



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Illinois**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois Provider Manual

HMO Scope of Benefits Section

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, a Division of Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company,
an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Growth Factors for Wound Healing

Benefit

FDA-approved growth factors are in benefit as adjunctive therapy for neuropathic ulcers extending into or beyond subcutaneous tissue, if these ulcers have an adequate blood supply.

Interpretation

Growth factors are substances that play a role in normal wound healing. These substances occur naturally but can also be obtained from blood or by genetic recombinant techniques. Once obtained and compounded into a salve, growth factor preparations reportedly stimulate regrowth of soft tissue, capillaries and skin.

Only FDA-approved preparations are in benefit. Preparations prescribed for use by the member in the member's home are covered by the prescription benefit. Preparations used in a physician's office or another outpatient setting are the financial responsibility of the IPA.

Paid by	Preparations for home use	HMO (through prescription benefit)
	Preparations for use in physician's office or other ambulatory setting	IPA

Benefit Variation

Some employer groups have no, or limited, pharmacy benefits.

A small percentage of HMO members receive pharmacy benefits from non-BCBSIL vendors and coverage may vary.