

Request for Waiver

Plan Year: 2022

Please ensure that information contained on this waiver request coincides with information provided on the geographical access maps and provider list submitted with this application.

1. Name and Title of Person Submitting this Document:

Carrier	Name Network	Network ID	Network Structure*
Blue Plus	High Value Network	MNN009	<select one>
Name	Title	Date	Enrollees in Network*
Eric Hoag	Vice President, Provider Relations	5/19/2021	

2. By submitting this form, the above-referenced confirms:

- A. That person submitting this request has personal knowledge of the network contracting process involved in this submission; and
- B. That access cannot be met for the following provider type(s). Include the county and reason(s) for not meeting the requirements.

Provider Type	County	Reason Code	Notes	Affected Enrollees*	Percent Total Enrollees Affected	Percent Not Covered*	Percent Available Providers Included
General Hospital facilities	Aitkin	1	Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Riverwood Health Care Center, Cuyuna Regional Medical Center, Fairview Health and St. Lukes Hospital, no General Hospitals are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. Members can access hospital care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.  On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. There were no new general hospitals that opened in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.	7	3		
General Hospital facilities	Beltrami	1	Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Grand Isasca Hospital, Bigfork Valley Hospital and Rainy Lake Medical Center, no General Hospitals are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. Members can access hospital care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.  On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. There were no new general hospitals that opened in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.	8	15		
General Hospital facilities	Cass	1	Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Cuyuna Regional Medical Center, Cass Lake Indian Hospital, Bigfork Valley Hospital and Grand Isasca Hospital, no General Hospitals are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. Members can access hospital care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.  On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. There were no new general hospitals that opened in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.	7	10		
General Hospital facilities	Cook	1	Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including North Shore Health, Cook Hospital, and Lakeview Memorial Hospital, no General Hospitals are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.  The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wildemess, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.  Members can access hospital care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.  On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. There were no new general hospitals that opened in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.	2	15		
General Hospital facilities	Fillmore	1	Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Olmsted Medical Center, St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, and Winona Health Services, no General Hospitals are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. Members can access hospital care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.  On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. There were no new general hospitals that opened in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.	14	15		
General Hospital facilities	Isasca	1	Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Cuyuna Regional Medical Center, Bigfork Valley Hospital and Grand Isasca Hospital, no General Hospitals are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. Members can access hospital care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.  On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. There were no new general hospitals that opened in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.	0	2		



Primary Care providers	Lake Of The Woods	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Lakewood Health Center, Altru Health, and Lifecare Medical Center, no Primary Care providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Primary Care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new primary care providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	0	15		
Primary Care providers	Marshall	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, and Lifecare Medical Center, and Kiltson Memorial Clinic, no Primary Care providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. Members can access Primary Care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new primary care providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	0	0		
Primary Care providers	St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including St. Luke's Hospital and Clinics, Scenic Rivers Health Services, University Medical Center Mesabi and Eyre/Bloomer, no Primary Care providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Primary Care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new primary care providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	9	5		
Mental health providers	Beltrami	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, Red Lake Hospital and Clinic and Northland Counseling Center, no Mental Health providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. Members can access Mental Health care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new mental health providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	8	15		
Mental health providers	Cook	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Lake View Clinic, Sawtooth Mountain, Ascend Services and Human Development Center, no Mental Health providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Mental Health care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new mental health providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	1	10		
Mental health providers	Lake	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Lake View Clinic, Sawtooth Mountain, Nystrom &amp; Associates and Ascend Services, no Mental Health providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Mental Health care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new mental health providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	2	15		
Mental health providers	Lake Of The Woods	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, Red Lake Hospital and Clinic, and Northland Counseling Center, no Mental Health providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Mental Health care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new mental health providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	0	10		

For all reason codes, carriers must demonstrate with specific data that geographic access standards cannot be met. Carriers must state what steps were and will be taken to address network inadequacies (MN Statutes § 62K.10, subdivision 5).

#### Allowable Waiver Reason Codes and Guidelines for Initial Approval

Applications to waive the requirements in Minnesota Statutes 62K.10 Subd. 2 or 3 must fit one of the following reason codes. Waivers automatically expire after one year. The commissioner shall only approve a subsequent waiver application that satisfies the requirements in Minnesota Statutes 62K.10 Subd. 5, demonstrates that the carrier took the steps it proposed to address network inadequacy, and explains why the carrier continues to be unable to satisfy the requirements.

#### Reason Code 1:

Carrier has conducted a search for providers and determined that, for each county in the plan service area, there are no providers physically present of the type requested in the waiver.

#### Carriers must:

- Provide a description of physical geography and/or other factors that affect the location of providers (as relevant)
- Demonstrate consultation of at least two provider directories and/or data sources. Provide a description of the provider directories and/or data sources consulted, including a brief explanation of why the sources are believed to be accurate and complete. Examples of acceptable provider directories and data sources include, but are not limited to:
  - NPDES NPI Registry
  - Medicare Physician Compare
  - Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Directory
  - Healthgrades
  - SAMHSA Behavioral Health Provider Directories
  - National Institute of Health (NIH) U.S. National Library of Medicine MedlinePlus Directories
  - Quest Analytics
- For Primary Care, Pediatric Services (Primary Care), General Hospital and Mental Health provider types:
  - State the total number and percentage of estimated enrollees affected in the county not meeting the geographic standard as of the submission date of waiver. Select only one county per line.

- b. State how access will be provided for this provider type for enrollees of the affected county.  
 For example, does the carrier provide transportation services/vouchers, in-home care options, virtual care services, and/or telemedicine services?  
 i. If in its waiver application, a health carrier demonstrates to the commissioner that there are no providers of a specific type or specialty in a county, the commissioner may approve a waiver in which the health carrier is allowed to address network inadequacy in that county by providing for patient access to providers of that type or specialty via telemedicine  
 ii. If telemedicine is used to provide access:  
 1. These services must meet the definition of "telemedicine" in Minnesota Statutes [62A.071, subdivision 9](#)  
 2. Carrier must describe the extent to which telemedicine services are available  
 a. How many network providers of the impacted provider type have contracts to conduct/provide telemedicine services?
4. Describe how they will assess the availability of providers who begin practice in the service area where the standard cannot currently be met and agree to conduct this assessment quarterly  
 a. Assessment of availability must include consultation of at least two provider directories and/or data sources, as described in item 2, above

**Reason Code 2:**

Provider does not meet carrier's credentialing requirements.

**Carriers must:**

1. Cite the reason(s) provider does not meet credentialing requirements
2. For Primary Care, Pediatric Services (Primary Care), General Hospital, and Mental Health provider types  
 a. State the total number and percentage of estimated enrollees affected in the county not meeting the geographic standard as of the submission date of waiver. Select only one county per line.
3. State how access will be provided for this provider type for enrollees of the affected county. For example, does the carrier allow enrollees to receive out-of-network care at in-network rates, provide transportation services/vouchers, in-home care options, virtual care services, and/or telemedicine services?  
 i. If telemedicine is used to provide access:  
 1. These services must meet the definition of "telemedicine" in Minnesota Statutes [62A.071, subdivision 9](#)  
 2. Carrier must describe the extent to which telemedicine services are available  
 a. How many network providers of the impacted provider type have contracts to conduct/provide telemedicine services?

**Reason Code 3:**

Carrier has made a good faith effort to contract with provider and provider has refused to accept a contract.

**Carriers must:**

1. Cite the reason(s) provider state(s) for refusing contract(s)
2. For Primary Care, Pediatric Services (Primary Care), General Hospital and Mental Health provider types  
 a. State the total number and percentage of estimated enrollees affected in the county not meeting the geographic standard as of the submission date of waiver. Select only one county per line.
3. State how access will be provided for this provider type for enrollees of the affected county. For example, does the carrier allow enrollees to receive out-of-network care at in-network rates, provide transportation services/vouchers, in-home care options, virtual care services, and/or telemedicine services?  
 i. If telemedicine is used to provide access:  
 1. These services must meet the definition of "telemedicine" in Minnesota Statutes [62A.071, subdivision 9](#)  
 2. Carrier must describe the extent to which telemedicine services are available  
 a. How many network providers of the impacted provider type have contracts to conduct/provide telemedicine services?

**Reason Code 4:**

Network is an Accountable Care Organization (ACO) or Narrow Network.

**Carriers must:**

1. Specify the network structure: Accountable Care Organization (ACO) or Narrow Network  
 a. If the network is an ACO, provide a brief description of the major health systems participating in the network  
 b. If the network is a narrow network, describe the features of the network that restrict access  
 c. For both ACOs and Narrow Networks, state what percentage of available Primary Care, Pediatric Services (Primary Care), General Hospital, and Mental Health providers are included in the county and of the provider type for which a waiver is requested
2. State what, if any, steps are taken to inform enrollees of restricted access
3. State the total number of estimated enrollees in the network as of the submission date of the waiver
4. State why the geographic access standards cannot be met. Explain why full geographic access is not possible with this network design
5. State how access will be provided for this provider type for the enrollees of the affected county. For example, does the carrier allow enrollees to receive out-of-network care at in-network rates, provide transportation services/vouchers, in-home care options, virtual care services, and/or telemedicine services?  
 i. If telemedicine is used to provide access:  
 1. These services must meet the definition of "telemedicine" in Minnesota Statutes [62A.071, subdivision 9](#)  
 2. Carrier must describe the extent to which telemedicine services are available  
 a. How many network providers of the impacted provider type have contracts to conduct/provide telemedicine services?
6. For Primary Care, Pediatric Services (Primary Care), General Hospital and Mental Health provider types,  
 a. State the total number and percentage of estimated enrollees affected in the county not meeting the geographic standard as of the submission date of waiver. Select only one county per line.  
 b. State the estimated percentage of area in that county that is not covered

**Allowable Waiver Reason Codes and Guidelines for Subsequent Approval (Renewals)**

In accordance with EDC 10 Subd. 5(d), waivers will automatically expire after one year.  
 Carriers seeking identical, subsequent waivers for plan year 2022 will be required to show steps taken to address network inadequacies in plan year 2021 (see below).

**Reason Code 1:**

Carrier has conducted a search for providers and determined that, for each county in the plan service area, there are no providers physically present of the type requested in the waiver.

**Carriers must:**

1. Meet all of the requirements set forth for initial approval
2. Provide a description of how access was provided for affected enrollees in the previous approval year
3. Show evidence of quarterly efforts to assess provider availability throughout the last calendar year. Did new providers become available in affected areas? If so, describe any efforts to pursue contracts. If new providers became available and new contracts were not pursued, explain why.

**Reason Code 2:**

Provider does not meet carrier's credentialing requirements.

**Carriers must:**

1. Meet all of the requirements set forth for initial approval
2. Provide a description of how access was provided for affected enrollees in the last approval year

**Reason Code 3:**

Carrier has made a good faith effort to contract with provider and provider has refused to accept a contract.

**Carriers must:**

1. Meet all of the requirements set forth for initial approval
2. Provide a description of how access was provided for affected enrollees in the last approval year

**Reason Code 4:**

Network is an Accountable Care Organization (ACO) or Narrow Network.

**Carriers must:**

1. Meet all of the requirements set forth for initial approval
2. Provide a description of how access was provided for affected enrollees in the last approval year

**Attestation for the Request for Waiver**

The undersigned attests that he/she is a representative of the carrier with personal knowledge of the network and reasons for the above waiver requests, and that the waiver requests meet the requirements for the waiver, as outlined above. The undersigned also attests that good faith efforts have been made to locate and contract with providers, as outlined above, and that if providers become available in the service area, carrier will make a good faith effort to contract with said providers.

Eric Hoag, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, Vice President, Provider Relations 5/19/2021

Name, Company, Title Date Attestation Signed



Pediatric Services Providers	Marshall	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, and Lifecare Medical Center, and Kitchon Memorial Clinic, no Pediatric Service providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. Members can access pediatric care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new pediatric services providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	0	0	
Pediatric Services Providers	Rouseau	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, and Red Lake Hospital and Clinic, no Pediatric Service providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitchon include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access pediatric care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new pediatric services providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	2	5	
Pediatric Services Providers	St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including St. Luke's Hospital and Clinics, University Medical Center Mesabi, Scenic Rivers Health Services, and Ely Bloomerston, no Pediatric Service providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitchon include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access pediatric care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new pediatric services providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	19	10	
Pediatric Services Providers	Traverse	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, Red Lake Hospital and Clinic, and Lake Region Healthcare, no Pediatric Service providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. Members can access pediatric care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Members can also utilize Family Medicine providers for pediatric care in areas where there are no pediatric providers present. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new pediatric services providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>	3	50	
Pediatric Specialty Providers	St. Louis, Koochiching	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, Red Lake Hospital and Clinic, and Pediatric Surgical Associates, no Pediatric Specialty providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitchon include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access pediatric specialty care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new pediatric specialty providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>			
Pediatric Specialty Providers	Lake, St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in the network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network pediatric specialty care at Grand Tassara Clinic and Pediatric Surgical Associates in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>			
Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology	Lake, St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, Red Lake Hospital and Clinic, and Rainy Lake Medical Center, no Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitchon include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access allergy, immunology and rheumatology care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new allergy, immunology and rheumatology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>			
Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology	Atlin, Itasca, Lake, St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in the network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network allergy, immunology and rheumatology care at Sanford Health, St. Louis, and Rainy Lake Medical Center in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>			
Cardiac Surgery	Becker, Beltrami, Big Stone, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Martin, Pennington, Roseau, St. Louis, Traverse	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Centricare, St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, and Fairview Health, no Cardiac Surgery providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy. The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitchon include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access cardiac surgery care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new cardiac surgery providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>			
Cardiac Surgery	Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Chippewa, Dodge, Douglas, Fairbault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Grant, Kandiyohi, Lake, Otter Tail, Pope, Redwood, Stearns, Swift, Traverse, Wadena, Wadena, Yellowknife, Wilkin	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network cardiac surgery care at Sanford Health and St. Lukes in neighboring counties.</p> <p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network cardiac surgery care at Sanford Health, Altru, Murray County Surgical Center and Gustafson Medical Center in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>			

Cardiovascular Disease	Cook	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including St. Lukes Hospital and Clinic, Mesaba Clinic and Lake View Clinic, no Cardiovascular Disease providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Itaska include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access cardiovascular disease care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new cardiovascular disease providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>					
Cardiovascular Disease	Cook,Lake,St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network cardiovascular disease care at St. Lukes, Lakeview Clinic, Grand Itasca Clinic, and Mesaba Clinic in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>					
Colon and Rectal Surgery	Becker,Beltrami,Big Stone,Cass,Chambers,Cook,H Hubbard,Itasca,Koochiching,Koochiching,Lake Of The Woods,Mahnomen,Marshall,Martin,Nobles,Pennington,Polk,Red Lake,Roseau,St. Louis,Traverse	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Fairview Health, University of MN Physicians, Firstlight Health System, Minnesota Colon and Rectal Surgical Specialists, and Voyage HealthCare, no Colon and Rectal Surgery providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Itaska include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access colon and rectal surgery care at the facilities listed above in these counties, neighboring counties as well as metro counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new colon and rectal surgery providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>					
Colon and Rectal Surgery	Atkin,Becker,Cass,Cook,Crow Wing,Dodge,Filmora,Fredson,Hubbard,Itasca,Koochiching,Lake,Linton,Mower,Olmsted,Otter Tail,St. Louis,Todd,Traverse,Wadena,Yellow Medicine,Wilkin,Grant	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network colon and rectal surgery care at Sanford Health, Wells Health, Mariner Medical Center and M Health Fairview in neighboring counties.</p> <p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network colon and rectal surgery care at Sanford Health and Gunderson Medical Center in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>					
Dermatology	Cook,Lake,St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including St. Luke's Hospital and Clinic, Twin Ports Dermatology, and Mesaba Clinic, no Dermatology providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Itaska include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access dermatology care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new dermatology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>					
Dermatology	Jackson,Lake,St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network dermatology care at Sanford Health and Epiphany Dermatology in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>					
Endocrinology	Big Stone,Cook,Koochiching,Lake,St. Louis,Traverse	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, Red Lake Hospital and Clinic and Caris Health, no Endocrinology providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Itaska include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access endocrinology care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new endocrinology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>					
Endocrinology	Atkin,Big Stone,Cass,Crow Wing,Itasca,Jackson,Koochiching,Lac Du Paro,Lake,Lac Seul,Lyon,Murray,Nobles,St. Louis,Yellow Medicine	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network endocrinology care at Sanford Health, St. Lukes and Red Lake Clinic in neighboring counties.</p> <p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network endocrinology care at Sanford Health, Wadena Area Health and St. Gabriel Hospital and Clinic in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>					
Gastroenterology	Cook,Lake Of The Woods,Roseau	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, Red Lake Hospital and Clinic, Lakeview Memorial Hospital and St Lukes Hospital and Clinic, no Gastroenterology providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Itaska include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access gastroenterology care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new gastroenterology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>					
Gastroenterology	Cook,Koochiching,Lake,Lake Of The Woods,St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network gastroenterology care at St. Lukes, Lakeview Memorial Hospital, Red Lake Hospital and Clinic and Sanford Health in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>					



General Surgery	Cook	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, Bay Area Health Center, Mesaba Clinic and Ely Bloomerson, no General Surgery providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access general surgery care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new general surgery providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>			
Genetics	Aikin,Becker,Beltram,Big Stone,Cass,Clearwater,Cook,Crow Wing,Douglas,Grant,Hubbard/Isaac,Kittson,Koochiching,Lac Du Parq,Lake,Lake Of The Woods,Mahonomen,Marshall,Oriskany,Perham,Polk,Pope,Rice,Lake,Pineau,St. Louis,Stevens,Swift,Todd,Traverse,Wadena,Winton	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Fairview Health, CentraCare, University of MN Physicians, HealthEast, Alina and North Memorial Health no Genetics providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Genetics care at the facilities listed above in these counties, neighboring counties as well as metro counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new genetics providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>			
Genetics	Aikin,Big Stone,Blue Earth,Brown,Carlton,Chippewa,Cottonwood,Faribault,Zimmerman,Islespe,Jackson,Kandiyohi,Lac Seul,Parish,Lake,Lac Seul,Lyon,Martin,Mower,Murray,Nobles,Pine,Roseau,Stevenson,Swift,Traverse,Wadena,Yellow Medicine	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network genetics care at Sanford Health, M Health Fairview, and Virginia Piper Cancer Institute in neighboring counties.</p> <p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for the network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network, specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network genetics care at Sanford Health, M Health Fairview, and Virginia Piper Cancer Institute in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>			
Nephrology	Cook,Lake,St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Laurentian Medical Clinic and St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, no Nephrology providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access nephrology care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new nephrology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>			
Neurology and Neurological Surgery	Big Stone,Cook,Lake,St. Louis,Traverse	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including St. Luke's Hospital and Clinics, Laurentian Medical Clinic, Northland Neurology and Myology, and Hibbing Family Medical Center, no Neurology and Neurosurgery providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access neurology and neurosurgery care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new neurology and neurological surgery providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>			
Neurology and Neurological Surgery	Lake,St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network neurology and neurosurgical surgery care at St. Lukes, Hibbing Family Medical Center, Laurentian Medical Center and Northland Neurology and Myology in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>			
Obstetrics and Gynecology	Cook	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Lakeview Memorial, Scenic Rivers Health Services, St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, and Mesaba Clinic, no Obstetrics and Gynecology providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Obstetrics and Gynecology care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new obstetrics and gynecology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>			
Obstetrics and Gynecology	Cook,Lake	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network obstetrics and gynecology care at St. Lukes, Mesaba Clinic, Lakeview Memorial Hospital and Laurentian Medical Clinic in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>			
Oncology	Cook,Lake,St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Mesaba Clinic, University Medical Center Mesabi and St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, no Oncology providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kiltson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access oncology care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new oncology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>			
Oncology	Lake,St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network oncology care at St. Lukes and Mesaba Clinic in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>			



Ophthalmology	Cook,Kitson	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Vitreoretinal Surgery, St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, Altru Health and Sanford Health no Ophthalmology providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access ophthalmology care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new ophthalmology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Orthopedic Surgery	Cook	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Lake View Clinic, St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, Mesaba Clinic and Ely Bloomson, no Orthopedic Surgery providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access orthopedic surgery care at the facilities listed above in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new orthopedic surgery providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Otolaryngology	Cook,Koochiching,Lake,Lake Of the Woods,St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, Sanford Health, Altru Health, and Red Lake Hospital and Clinic, no Otolaryngology providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Otolaryngology care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new otolaryngology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Otolaryngology	Koochiching,Lake,St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network otolaryngology care at Sanford Health, St. Lukes, Mesaba Clinic and Red Lake Hospital and Clinic in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>						
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine	Lake Of the Woods,Roseau	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Red Lake Hospital and Clinic, Altru and Essentia Health, no Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine	Koochiching,Lake Of the Woods,St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network physical medicine and rehabilitation and occupational medicine care at Sanford Health, Altru and Red Lake Hospital and Clinic in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>						
Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy	St. Louis,Koochiching	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, Altru Health, Viverant, Red Lake Hospital and Clinics and Progressive Care Therapy, no Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy	St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy at Sanford Health, Altru Health, Viverant, Red Lake Hospital and Clinics and Progressive Care Therapy in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>						
Pulmonary Disease	Big Stone,Cook,Traverse	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Alomere Health, CCM Health, Bay Area Health Center, St. Lukes Hospital and Clinic, and Mesaba Clinic, no Pulmonary Disease providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kitson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access Pulmonary Disease care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new pulmonary disease providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their Televideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Pulmonary Disease	Cook,Koochiching,Lake,St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network pulmonary disease care at St. Lukes, Bay Area Health Center, and Mesaba Clinic in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>						

Radiology and Nuclear Medicine	Koochiching, St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Lakeview Memorial Hospital, Consulting Radiologists, Medical Imaging North, Lakeview Health Center, Blyforn Valley Hospital no Radiology and Nuclear Medicine providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kittson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access radiology and nuclear medicine care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new radiology and nuclear medicine providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Reconstructive Surgery	Becker, Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Cook, Hubbard, Itasca, Jackson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Mahanoma, Nobles, Roseau, St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Olmsted, Allina Health, Lakeview Memorial Hospital, St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics and Northland Plastic Surgery, no Reconstructive Surgery providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kittson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access reconstructive surgery care at the facilities listed above in these counties, neighboring counties as well as metro counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new reconstructive surgery providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Reconstructive Surgery	Fairbault, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyle, Murray, Nobles, Yellow Medicine	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network reconstructive surgery care at Sanford Health, Amana Health and Prairie Ridge Health Services in neighboring counties.</p> <p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members can access in-network specialists in adjacent counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>						
SUD (Chemical Dependency) - Inpatient	Beltrami, Cook, Kittson, Lake Lake of the Woods, Roseau, St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Restore House, Northland Womens Recovery Centers, Range Mental Health Center, Lake Region Halfway Home, Douglas Place Treatment Center, Pioneer Recovery Center, Project Turnabout, New Visions Center, and Lakeland Retreat Center, no SUD (Chemical Dependency) - Inpatient providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kittson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access SUD (Chemical Dependency) - Inpatient care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new SUD (Chemical Dependency) - Inpatient providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Thoracic Surgery	Becker, Beltrami, Big Stone, Cook, Itasca, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Martin, Pennington, Roseau, St. Louis, Traverse	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including Sanford Health, CentraCare, St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, and Fairview Health, no Thoracic Surgery providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kittson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access thoracic surgery care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new thoracic surgery providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Thoracic Surgery	Big Stone, Blue Earth, Brown, Chippewa, Dodge, Douglas, Fairbault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Grant, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Martin, Mower, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Pope, Removille, Steele, Stevens, Swift, Traverse, Wadena, Watonwan, Yellow Medicine, Wilkin	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network thoracic surgery care at Sanford Health and St. Lukes in neighboring counties.</p> <p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network thoracic surgery care at Sanford Health, Atru, Muny County Surgical Center and Gundersen Medical Center in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>						
Urology	Cook	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, Mesaba Clinic, Laurentian Medical Clinic, and Lakeview Memorial Hospital, no Urology providers are available to cover 100% of this county. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kittson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access urology surgery care at the facilities listed above in this county and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed county.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new urology providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
Urology	Cook, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network urology care at St. Lukes, Mesaba Clinic, Hibbing Family Medical Center and Grand Itasca Clinic in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>						
Vascular Surgery	Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis	1	<p>Based on a review of Internal records and provider directories (between April 1-30, 2021) attained through resources such as Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites of several partners organizations including St. Lukes Hospital and Clinics, Bay Area Health Center, Laurentian Medical Clinic, Hibbing Family Medical Center and Sanford Health no Vascular Surgery providers are available to cover 100% of these counties. These directories give us the most accurate and complete information when determining if a provider is available and offering these services. Quest Analytics is used by many health plans as well as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for determining network adequacy.</p> <p>The far most north counties in Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Roseau and Kittson include dense forest land and large bodies of water like Superior National Forest, Boundary Waters Wilderness, Lake Superior, Voyageurs National Park, Rainy Lake, Koochiching State Forest, Bois Forte Indian Reservation and Lake of the Woods. These counties are bordered by Canada to the north.</p> <p>Members can access vascular surgery care at the facilities listed above in these counties and neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information. As a result, waivers are requested for the listed counties.</p> <p>On a quarterly basis we have and will continue to assess network adequacy as new providers become available. We continue to use Quest Analytics, Medicare Physician Compare and provider websites to search for new providers. No new vascular surgery providers have become available in this region from Q1 2020 to Q1 2021. Market providers will be approached in the summer of 2021 to determine if telemedicine, outreach clinics, or mobile health providers offer feasible, cost effective solutions for filling these network gaps. In 2020, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota has enhanced their TeleVideo Consultations/Telehealth/Telemedicine Services policy to support access to virtual care.</p>						
General Hospital Facilities	Becker	3	<p>A waiver is requested due to another hospital provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access hospital care at Lake Region Healthcare, Mahanoma Health Center, Penham Health and St. Josephs Area Health Services in neighboring counties.</p> <p>Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>	0	0				

General Hospital facilities	Clay	3	A waiver is requested due to another hospital provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access hospital care at Lake Region Healthcare, Mahanomen Health Center, Parkland Health and St. Joseph Area Health Services in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	0	0		
General Hospital facilities	Freeborn	3	A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network hospital care at United Hospital District, Windom Area Health, Rivers Edge Hospital and Olmsted Medical Center in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	42	50		
General Hospital facilities	Lake	3	A waiver is requested due to another hospital provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network hospital care at Cook Hospital, Ely Bloomerson Community Hospital, Lakeview Memorial Hospital and St. Lukes Hospital in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	5	40		
General Hospital facilities	Mower	3	A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network hospital care at United Hospital District, Windom Area Health, Rivers Edge Hospital and Olmsted Medical Center in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	13	50		
General Hospital facilities	Pine	3	A waiver is requested due to another hospital provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network hospital care at Cambridge Medical Center, Community Memorial Hospital, M Health Fairview and Mile Lacs Health System in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	0	1		
General Hospital facilities	Pipestone	3	A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network hospital care at Sanford Health, Murray County Memorial Hospital and Herdicks Community Hospital in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	1	1		
General Hospital facilities	St. Louis	3	A waiver is requested due to another hospital provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network hospital care at St Lukes, Ely Bloomerson Community Hospital, Cook Hospital, Bigfork Valley Hospital and Rainy Lake Medical Center in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	37	20		
Pediatric Services Providers	Atkin	3	A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network pediatric services care at Alina Health, M Health Fairview, Cuyuna Regional Medical Center, and Community Memorial Hospital in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	7	20		
Pediatric Services Providers	Carlton	3	A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network pediatric services care at Alina Health, M Health Fairview, Cuyuna Regional Medical Center, and Community Memorial Hospital in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	5	25		
Pediatric Services Providers	Cottonwood	3	A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network pediatric services care at Sanford Health, Murray County Clinic, and New Ulm Medical Center in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.	1	2		



<p><b>Pediatric Services Providers</b></p>	<p><b>Traverse</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Essentia Health regarding participation in this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our organizations could not agree on terms needed for this network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. The provider declined participation on May 1, 2019. Members have been able to access in-network pediatric services care at Lake Region Healthcare and Peñham Health in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>50</p>		
<p><b>Pediatric Services Providers</b></p>	<p><b>Watson</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>A waiver is requested due to another specialty provider located in the area. Discussions were conducted with Mayo Clinic Health to include the needed facilities for this network and in compliance with the Minn.Stat. §62K.10. These are not Essential Community Providers. Our proposal was declined by the provider on February 19, 2020. Therefore, our organizations could not agree on terms needed to participate in the high value network; specifically, the provider was not willing to implement a reimbursement differential to support the high value network cost criteria. Members have been able to access in-network pediatric services care at Sanford Health, Murray County Clinic, and New Ulm Medical Center in neighboring counties. Blue Cross and Blue Plus members can access on-line provider directories showing the networks participating providers or call the Customer Service number found on the back of their ID card for provider network information.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>20</p>		