



Provider Quick Reference Guide

Precertification/notification requirements | Important phone numbers | Revenue codes
833-731-2154 | 866-840-4991 (Long-term services and support)

<https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn>

Easy access to prior authorization requirements and other important information

For additional information about benefits and services, see your provider manual. The most recent, full version of the provider manual is located at <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> under Policies, Guidelines, and Manuals. If you have questions about this quick reference card (QRC) or have a recommendation to improve it, please call your local provider relationship management representative. We want to hear from you and improve our service so you can focus on serving your patients.

Precertification or prior authorization:

The prospective process whereby licensed clinical associates apply designated criteria sets against the intensity of services to be rendered, a member's severity of illness, medical history, and previous treatment to determine the medical necessity and appropriateness of a given request. If a service requires precertification, the provider must contact Wellpoint via phone, facsimile or electronic communication to obtain approval prior to the rendering of services. All relevant clinical information needed to determine medical necessity must be included in the request for prior authorization.

Concurrent review:

This review is conducted for admissions that initially did not obtain prior authorization due to emergent status and for reviews during the length of stay. Notification with supporting clinical is required to be submitted within one business day of admission and is subject to medical necessity review. Clinical reviews will continue intermittently during the length of the stay.

Notification:

Telephonic, facsimile or electronic communication received from a provider informing Wellpoint of the intent to render covered medical services to a member prior to the rendering of such services. There is no review against medical necessity criteria for services classified as notification only. However, member eligibility and provider status (network and non-network) are verified. The purpose of notification is to identify members who may benefit from case management such as members who require high-risk obstetrics. Give us notification prior to rendering services outlined in this document.

Precertification/notification instructions and definitions:

When is it appropriate to use urgent, STAT or ASAP on a request?

Under *2020 NCQA Standards for Utilization Management*, an urgent request is a request for medical care or services where application of the time frame for making routine or non-life-threatening care determinations:

- Could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the member or the member's ability to regain maximum function, based on a prudent layperson's judgment
- Could seriously jeopardize the life, health or safety of the member or others, due to the member's psychological state, or in the opinion of a practitioner with knowledge of the member's medical or behavioral condition, would subject the member to adverse health consequences without the care or treatment that is the subject of the request

Request precertification and give us notification:

- Online: <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn>
- By phone: **833-731-2154**
- By fax: **800-964-3627**
 - Fax behavioral health information to the number above.
- For emergency or urgent services, give us notification within 24 hours or the next business day.

For code-specific requirements for all services, visit <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> > Resources > Precertification Lookup Tool.

Requirements listed are for network providers. Out-of-network providers must request precertification for non-emergency services prior to rendering care to the member.



Cardiac rehabilitation

Precertification is required for coverage of all services.

Chemotherapy

- Procedures related to the administration of approved chemotherapy medications do not require approval when performed in outpatient settings by a participating facility, provider office, outpatient hospital, or ambulatory surgery center.
- For information on coverage of and precertification requirements for chemotherapy drugs, please refer to the Precertification Lookup Tool from the Quick Tools menu on our website.
- Precertification is required for coverage of inpatient chemotherapy.

Court-ordered services

Court-ordered behavioral health services will be provided in accordance with state laws. Wellpoint may apply medically necessary criteria after 24 hours of emergency services unless there is a court order prohibiting release.

Mandatory outpatient treatment: Wellpoint will provide mandatory outpatient treatment for members found not guilty by reason of insanity following a 30 to 60-day inpatient evaluation or for other reasons. Treatment can be terminated only by the court.

Dermatology services

- No precertification is required for evaluation and management with an in-network provider.
- Services considered cosmetic in nature or related to previous cosmetic procedures are not covered.
- Please refer to the Precertification Lookup Tool on our website for information on precertification requirements.

Diagnostic Testing

- Precertification is through Carelon Medical Benefits Management, Inc. for CTA, MRA, MRI, CAT scan, nuclear cardiology, stress echocardiography, transesophageal echocardiography, echocardiogram and PET scans. Contact Carelon Medical Benefits Management by phone at **844-767-8159** or online at www.providerportal.com. Carelon Medical Benefits Management will locate a preferred imaging facility from the Wellpoint network of radiology service providers.
- No precertification is required for tests performed in conjunction with an inpatient stay.
- Please refer to the Precertification Lookup Tool on our website for information on precertification requirements.

Genetic Testing

- For information on precertification requirements and responsible party for authorization review, refer to <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> > Resources > Precertification Lookup Tool.
- If Carelon Medical Benefits Management is the responsible vendor providers can register online. An online application for Carelon Medical Benefits Management, ***ProviderPortal*** offers a convenient way to enter your order requests or check on the status of your previous orders. Go to <https://providerportal.com> to begin; registration is required.

Durable medical equipment (DME)

The quickest, most efficient way to request prior authorization is through Availity Essentials at Availity.com. You can fax referral requests to **877-423-9958**. If needed, request can be made by phone at **833-731-2154**. Medical necessity is required for all services. All referral requests must contain, at a minimum, the following information:

- First and last name of patient
- Address where service is to be rendered
- Patient or caregiver's phone number with area code
- Patient's date of birth and gender
- Current and clear physician orders
- Diagnosis and documentation to support requested service(s) or equipment (for example, sat levels for O2)
- Allergies, disability status, height, weight or diabetic status
- Desired start of care date
- Services or equipment required including size, quantity, frequency, brand, etc.
- Ordering physician name and phone number
- Wellpoint subscriber ID
- For information on precertification requirements and responsible party for authorization review, refer to <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> > Resources > Precertification Lookup Tool.



Educational consultation

No notification or precertification is required for diabetic/nutritional or weight management counseling.

Emergency services

- Members may self-refer.
- No notification is required for emergency care given in the emergency room. If emergency care results in admission, notification to Wellpoint is required within 24 hours or the next business day.
- For observation precertification requirements, see the **Observation** section of this QRC.

ENT services (otolaryngology)

- No precertification is required for in-network providers for Evaluation and Management Codes.
- Precertification is required for tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy, nasal/sinus surgery, and cochlear implant surgery and services.
- For information on precertification requirements, refer to <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> > Resources > Precertification Lookup Tool.

Family planning/STD care

- Members may self-refer to an in-network provider.
- Covered services include pelvic and breast examinations, lab work, drugs, biological, genetic counseling, devices and supplies related to family planning (for example, intrauterine device [IUD]).
- Infertility services and treatment are not covered.

Gastroenterology services

No precertification is required for network provider for Evaluation and Management codes. Precertification is required for upper endoscopy and bariatric surgery, including insertion, removal, and/or replacement of adjustable gastric restrictive devices and subcutaneous port components.

- Please refer to the Precertification Lookup Tool on our website for information on precertification requirements.

Hearing aids

- Precertification is required for digital hearing aids for members under 21 years of age.
- Hearing aids, including prescribing, fitting or changing of hearing aids and cochlear implants for members over 21 years of age are not a covered benefit.

Hearing screening

- No notification or precertification is required for coverage of diagnostic and screening tests, hearing aid evaluations and counseling.
- Audiological therapy, training, or cochlear implants are not covered for members over 21 years of age.

Home health care

- Precertification is required. For continuing home care services, the request should be received at least two weeks prior to the end of the current authorization period. For home care services to be reviewed, the initial requests must have a current MD order, clinical documentation to include the nurse and/or therapy evaluation. For concurrent home care services, documentation shall include the most current signed 485, nurses/therapy/home health aide notes.
- Covered services include skilled nursing, home health aide, physical, occupational and speech therapy services; and physician-ordered supplies.
- Precertification is required for the following covered services: skilled nursing, home health aide, therapy, and home infusion.
- Rehabilitation therapy, drugs and DME require separate precertification.
- Fax number for home health is: **866-920-6003**
- The quickest, most efficient way to request prior authorization is through Availity Essentials at <https://Availity.com>.
- The use of electronic visit verification (EVV) is required for payment for all home health and private duty services per CMS guidelines. Wellpoint uses Carebridge Health as our EVV system and claims submission. For additional information, email TNEVV@Wellpoint.com.



Hospital admission

- Elective admissions require precertification.
- Emergency admissions require notification within 24 hours or the next business day.
- To be covered, preadmission testing must be performed by an Wellpoint preferred lab vendor. See provider referral directory for a complete listing of participating vendors.
- No coverage for rest cures, personal comfort and convenience items, services and supplies not directly related to the care of the patient (such as telephone charges, take-home supplies and similar items).
- For normal newborn nursery and non-routine newborn admission, please refer to the **Newborn Admissions** section.

Laboratory services (outpatient)

- All laboratory services furnished by non-network providers require precertification by Wellpoint, except for hospital laboratory services in the event of an emergency medical condition.
- Hospitals may only perform STAT labs.
- To ensure outpatient laboratory services are directed to the most appropriate setting, providers may perform laboratory testing in their offices but must otherwise direct outpatient diagnostic laboratory tests to a Wellpoint participating lab such as Quest Diagnostics or LabCorp. You can find a list of participating laboratories in our provider referral directory available on our website.

Lactations services

- Eligible patients have unlimited access to outpatient lactation services.
- Proper coding is required for accurate lactation services billing.

Wellpoint is committed to ensuring comprehensive care for our eligible patients, and we're now offering an extensive array of pregnancy and postpartum outpatient services provided by a variety of qualified professionals, accessible through both in-person and telehealth modes.

For your guide to accessible lactation services and accurate billing, visit <https://providernews.wellpoint.com/tn/articles/your-guide-to-accessible-lactation-services-and-accurate-bil-23195>.

Medical supplies

The quickest, most efficient way to request prior authorization is through Availity Essentials at <https://Availity.com>. You can fax referral requests to **877-423-9958**. If needed, request can be made by phone at **833-731-2154**. Over-the-counter (OTC) disposable medical supplies are not covered.

All referral requests must contain, at a minimum, the following information:

- First and last name of patient
- Address where service is to be rendered
- Patient or caregiver's phone number with area code
- Patient's date of birth and gender
- Current and clear physician orders
- Diagnosis and documentation to support requested service(s) or equipment (for example, sat levels for O2)
- Therapist evaluation for wheelchairs
- Allergies, disability status, height, weight or diabetic status
- Desired start of care date
- Services or equipment required, including size, quantity, frequency, brand, etc.
- CPT® codes with the number of units requested (indicate if the equipment will be a rental or a purchase)
- Ordering physician name and phone number
- Wellpoint subscriber ID
- Please refer to the Precertification Lookup Tool on our website for information on precertification requirements. .

Neurology

- No precertification is required for in-network providers for Evaluation and Management Codes.
- Precertification is required for neurosurgery, spinal fusion and artificial intervertebral disc surgery.
- For information on precertification requirements, refer to <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> > Resources > Precertification Lookup Tool.

Newborns

- Newborns with high care needs, which refers to newborns who require a higher level of care associated with the more complex newborn DRG, and those admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) require authorization.
- If a newborn with high care needs- admission does not have an approved authorization on file, the claim will be paid at the normal newborn rate if the mother's authorization is on file.
- Normal newborns will be paid using the mother's approved authorization.
- If no authorization is on file for the mother or the newborn, the claim will deny for no authorization.

Observation

- No precertification or notification is required for in-network observation.
- If observation results in admission, notification to Wellpoint is required within 24 hours or one business day.

Obstetrical care

- Notification to Wellpoint is required for OB Global Services at the first prenatal visit.
- No precertification is required for coverage of labor, delivery and circumcision for newborns up to 12 weeks of age.
- No precertification is required for the ordering physician for OB diagnostic testing.
- Notification of delivery is required within 24 hours with newborn information including date of birth, gestational age, birth weight, number of births, and sex.
- OB case management programs are available.

Ophthalmology

- No precertification is required for Evaluation and Management codes for in-network providers.
- Precertification is required for repair of eyelid defects.
- Services considered cosmetic in nature are not covered.
- For information on precertification requirements, refer to <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> > Resources > Precertification Lookup Tool.

Oral maxillofacial

See the **plastic/cosmetic/reconstructive surgery** section of this QRC.

Otolaryngology (ENT Services)

See the **ENT services (otolaryngology)** section of this QRC.

Out-of-area/out-of-plan care

Precertification is required except for coverage of emergency care (including self-referral).

Outpatient/ambulatory surgery

- Precertification requirement is based on the service performed.
- For procedure-specific requirements, refer to <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> > Resources > Precertification Lookup Tool.



Pharmacy

Outpatient pharmacy benefits are covered by TennCare through OptumRx. Bill OptumRx for injectable drugs obtained directly from a pharmacy provider. Some of these drugs require precertification through TennCare to ensure clinical criteria are met. For full details, please refer to the TennCare program.

The injectable drugs covered under the pharmacy benefit, located at <http://tinyurl.com/rwedxc4r> are available by having the member obtain the drug through his or her local or specialty pharmacy.

The TennCare pharmacy benefits manager is OptumRx. Please note the TennCare Program has a Preferred Drug List and an Auto Exempt List. You can access information about the TennCare Pharmacy Program at <http://tinyurl.com/2kcefyvj>.

Products considered non-self-administered and obtained in an office/clinic setting are to be billed to Wellpoint. We reimburse providers for certain injectables administered in a provider's office as well as home infusion. Please refer to the *Precertification Lookup* tool on our website.

Specialty pharmacy: CVS Caremark Medical Specialty, Monroeville, PA

- To help prevent delays in shipment, the provider will need to remind patients Caremark will contact them prior to dispensing.
- Medical injectables requiring a prior authorization must have an approved prior authorization for Caremark to dispense the medication. Once approval is received, the provider must fax the approval letter and order form to CVS Caremark Medical Specialty.
- Members are not required to pay Copays

Contact information:
Phone: **800-326-3477**
Fax: **866-336-8479**

Physical medicine and rehabilitation

Most services and procedures related to pain management require precertification. Please refer to the Precertification Lookup Tool on our website for information on precertification requirements.

Plastic/cosmetic/reconstructive surgery (including oral maxillofacial services)

- No precertification is required for coverage of Evaluation and Management codes for in-network providers.
- Most other services require precertification for coverage. Please refer to the Precertification Lookup Tool on our website for information on precertification requirements.
- Services considered cosmetic in nature or related to previous cosmetic procedures are not covered (e.g., scar revision, keloid removal resulting from pierced ears).
- Precertification is required for the coverage of trauma to the teeth and oral maxillofacial medical and surgical conditions, including TMJ.

Podiatry

No precertification is required for coverage of Evaluation and Management codes with an in-network provider.

- For information on precertification requirements for additional services, refer to <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> > Resources > Precertification Lookup Tool.

Prosthetics and orthotics

- Precertification is required for coverage of certain prosthetics and orthotics. For code-specific precertification requirements for prosthetics and orthotics ordered by a network provider or facility, refer to <https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn> > Resources > Precertification Lookup Tool.

Radiation therapy

- Precertification requirement is based on the service performed.
- For procedure-specific requirements, see the Precertification Lookup Tool on our website.
- If required, pre-certification services will be provided through Carelon Medical Benefits Management. Contact Carelon Medical Benefits Management by phone at **844-767-8159** or online at www.providerportal.com.



Radiology

See the Diagnostic Testing section of this QRC.

Rehabilitation therapy (short-term):
PT, OT, RT and ST

- No precertification is required for initial evaluation for in-network providers.
- Therapy services that are required to improve a child’s ability to learn or participate in a school setting should be evaluated for school-based therapy. Other therapy services for rehabilitative care will be covered as medically necessary.
- Please refer to the Precertification Lookup Tool on our website for information on precertification requirements.

Skilled nursing facility

Precertification is required for coverage.

Sleep study

Precertification is required. Caredon Medical Benefits Management manages sleep study precertification request. Contact Caredon Medical Benefits Management at **844-767-8159** or **providerportal.com**.

Sterilization

- Sterilization services are a covered benefit for members age 21 and older.
- No precertification or notification is required for coverage of sterilization procedures, including tubal ligation and vasectomy.
- A sterilization consent form is required for claims submission. Forms are located at **<https://tinyurl.com/4utkbu3k>**.
- Reversal of sterilization is not a covered benefit.
- Sterilization for Gender-Affirming Care is not a covered benefit.



TennCare kids/early and periodic screening, diagnostic and treatment office visits

- Members may self-refer.
- Use TennCare Kids schedule and **document** visits.
- If Wellpoint is the primary payer, and the screening is medically necessary, there is no limit to the number of EPSDT screenings a child can have.
- If a child is present for a problem-oriented visit and is behind/due for their well-child exam, it is appropriate to perform and report a well child exam (**99381-99395**) in addition to the acute visit (**99201-99215**) if all evaluation and management requirements are met. Modifier **25** should be appended to the problem-oriented visit (**99201-99215**) when reported in conjunction with the preventive visit (**99381-99385**) on the same day.

Transportation

All nonemergency medical transportation, including facility discharges, should be coordinated through Tennessee Carriers. Providers may contact Tennessee Carriers at 866-680-0633 for more information. Non-emergency transportation services shall be provided in accordance with federal law and the Division of TennCare’s rules and policies and procedures. Please note, there are some restrictions related to the nonemergency medical transportation benefit. **If a member reschedules/cancels their appointment, they should call Tennessee Carriers to cancel their ride.**

Transportation (cont.)

- Beginning July 1, 2025, trips must be scheduled at least 2 business days before the appointment. This timeframe does not apply to urgent trips, scheduling changes initiated by the provider, and follow-up appointments when the timeframe does not allow advance scheduling.
- Providers should be mindful of the distance from a member’s home when making referrals for care. If the distance of the trip is **over 60 miles (90 for some specialists) from the member’s home address**, there must be a medical reason.
- Some examples are:
 - There is a complex medical condition that requires specialty care AND there is not another Wellpoint provider within a shorter distance who can provide the care.
 - Member is actively in treatment for a complex medical condition and cannot transition care to another provider who is closer to the member’s residence,(i.e. transplant, cancer, major surgery).
 - Wellpoint has authorized treatment with a specific provider, (for example, inpatient psychiatric hospital)
- Members MUST initiate scheduled trips from their home address.
- The NEMT Mileage Reimbursement Program (MRP) will follow the same geoaccess guidelines listed above.
- MRP reimbursements will be made per household, not per member, if the appointment is the same date.

Urgent care center

No notification or precertification is required for participating facilities and providers.

Weight management services

No precertification is required for weight management services at the below locations. No notification or precertification is required for diabetic/nutritional or weight management counseling.

Mid Cumberland Region — Lifestyle Balance Program via County Health Departments

- Dickson: **615-797-5056**
- Humphreys: **931-296-2231**
- Williamson: **615-794-1542**
- Rutherford: **615-898-1891**
- Stewart: **931-232-5329**
- Montgomery: **931-648-5747**
- Davidson:
 - Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center: **615-327-9400**
 - United Neighborhood Health Services: **615-226-1695** (Nutritionist available by appointment.)

Local Health Department — Registered Dietician or Nutritionist available by appointment only.

- Bedford: **931-684-3426**
- Maury: **931-388-5757**

Upper Cumberland Region — Local Health Departments (Nutritionist available by appointment only)

- All counties in the region.
- Members should contact their local health department or FQHC for an appointment.

Well-woman exam

One exam is covered per calendar year for self-referral. This includes testing for chlamydia, PAP tests and breast cancer screenings.

Revenue (RV) codes

To the extent the following services are covered benefits, precertification (preauthorization) or notification is required for all services billed with the following revenue codes:

- All inpatient and behavioral health accommodations
- 0023 – Home health prospective payment system
- 0240 through 0249 – All-inclusive ancillary psychiatric
- 0250 – Pharmacy general
- 0632 – Pharmacy multiple source
- 3101 through 3109 – Adult day care and foster care

The TennCare reference link for exclusion list

The TennCare reference link for exclusion list is a list of general exclusions for services that shall not be considered covered services by TennCare. You can find this list by going to the State of Tennessee website at <https://tinyurl.com/2vjzxzkn> and clicking on **Chapter 1200-13-13** TennCare Medicaid and **1200-13-21** for CoverKids.

Precertification/Notification Coverage Guidelines For Behavioral Health

Service	Precertification required for in-network provider?	Precertification required for out-of-network provider?
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Services	Yes	Yes
23-Hour Observation Bed	No	Yes
24-Hour Psychiatric Residential Treatment	Yes	Yes
Outpatient Mental Health Services:		
M.D. Services (Psychiatry)	No	Yes
Outpatient Non-M.D. Services	No	Yes
Partial Hospitalization	No	Yes
Intensive Outpatient	No	Yes
I/DD Systems of Support Services	Yes	Yes
Inpatient, Residential and Outpatient Substance Abuse Services:		
Inpatient Facility Services (including detoxification)	Yes	Yes
Residential Treatment Services	Yes	Yes
Partial Hospital	No	Yes
Intensive Outpatient	No	Yes
Outpatient Treatment Services	No	Yes
Ambulatory Detoxification	Yes	Yes
Intensive Community-Based Treatment Services (ICTBS), Continuous Treatment Team CTT, Comprehensive Child and Family Treatment CCFT, and Program of Assertive Community Treatment PACT)	Yes	Yes
Medication Assisted Treatment Program	No	Yes
Tennessee Health Link (THL)	No	No
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (includes psychosocial rehabilitation, supported employment, Peer Recovery Services, Family Support Services, illness management and recovery, and supported housing)	No	Yes
Supported Housing	Yes	Yes
Applied Behavioral Analysis	Yes	Yes
Behavioral Health Crisis Services:		
Mobile Crisis Services	No	Yes
Crisis Respite	No	Yes
Crisis Stabilization	No	Yes
Home Health Care	Yes	Yes
Psychological/Neuropsychological Testing	Yes	Yes
Injectable Drugs	Yes	Yes
Electroconvulsive Therapy	Yes	Yes
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation	Yes	Yes
Emergency Room Services	No	No
Court-Ordered Services	Yes	Yes
Transportation, Nonemergency for Medically Necessary Treatment	Yes	Yes

Our Service Partners

EyeQuest
(vision services)
800-526-9202

Tennessee Carriers
(nonemergency transportation)
866-680-0633

Carelon Medical Benefits Management
(radiology precertification)
800-714-0040

Provider Experience Program

Our Provider Services department offers precertification, care management, automated member eligibility, health education materials, outreach and more. Call **833-731-2154** Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Central time.

Local Provider Relations

We also offer local Provider Relations representatives who will help your office with ongoing education, contract and fee issues, procedural issues, and more. Your office will have a designated representative. You can reach a provider relationship management representative by accessing the Contact Us link on the provider portal at **<https://www.provider.wellpoint.com/tennessee-provider/contact-us>**.

Provider self-service site and inquiry line available 24/7/365

To verify eligibility, check claims, and referral authorization status, visit the Availity Essentials website. To look up precertification/ notification requirements, reimbursement policies, and provider manuals, visit **<https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn>**.

Can't access the Internet? Call Provider Services and simply say your NPI number when prompted by the recorded voice. It's easy! The recording guides you through a menu of options. Just select the information or materials you need when you hear it.



Population Health

Our Population Health program is part of a comprehensive Health Care Management (HCM) services program that offers a continuum of services, including Wellness, Low- and High-Risk Maternity, Health Risk Management, Care Coordination, Chronic Care Management, and Complex Case Management.

Our case managers are registered nurses available from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday. If calling after hours, we have a confidential voicemail box available 24 hours a day. The Nurse HelpLine at **833-731-2153** is also available for our members 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

All requests for skilled nursing facilities (SNF); acute inpatient rehab (AIR); and long term acute care (LTAC) should be faxed to **866-920-6005**.

Please call **833-731-2153** to reach a case manager. Members can get information about our Population Health program by visiting **<https://www.wellpoint.com/tn/medicaid>** or calling **833-731-2153**.

Wellpoint will pay participating providers an additional administrative fee per code, per eligible member, when they report select CPT and CPT Category II codes on claims once per calendar year. Please visit **<https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn>** to see the provider update regarding the CPT and CPT Category II Payment Opportunity.

Wellpoint On Call

Contact clinical staff at **866-864-2544**
(Spanish **866-864-2545**)

24-hour Nurse HelpLine (833-731-2153) is a telephonic, 24-hour triage service your Wellpoint patients can call to speak with a registered nurse who can help them:

- Find doctors when your office is closed, whether after hours or on weekends
- Schedule appointments with you or other network doctors
- Get to urgent care centers or walk-in clinics
- Speak directly with a doctor or a member of the doctor's staff to talk about their health care needs

Our Member Services Line at **833-731-2153** offers free translation services for 170 languages and the use of a TDD line for members with difficulty hearing.

We encourage you to tell your Wellpoint patients about this service and share with them the advantages of avoiding the emergency room when a trip there isn't necessary or the best alternative.

Claims Services

Timely filing is within 120 days from the date of discharge for inpatient services or from the date of service for outpatient services, except in cases of coordination of benefits/subrogation or in cases where a member has retroactive eligibility.

We require all submitters of institutional claims to use the CMS-1450 (UB04) form and submitters of professional claims to use the CMS-1500 (08-05) form approved by the National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC). If a claim is received on any other form but the CMS-1450 or the CMS-1500 (08-05) form, the claim will be returned to the submitter and will not be processed. We also offer free electronic claims submission via our provider self-service site.

Electronic data interchange (EDI)

Effective January 1, 2019, Availity is our designated Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) gateway and E-Solutions Service Desk.



How to register with Availity:

If you wish to submit directly, you can connect to the Availity EDI Gateway at no cost for you go to <https://Availity.com> and select **REGISTER**. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Availity at **800-AVAILITY (800-282-4548)**.

Availity Essentials multi-payer Authorization and Referral application via the Availity platform:

- Your practice can initiate online precertification requests for TennCare members more efficiently and conveniently with our ICR tool, available through the Availity platform.
- Both applications offer a streamlined process to request inpatient and outpatient procedures through Availity.
- For questions on accessing the applications via Availity, call Availity Client Services at **800-AVAILITY**. Availity Client Services is available Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern time (excluding holidays) to answer your registration questions.

Electronic claim payment reconsideration:

Providers can submit claim reconsideration requests through the Availity Portal with more robust functionality, including:

- Filing a claim payment reconsideration.
- Sending supporting documentation.
- Checking the status of your claim payment reconsideration.
- Viewing your claim payment reconsideration history.

Availity Portal functionality includes:

- Acknowledgement of submission at the time of submission.
- Email notification when a reconsideration has been finalized by Wellpoint.
- A worklist of open submissions to check a reconsideration status.

Paper claims

Submit claims on original claim forms (CMS 1500 or CMS-1450) with dropout red ink, printed or typed (not handwritten) in a large, dark font. Mail paper claims to:

Claims
Wellpoint
P.O. Box 61010
Virginia Beach, VA 23466-1010

Please note: AMA and CMS-approved modifiers must be used appropriately based on the type of service and procedure code.

Payment Disputes

Payment disputes must be received at Wellpoint within 365 days of the date of the Explanation of Payment. Appeals can be submitted via the secure Provider Availity Payment Appeal application at **<https://Availity.com>**. You can also appeal by calling Provider Services at **833-731-2154**, or you can send your written appeal to:

Provider Dispute Unit
Wellpoint
P.O. Box 61599
Virginia Beach, VA 23466-1599

Forms for provider disputes are located on our website.

Medical Appeals

Members and their representative(s), including a member's provider, have 60 calendar days from the date of the Notice of Adverse Benefit Determination in which to file an appeal for preservice denials. The member may use the TennCare Medical Appeal form, but it is not required. The member or member's representative can file an Appeal of an adverse benefit determination with the TennCare Solutions Unit (TSU):

TennCare Solutions
P.O. Box 593
Nashville, TN 37202-0593
Fax: **888-345-5575**
Phone: **800-878-3192**
TTY/TDD: **800-772-7647**
Español: **800-254-7568**

All appeals filed by the provider will require the member's written consent to move forward in the process. TennCare Member Medical Appeals unit will forward any valid factual disputes to Wellpoint for reconsideration. An On Request Report will be faxed to Wellpoint by TennCare Member Medical Appeals unit, requesting reconsideration of the member's appeal.

Learn more about Wellpoint programs

<https://provider.wellpoint.com/tn>

