

# Continuity of care

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## For members whose current provider is leaving the Premera Blue Cross Network

### What is continuity of care?

With continuity of care, you may be able to continue to receive treatment or care for specific covered services for up to 90 days with your existing provider. If you are approved, the in-network benefit level applies to the covered service.

### Do you qualify for continuity of care?

If you answer yes to any of the following questions, you may qualify for continuity of care benefits. Are you:

- |  |                              |                             |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Receiving treatment or care for your pregnancy?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. Receiving care for short-term or acute illness or injury, such as a broken bone, strep throat, influenza, or COVID-19?                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. Receiving treatment or care for chemotherapy, radiation therapy, anticoagulation therapy, or a medication regimen requiring a rapid increase in dose? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. Receiving treatment for a long-term or chronic illness such as diabetes, asthma, or arthritis?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 5. Receiving care for a terminal illness?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 6. Receiving care for a recent major surgery or follow-up of reconstructive surgery?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 7. Receiving treatment or care for mental health or substance use disorder?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 8. Waiting for a surgery or hospital stay that has already been scheduled but occurs after the provider leaves the Premera network?                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

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**PREMERA** | 

**BLUE CROSS**

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association

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If you answered NO to all of the questions above, you have two options:

1. Find a new in-network provider:
  - Visit the website address located on the back of your member ID card. Go to Find Care and select Find a Doctor.
  - Call customer service at the contact number on the back of your member ID card.
2. Continue to see your current provider. However, since your provider is not in your health plan network, this may cost more or not be paid for at all by your plan.

If you answered YES to any of the questions above, review the instructions below to apply for continuity of care benefits.

### Instructions

If you qualify, Premera will approve your continued treatment or care for up to 90 days with your current, out-of-network healthcare provider. To apply:

1. Ask your current healthcare provider to send a request for continuity of care on your behalf. Your provider must submit a request by phone at **800-344-2227**, option 3 or by faxing the request, using the Out-of Network Pre-Authorization and Exception Request Form in writing to **800-843-1114**.
2. Our care management team will review the request submitted by your provider and make a decision within 10 business days.
3. If your request is approved, you may continue treatment or care with your current healthcare provider at the in-network benefit level described in your benefit booklet. Your continuity of care benefits may also be limited to a defined period based on the treatment plan.

Although not all requests will meet the requirement for approval, Premera will work closely with you and your healthcare provider to help you with your continued treatment and care.

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If you have questions about continuity of care benefits,  
call the customer service number on the back of your member ID card.

### Discrimination is Against the Law

Premera Blue Cross (Premera) complies with applicable Federal and Washington state civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Premera does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Premera provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as qualified sign language interpreters and written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats). Premera provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as qualified interpreters and information written in other languages. If you need these services, contact the Civil Rights Coordinator. If you believe that Premera has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation, you can file a grievance with: Civil Rights Coordinator — Complaints and Appeals, PO Box 91102, Seattle, WA 98111, Toll free: 855-332-4535, Fax: 425-918-5592, TTY: 711, Email [AppealsDepartmentInquiries@Premera.com](mailto:AppealsDepartmentInquiries@Premera.com). You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, the Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Ave SW, Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, D.C. 20201, 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner, electronically through the Office of the Insurance Commissioner Complaint Portal available at <https://www.insurance.wa.gov/file-complaint-or-check-your-complaint-status>, or by phone at 800-562-6900, 360-586-0241 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <https://fortress.wa.gov/oic/onlineservices/cc/pub/complaintinformation.aspx>.

### Language Assistance

- ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- 注意:** 如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711)。
- CHÚ Ý:** Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- 주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.
- ВНИМАНИЕ:** Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 800-722-1471 (телетайп: 711).
- PAUNAWA:** Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- УВАГА!** Якщо ви розмовляєте українською мовою, ви можете звернутися до безкоштовної служби мовної підтримки. Телефонуйте за номером 800-722-1471 (телетайп: 711).
- ប្រយ័ត្ន:** បើសិនជាអ្នកនិយាយ ភាសាខ្មែរ, សេវាជំនួយផ្នែកភាសា ដោយមិនគិតល្អល្អ គឺអាចមានសំរាប់អ្នក។ ចូរ ទូរស័ព្ទ 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711)។
- 注意事項:** 日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。800-722-1471 (TTY:711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。
- ማስታወሻ:** የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገለግሉት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ 800-722-1471 (መስማት ለተሳናቸው: 711)።
- XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajjila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 800-722-1471 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 711).
- ਧਿਆਨ ਦਿਓ:** ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਸੇਵਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਮੁਫਤ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711) 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।
- ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- ໂປດອຸບ:** ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ຄ່າສິ່ງຄ່າ, ຄວນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທ 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- ATANSYON:** Si w pale Kreyòl Ayisyen, gen sévis èd pou lang ki disponib gratis pou ou. Rele 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 800-722-1471 (ATS : 711).
- UWAGA:** Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- ATENÇÃO:** Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue para 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- ATTENZIONE:** In caso la lingua parlata sia l'italiano, sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica gratuiti. Chiamare il numero 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711).
- توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با 800-722-1471 (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.