



# Referral Request IVR Caller Guide

Hours of Availability: Monday – Friday 6:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. (CT); Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (CT); Sunday – Closed

- Utilize your keypad when possible
- Avoid using cell phones
- Minimize background noise
- Mute your phone when you are not speaking

*This caller guide does not apply to Medicare Advantage or Texas Medicaid.*

## 1) Getting Started



Welcome to the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas Medical Services Department. If you know your party's extension, say "Extension." Otherwise, please continue to hold.

*Interruption Permitted*

To continue your preauthorization request, please continue to hold.



If you're calling as a member, say "member." If you're calling as a Healthcare professional, say "healthcare professional."

*Interruption Permitted*

Member  
Healthcare Professional

Press 1  
Press 2

**Note:** You can use your touch tone keypad to enter numeric characters.



Is your patient a member of the Federal Employee Program?

*Interruption Permitted*

Yes  
No

Press 1  
Press 2

## 2) Authorization and Referral Management



Preauthorization is required for certain services. A preauthorization determines medical necessity and the appropriateness of treatment. A predetermination may be used to obtain a benefit assessment but is not required. Predeterminations must be submitted in writing. A submission form is located on our website.

*Interruption Permitted*

To continue your preauthorization request, please continue to hold.

**Note:** To submit your request online refer to [BlueApprovR<sup>SM</sup>](#) or [Availity<sup>®</sup> Essentials Attachments: Recommended Clinical Review Requests](#) pages. If faxing supporting medical documentation for a previously submitted request, please include the request number.



Please say behavioral health, peer to peer or other.

*Interruption Permitted*

Behavioral Health  
Peer to Peer  
Other

Press 1  
Press 2  
Press 3

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Okay. What's your 10-digit billing National Provider ID?

**Situational:**

If the system does not recognize the NPI, you will be prompted for a tax ID.

*Interruption Permitted*

Say or enter your NPI number.

**Note:** Professional providers should use the rendering NPI of the individual who is providing services.



Which can I help you with, eligibility and benefits, claims, authorization and referral management, or other services?

*Interruption Permitted*

- Eligibility and Benefits Press 1
- Claims Press 2
- Authorization and Referral Management Press 3**
- Other Services Press 4



Okay. Authorization and referral management. Excluding the three-character prefix, what's the subscriber ID?

**Situational:**

If multiple policies are found for your patient, you will be asked to provide their group number.

*Interruption Permitted*

Say or enter only the subscriber ID, excluding the three-character prefix.

**Note:** Alpha and numeric characters may be entered by touch tone keypad. The Alpha Touch Tone reference guide is available on [page 5](#) for assistance with keying alpha characters.



Is this for medical, behavioral health or chemical dependency services?

*Interruption Permitted*

- Medical Press 1**
- Behavioral Health Press 2
- Chemical Dependency Press 3



Do you need to check procedure code requirements, request authorization and referral, or check the status?

*Interruption Permitted*

- Check Procedure Code Requirements Press 1
- Request Authorization and Referral Press 2**
- Check the Status Press 3



Okay. Inpatient, outpatient, home or referral?

*Interruption Permitted*

- Inpatient Press 1
- Outpatient Press 2
- Home Press 3
- Referral Press 4**

**Note:** Referral requests may be submitted online using [Availity Essentials Authorizations & Referrals](#).

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And do you want to create a new request or extend an existing request?

*Interruption Permitted*

**New Request**

**Press 1**

Extend Existing Request

**Press 2**



Please tell me, what's the patient's date of birth?

*Interruption Permitted*

The date of birth format is mm/dd/yyyy.



You can press pound to skip these instructions. To process this request, I'll need some information including the NPIs for the attending provider as well as for the facility. I'll also need the diagnosis code and any applicable procedure codes. If you're ready to continue, say "I'm ready." You can also say "I need more time" or to hear this again, say "repeat that."

*Interruption Permitted*

**Voice option must be used here.  
Touch tone is not an available option.**

**Note:** Press the pound key (#) to skip these instructions.



Now, say or enter the NPI of the referring provider or say, "it's the same as my NPI."

**Situational:**

*If the system does not recognize the NPI, you will be prompted to provide additional identifiers (i.e., address, zip code, etc.).*

*Interruption Permitted*

**Touch tone and voice are both available options.**



Now, say or enter the NPI of the rendering provider or say, "it's the same as my NPI."

**Situational:**

*If the system does not recognize the NPI, you will be prompted to provide additional identifiers (i.e., address, zip code, etc.).*

*Interruption Permitted*

**Touch tone and voice are both available options.**

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Next, tell me the referral start date.  
You can also say, "today."

*Interruption Permitted*

The referral date format is mm/dd/yyyy.



And what's the referral end date?

*Interruption Permitted*

The referral date format is mm/dd/yyyy.



Okay. How many units?

*Interruption Permitted*

Say or enter the number of units.



Since this inpatient stay ends on or after October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, this request needs to be processed using an ICD10 diagnosis code. Please tell me the ICD10 diagnosis code or say "one moment" if you need to find it.

*Interruption Permitted*

Say or enter the ICD-10 diagnosis code.

**Note:** Diagnosis codes can be up to six digits maximum. When entering a diagnosis code using your touch tone keypad, press the star key (\*) to enter the decimal point. If utilizing the voice option, say "dot."



To review the information, say, "verify information." Or to submit this request without verifying, say "submit." You can also say "cancel request."

*Interruption Permitted*

**Verify Information**

Submit  
Cancel Request

**Press 1**

Press 2  
Press 3



Okay. To submit this request, say "submit." If you need to cancel this request, press 2.

*Interruption Permitted*

**Submit**

Cancel

**Press 1**

Press 2

- Utilize your keypad when possible
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## Alpha Touch-Tone Reference

Alpha touch-tone is available as an alternative to voicing alpha-numeric mixed information.

To enter a **subscriber ID**, **group** or **claim number** containing alpha character(s):

- 1) Press the star key (\*) to begin a letter sequence
- 2) Press the number key containing the desired letter (e.g., press 2 for A, B or C)
- 3) Press 1, 2, 3 or 4 to indicate the position the letter is listed on the selected key (e.g., press \*21 to enter A)

A	=	*21
B	=	*22
C	=	*23

D	=	*31
E	=	*32
F	=	*33

G	=	*41
H	=	*42
I	=	*43

J	=	*51
K	=	*52
L	=	*53

M	=	*61
N	=	*62
O	=	*63

P	=	*71
Q	=	*72
R	=	*73
S	=	*74

T	=	*81
U	=	*82
V	=	*83

W	=	*91
X	=	*92
Y	=	*93
Z	=	*94

### Group Number

Ex. 1	Y	N	1	2	3	4
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Press	*93	*62	1	2	3	4
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Ex. 2	1	2	K	3	4	5
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Press	1	2	*52	3	4	5
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### Subscriber ID

Ex. 1	A	1	N	2	3	4	5	6	7
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Press	*21	1	*62	2	3	4	5	6	7
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Ex. 2	0	9	2	T	7	6	8
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Press	0	9	2	*81	7	6	8
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**Note:** Exclude three-character prefix when entering the subscriber ID.

### Claim Number

Ex. 1	2	1	3	4	F	5	6	7	0	X
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Press	2	1	3	4	*33	5	6	7	0	*92
-------	---	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	-----

Ex. 2	2	0	1	T	8	7	6	5	0	C
-------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Press	2	0	1	*81	8	7	6	5	0	*23
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**Note:** The claim number should be 13 digits.

**Have questions or need additional education?** Email our [Provider Education Consultants](#).

*Be sure to include your name, direct contact information and Tax ID or Billing NPI.*

*Checking eligibility and/or benefit information and/or obtaining prior authorization is not a guarantee of payment. Benefits will be determined once a claim is received and will be based upon, among other things, the member's eligibility and the terms of the member's certificate of coverage, including, but not limited to, exclusions and limitations applicable on the date services were rendered. Certain employer groups may require prior authorization or pre-notification through other vendors. If you have any questions, call the number on the member's ID card. Regardless of any prior authorization or benefit determination, the final decision regarding any treatment or service is between the patient and the health care provider.*

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