

Utilization Review Guideline: UR-013

FOR PUBLIC USE

Applicable Plans All Student Health Insurance Plans insured by Wellfleet Insurance Company in Rhode Island and Vermont

Purpose The purpose of this guideline is to describe how Wellfleet administers primary care physician exemption from prior authorization requirements as required under the Rhode Island Prior Authorization Reform Act of 2025 (HB5120-SB168) and Vermont House Bills 31 & 766.

- Definition**
- RI Primary Care Provider (PCP): a provider within the practice type of family medicine, geriatric medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, or pediatrics, with the following professional credentials: a Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, a nurse practitioner, or a physician assistant, and who is credentialed with the insurer as a primary care provider.
 - RI & VT Prior authorization: the pre-service assessment for purposes of utilization review that a PCP is required by an insurer to undergo before a covered healthcare service is approved for a patient.
 - VT Primary Care Provider (PCP): provider who is contracted and enrolled with the health plan as a primary care provider.
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- Guidelines**
1. Any medical procedures or tests or any admission, item, service, treatment, or procedure that require prior authorization as defined by the plan policy are exempt from prior authorization requirements for any in-network PCP.



PCP Referral Exemption from Prior Authorization Guideline

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UTILIZATION REVIEW GUIDELINE

- a. This guideline is not applicable to pharmacy or medications filled through the PBM.
- 2. All PCPs recognized as participating in-network providers under the Applicable Plans are exempt if they meet the criteria set forth within this guideline.
- 3. Contact information for questions about the program or about determining a PCP's eligibility for the program:
 - a. Email: Priorauth@wellfleetinsurance.com
- 4. Process for confirming PCP status:
 - a. Wellfleet claims will be monitored for the PCP status.
- 5. Duration of exempt status:
 - I. A PCP shall maintain that status until the state of Rhode Island determines the next steps of the three (3) year pilot program. (RI HB 5120 Section 3 Chapter 27-18.9-16).
 - II. A PCP shall maintain that status until the state of Vermont updates surrounding VT HB 766.

Change History

Version	Effective Date	Next Review Date
1.0	1/1/2026	1/1/2027
