrome	Testing complete, no complications or residuals	Х	Х	
Fibrocystic breast	Current, no biopsy		Х	Х
disease	Operated, benign biopsy	Х	Х	
	Asymptomatic, no treatment required	X	Х	
Fissure, anal	Recovered, no residuals or further treatment	Х	Х	
	Chronic	h		Х

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
<b>Fistula</b> – anal, rectal, vaginal,	Unoperated, all cases			Х
tracheoesophageal	Operated, recovered, no residuals	Х	Х	
Fractures				
Spine	Minor – without spinal cord damage, after 1 year	Х	Х	
	Compression – asymptomatic, no treatment	Х	Х	
	Symptomatic, recovered, after 2 years		Х	Х
Нір	Recovered, no limitations or residuals, after 3 years		Х	
Simple	No hardware	Х	Х	
	Hardware after 1 year		Х	
G				
Gall stones	Present			Auto decline
	After surgery, no complications	Х		
Ganglion cyst	All cases unless surgery anticipated/recommended	Х	Х	
Gastric bypass				Auto decline
Gastritis	Single attack	Х	Х	
	All others		Х	Х
Genital warts	Most cases, resolved, normal Pap test	Х	Х	
GERD (gastroesophageal reflux disease)	See esophagitis			
Glaucoma	Most cases	Х	Х	
Glomerulonephritis,	Single attack after 1 year	Х	Х	
Nephritis	Chronic			Auto decline
Gonorrhea	Single attack, treated	Х	Х	
	Multiple attacks, treated		Х	Х
Gout	Mild, occasional attacks	Х	Х	
	Tophaceous or with renal involvement			Auto decline
Guillain-Barre	Present or with residuals			Auto decline
syndrome	After recovery, no residuals	Х	Х	
н				·
Hammer toe	Unoperated		Х	Х
	Operated, released from care, asymptomatic	Х	Х	
Hashimoto's Disease	Most cases, asymptomatic	Х	Х	

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Headaches	Migraines – see separate guideline			
	Otherwise	X	Х	
Hearing loss	Traumatic, no treatment, released from care	Х		
	Otherwise	X	Х	
Heart attack	All cases			Auto decline
Heart murmur	Functional, no heart disease	Х		
	Otherwise, consider cause of murmur		Х	Х
Hemorrhoids	Unoperated or severe		Х	Х
	Asymptomatic or mild/moderate	X	Х	
Hepatitis				
Any type	Present, chronic, or persistent			Auto decline
A, B, E, or alcohol-related	Recovered after 6 months	X	Х	
C and all other types	All cases			Auto decline
Hernia				
Femoral, inguinal,	Unoperated		Х	х
umbilical	Operated	X		
Hiatal or	Unoperated: See esophagitis			
diaphragmatic	Operated, asymptomatic, no medication	X	Х	
Herpes	Genital	Х	Х	
	Ocular (keratitis)			
	– Recovered, normal vision, no residuals	x	Х	
	– Recovered with residuals or active, in treatment			Х
	Oral	X	Х	
	Zoster (shingles)			
	– Skin, single attack, no residuals	X		
	– Skin, multiple attacks, after 3 years	Х	Х	
	– Eye or ear involvement			Auto decline
Hip dysplasia	Of the newborn, underwritten based on severity and treatment type	X	Х	
	Otherwise, see Legg-Calve-Perthes disease			
Hirschsprung's	Unoperated, or operated with symptoms		Х	Auto decline
	Operated, asymptomatic	X	Х	
HPV (Human Papillomavirus)	See cervical dysplasia and genital warts			

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Huntington's chorea	All cases			Auto decline
Hyaline membrane disease	All cases	Х	Х	
Hydrocele	Unoperated		Х	Х
Hydronephrosis	Recovered	Х	Х	
Hypercholesterol- emia	Controlled, within normal range	Х	Х	
Hypertension	Controlled, no medication	Х	Х	
	Controlled on medication		Х	
	Uncontrolled or hospital within 1 year			Auto decline
	Complications (diabetes, overweight, etc.)			Auto decline
Hyperthyroidism	See thyroid diseases			
Hypoglycemia	Infrequent, mild attacks, no diabetes	Х	Х	
Hypospadias	Operated, within 2 years	Х	Х	
Hypotension	Underwritten based on cause	Х	Х	Х
Hypothyroid	See thyroid diseases			
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Impotence	Testing complete, consider medications, possible further treatment/surgery		Х	Х
Incontinence, stress	Underwritten based on cause or pending surgery	Х	Х	X
Infertility	Current treatment and/or within 2 years			Auto decline
	No further tests, attempts, meds, etc., after 2 years	Х		
Intestinal	Single attack, unoperated, after 1 year	Х	Х	
obstruction	Multiple attacks after 5 years		Х	Х
Intussusception	Operated, recovered	Х	Х	
Iritis	Single occurrence, after 6 months, no residuals	Х	Х	
	Multiple occurrences, after 1 year, no residuals	Х	Х	
Irritable bowel	Mild, infrequent attacks, OTC meds	Х		
syndrome	Moderate, more frequent attacks, occasional prescription meds		X	X
	Frequent or prolonged attacks, after 5 years, prescription meds		Х	

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
J				
Joint replacement	Single surgery, minimal mobility impairment, asymptomatic			
Нір	One hip, after 1 year		Х	Х
	Both hips			Auto decline
Knee	One knee, after 5 years		Х	Х
	Both knees			Auto decline
Shoulder, elbow, wrist, or ankle	All cases			Auto decline
All types of replacement	More than one surgery or persistent pain or significant mobility impairment			Auto decline
Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis	All cases		Х	Х
К				
Keloids	Most cases	Х	Х	
Keratosis	Most cases	Х		
Kidney cyst	Simple, operated or no surgery anticipated, asymptomatic	Х	Х	
	Polycystic			Х
Kidney infection	Single episode, recovered	Х		
	Multiple attacks, after 5 years	Х	Х	
	Multiple attacks, within 5 years or chronic			Х
Kidney stones	Present			Auto decline
	Single attack or single stone passed	Х	Х	
	Multiple attacks or multiple stones passed		Х	Х
Knee injury	Symptomatic			Х
	Asymptomatic, mobility not impaired, operated or unoperated, after 1 year		X	
	Multiple surgeries, same site, asymptomatic, mobility not impaired, after 2 years		X	
	Sprains, strains	Х	Х	
L				
Legg-Calve-	Unoperated, see Osteoarthritis			
Perthes disease	Operated, see Joint Replacement			
Ligament injuries	Recovered/repaired, no pain, swelling, or instability	Х	Х	
Lupus	Systemic			Auto decline
erythematosus	Discoid, after 2 years	Х	Х	

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Lyme disease	Asymptomatic, no residuals	Х	Х	
	Chronic			Х
Μ				
Meniere's disease	Asymptomatic	Х	Х	
Meningitis	Recovered, no residuals			
	Single attack	Х	Х	-
	Multiple attacks after 1 year		Х	
Mental/emotional disorders	Category 1: Single episode			
Neurotic disorders or non-psychotic	Mild to moderate No medication, no counseling, no hospitalization	X	X	
depression (phobias,	With counseling		Х	
obsessive- compulsive	Medication and counseling		Х	Х
disorders, post-traumatic stress syndrome) or anxiety adjustments,	Severe Prior hospitalization and/or treatment episode, recovered, no current medication, counseling or psychotherapy, after 1 year	X	X	
reactions, or situational problems	With psychotherapy or counseling		Х	Х
Psychotic disorders	Category 2: Multiple episodes			Х
– schizophrenia, bipolar (manic depression), etc.	All cases			Auto decline
Suicide attempt	Within 3 years or multiple attempts			Auto decline
Migraines	Mild, infrequent, no emergency room visits	Х	Х	
	Severe or frequent or seen in ER within 2 years		Х	Х
Miscarriage	Final rate is dependent on number of miscarriages within 2 years		Х	Х
Mitral valve prolapse	Diagnosed by echocardiogram, normal or non-classic thickness/displacement	Х		
	Classic, trace regurgitation or less, uses antibiotics prophylactically		Х	
	More than trace regurgitation or not using antibiotics prophylactically			Auto decline
Moles	Benign pathology report	Х		
Mononucleosis	No symptoms	Х	Х	

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Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Myofibrositis,	Single attack, mild case, recovered		Х	
myositis	Severe or multiple attacks		Х	Х
Ν				
Narcolepsy	All cases		Х	Х
Nephrectomy	No residuals, normal kidney function, after 6 months	Х	Х	
(non-malignant cause)	Persistent renal or cardiovascular abnormalities			Auto decline
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome	See glomerulonephritis			
Nevus				
Single dysplastic nevus	All cases	Х	Х	
Congenital	Small to medium, removed, benign	Х	Х	
melanocytic	Giant			Auto decline
Dysplastic syndrome	All cases			Auto decline
0	"			
Osgood-Schlatter disease	See osteochondrosis			
Osteoarthritis	See arthritis			
Osteochondrosis	Recovered		Х	Х
Osteopenia	Mild		Х	
Osteoporosis	Mild		Х	
	Moderate to severe			Auto decline
Otitis Media	See ear infections			
Otosclerosis	Unoperated			Auto decline
	Operated	Х	Х	
Ovarian cyst	Spontaneously resolved	Х		
	Operated or controlled by birth control pills	Х	Х	
	Polycystic ovary disease, after ovaries removed	Х	Х	
	Polycystic ovary disease, before ovaries removed			Auto decline
P				
Pancreatitis	Acute, single attack, unoperated gall stones			Х
	Acute, single attack, gall stones removed	Х	Х	
	Recurrent/chronic, or secondary to alcoholism			Auto decline

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Pap tests, abnormal	See cervical dysplasia			
PDA (patent ductus arteriosis)	See congenital heart defects			
Pelvic inflammatory	Present			Auto decline
disease	Single episode or operated after tube removal	Х	Х	
	Multiple episodes within 2 years		Х	Х
Pericarditis	Non-constrictive, no residuals			
	Due to viral infection or unknown cause, after 3 years	Х	Х	
	Due to bacterial infection, after 1 year	Х		-
Peyronie's disease	All cases	Х	Х	
Phlebitis	Superficial	Х	Х	
	Deep vein, present, or on anticoagulants			Auto decline
	Deep vein, resolved – single attack		Х	Х
	Deep vein, resolved – multiple attacks, after 2 years		Х	Х
Pleurisy	Unresolved			Auto decline
	Resolved, without effusion	Х	Х	
	Resolved, with effusion after 5 years	Х	Х	-
Pneumothorax	Most cases	Х	Х	
Poliomyelitis	With bladder or sphincter function involvement			Auto decline
	With limb weakness		Х	-
Polymyositis	After 1 year		Х	
Polyp				
Anal or rectal	Unoperated, more than 4 polyps			Auto decline
	Unoperated, less than 4 polyps		Х	Х
	Operated, benign, less than 4 polyps		Х	
	Operated, benign, multiple polyposis or adenomatosis, after 5 years		Х	X
Bladder	Single, benign, after 12 months	Х	Х	-
	Multiple, after 5 years	Х	Х	-
	Present or recurrences within 5 years			Auto decline
Polyp				
Cervical	Pathology negative, no symptoms or recurrence	Х	Х	
Endometrial	Pathology negative, no symptoms or recurrence after 6 months	X	X	-
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Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Gastrointestinal	Unoperated			Auto decline
	Operated, benign, less than 4 polyps		Х	
	Operated, benign, multiple polyposis or adenomatosis, after 5 years		Х	Х
Nasal or	Benign, single	Х	Х	
vocal cord	Benign, two or more recurrences, after 3 years		Х	
Premature birth				
Good weight gain,	33-37 weeks gestation	Х	Х	
normal develop- ment, no residuals or complications	29-32 weeks gestation, after 2 years	Х	Х	
Proctitis	Single episode	Х	Х	
	Multiple or recurrent, after 1 year	Х	Х	
Prostate stones	Most cases	Х	Х	
	With prostatitis			Auto decline
Prostatic hypertrophy, benign	Unoperated, PSA normal • Asymptomatic or minimal symptoms, no medica- tions, recent ultrasound/biopsy negative		Х	
	Unoperated, PSA elevated but stable for 2 years • Asymptomatic or minimal symptoms, no medica- tions, recent ultrasound/biopsy negative		X	X
	Operated • Asymptomatic, no residual operative complications	X	X	
	Otherwise			Х
Prostatitis	Single episode, resolved	Х	Х	
	Chronic, recurrent after 6 months		Х	Х
Prosthesis				
Eye	Substitution complete, after 3 months	Х	Х	
Penile	All cases		Х	Х
Limb	Due to traumatic amputation, after age 18		Х	Х
Psoriasis	Mild to moderate	Х	Х	
	Severe			Auto decline
Psychosis	See mental/emotional disorders			
Pulmonary embolism	No residuals, after 3 months	Х	Х	
Purpura	See thrombocytopenia, purpura			

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
End-stage pyloric stenosis	Operated	Х	Х	
R				
Raynaud's disease	Operated or unoperated, mild, non-progressive, no complications, asymptomatic	Х	Х	
	Otherwise			Х
Rectocele	Operated	Х	Х	
Reiter's syndrome	Occasional mild symptoms		Х	
	Within 6 months of diagnosis			Auto decline
Renal failure/	Complete recovery, normal kidney function, after 1 year	Х	Х	
insufficiency	End-stage renal failure or dialysis			Auto decline
Retinitis pigmentosa	All cases	Х	Х	
Rheumatic fever	Single attack, recovered, no complications	Х	Х	
	Multiple attacks, after 1 year, no complications	Х	Х	
Rotator cuff	Operated, recovered, released from care	Х	Х	
	Unoperated, asymptomatic		Х	
	Unoperated, symptomatic			Х
S				
Sarcoidosis (Boeck's)	Stable, non-progressive, no pulmonary impairment		Х	Х
Scarlet fever	Recovered without residuals	Х	Х	
Schizophrenia	See mental/emotional disorders			
Scleroderma	Minimal, localized, superficial, after 1 year		Х	
	Recurrent, extensive or within 1 year			Auto decline
Seizures	See convulsive disorder			
Shingles	See herpes: zoster			
Sinusitis				
Smoker	Within 6 months, acute, no ENT abnormality, less than 3 episodes	Х	Х	
	Chronic		Х	Х
	Operated within 1 year		Х	
Non-smoker	Acute, no ENT abnormality	Х		
	Recurrent within 12 months		Х	
Sleep apnea	See apnea			
Spermatocele	All cases	Х	Х	

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Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Spina bifida				
Cystica	Unoperated or operated with residuals			Auto decline
	Operated, asymptomatic	Х	Х	
Occulta	Unoperated under age 20		Х	Х
	Operated or over age 20 years	Х	Х	
Spinal curvature				
All cases	Operated, recovered after 1 year	Х		
Lordosis	Asymptomatic	Х		-
Kyphosis	Unoperated			Auto decline
Scoliosis/ Kyphoscoliosis	Unoperated, more than 30 degree curvature			Auto decline
Spondylolisthesis or Spondylosis	Best cases after 1 year		Х	
Sponge kidney	No history of infections, stones, or renal insufficiencies		Х	
Sprains – knee, shoulder	See back sprain/strain			
Stasis dermatitis	No history of ulcerations/cellulites: mild, non-progressive		Х	
	History of ulcerations/cellulitis			
	– Single episode, fully recovered		Х	
	– Present or recurrent, after 3 years		Х	-
Strabismus	Unoperated, congenital or traumatic, within 6 months		Х	Х
	Operated, recovered, after 6 months	Х	Х	
Stroke	Acute, no residuals, no underlying disease, fully recovered, after 10 years		Х	
Subdural	Unoperated			Auto decline
hematoma	Operated after 1 year, no residuals	Х	Х	
Substance abuse	See alcoholism or drug addiction			
Surrogacy	2 years with no planned surrogate or applicant as surrogate	Х		
Synovitis	Single attack	Х	Х	
	Multiple attacks		Х	X
T				
Temporomandibular	Unoperated, asymptomatic, no treatment	Х	Х	
joint syndrome (TMJ)	Operated	X	X	
	Surgery anticipated or operated with residuals			Auto decline
Tennis elbow	See epicondylitis			
Tetrology of fallot	See congenital heart defects			

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Thoracic outlet syndrome	Best cases	Х	Х	
Thrombocytopenia,	After 6 months, without splenectomy	Х	Х	
purpura	After 3 years, with splenectomy	Х	Х	
Thymoma	Benign, after 5 years		Х	
	Malignant, after 10 years		Х	
Thyroid diseases				
Hypothyroidism	All cases	Х	Х	
Hyperthyroidism, Grave's disease	Surgically or medically controlled, after 6 months	Х	Х	
Thyroiditis	Recovered	Х	Х	
Tic douloureux	Unoperated, or treated with injections after 1 year		Х	
	Operated	Х	Х	
Tonsillitis	4 acute attacks per year, recovered	Х		
	Chronic, recurrent, 5 or more attacks per year			Auto decline
lourette's syndrome	Best cases	Х	Х	
Tracheo- esophageal fistula	See fistula			
Transplants	All except corneal			Auto decline
	Corneal, recovered, no residuals	Х	Х	
Transposition of the great vessels	See congenital heart defects			
Tuberculosis				
Positive skin test, negative chest X-ray	After release from drug therapy	Х	Х	
Pulmonary	Arrested, after 2 years		Х	
Skin	After 2 years	Х	Х	
Epidydimus	All cases			Auto decline
U				
Ulcer, peptic	Currently active or unoperated, single attack within 2 years			Auto decline
	Recovered without surgery, single attack, after 2 years	Х	Х	
	Operated, no recurrence	Х	Х	
	Unoperated, multiple attacks after 2 years		X	
	Recurrent ulcer, H Pylori positive			Auto decline

Condition	Specifics	Possible eligibility at Tier 1 rate	Possible eligibility at higher tier rate	Possible or probable decline
Undescended testicle	Operated	Х	Х	
Ureteral stricture	Recovered or operated after 2 years	Х	Х	
Urethral stricture	Full recovery, after 6 months	Х	Х	
	Chronic, recurrent			Auto decline
Uterine fibroid	Unoperated, moderate to large or multiple tumors			Auto decline
tumor	Unoperated, single, small, no size change, after 1 year		Х	
	Operated by myomectomy		Х	Х
	Operated by hysterectomy	Х	Х	-
Urinary tract reflux (VUR: vesico- ureteral reflux)	Unoperated, after 1 year, no symptoms/medication, or evidence of infection or renal impairment	Х	Х	
	Operated, no symptoms/medication, normal renal function	X	X	
V				
Valley fever	Treated and recovered	Х	Х	
Varicocele	Unoperated after 2 years	Х	Х	
	Operated, recovered	Х	Х	
Varicose veins	Operated	Х	Х	
	Unoperated			
	– Mild	Х		
	– Moderate to severe			Auto decline
Ventricular septal defect (VSD)	See congenital heart defects			
Volvulus	Operated, no complications or residuals		Х	Х
W				
Wolff-Parkinson-	With cardiac ablation, asymptomatic, after 1 year		Х	
White syndrome	Without cardiac ablation			Auto decline