



Provider Alert

Clinical Area of Expertise Update

January 1, 2022

Pursuant to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts [Bulletin 2021-06](#), Required Coverage for Treatment of PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcus) and PANS (Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome), the Massachusetts Division of Insurance (“Division”) expects insurance carriers to identify providers within their networks who are able to provide medically necessary PANDAS and PANS services. For behavioral services, Optum will identify behavioral providers who are able to provide medically necessary services for the behavioral symptoms of PANDAS and PANS. The Division expects insurance carriers to forward to them a list of providers with this specialization and their locations.

To meet this requirement, Optum has added a new area of expertise to the Clinical Expertise Checklist for the treatment of PANDAS/PANS.

New Area of Expertise

Behavioral Symptoms of PANDAS/PANS

Important information

Optum will provide a list of behavioral providers who have updated their Areas of Expertise to include Behavioral Symptoms of PANDAS/PANS to the Division in early March 2022.

The Division requested that providers who choose the specialization agree to the following conditions:

“Those on a carrier’s list should reflect providers with a sub-specialty of... pediatric BH/OCD who have agreed to:

1. accept a PANS/PANDAS diagnosis and explore options to treat PANS/PANDAS; and
2. be on the list of practitioners available to provide treatment for PANS/PANDAS”

If you meet the above Division conditions and wish to be included in the provider list Optum will send to the Division, please update your Area of Expertise to include Behavioral Symptoms of PANDAS/PANS by Friday, February 28, 2022.

Updating Clinical Area of Expertise

The provider's Areas of Clinical Expertise can be updated on [Provider Express](https://providerexpress.com) (providerexpress.com) using the following steps:

- From the home page, log in to "My Practice Info"
- Select Roster and click on Edit (pencil icon next to Personal Details)
- Scroll down to the page to Clinical Expertise section
- Under "Areas of Clinical Expertise" select ***Behavioral Symptoms of PANDAS/PANS*** and "Add" to the Selected section of the online form. Click "Save"