

# Blue Distinction<sup>®</sup> Specialty Care Program



Blue  
Distinction<sup>®</sup>  
Center

Blue  
Distinction<sup>®</sup>  
Center+

Overall, patients treated at  
Blue Distinction Centers have:

- Better outcomes.
- Fewer complications and readmissions.
- Higher survival rates.

## The sign of quality specialty care

### Choose a Hospital Wisely

If you're facing a serious medical procedure, it's important to have it performed by experienced *Blue Distinction* providers who deliver patients better results when compared to other facilities. How can you choose the right one? Look for the *Blue Distinction Center* designation of quality and the *Blue Distinction Center+* designation of quality and efficiency.

### A Nationwide Quality Designation

*Blue Distinction* is a designation awarded by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association to providers proven to deliver superior results for complicated, costly procedures. *Blue Distinction Centers* have been evaluated to meet strict criteria set by expert doctors and medical certifying organizations.

## Specializing in Specialty Care

*Blue Distinction Center* designated specialties include:

- Bariatric surgery
- Cancer care
- Cardiac care
- Cellular immunotherapy-CAR-T
- Fertility care
- Gene therapy-ocular disorders
- Knee and hip replacement
- Maternity care
- Spine surgery
- Substance use treatment and recovery
- Transplants

## Choose Blue and Save Some Green

Choosing a *Blue Distinction* provider can lower your chance for complications and shorten your stay, which can help lower the total cost of care. That means you'll likely pay less out of your own pocket!

## Find a Location

To find a *Blue Distinction Center* or *Blue Distinction Center+*, call the Member Service number on the back of your member ID card or use the Provider Search tool on your member website and look for the *Blue Distinction* logos.

Look for this recognition for providers that can help inform you in your search for the right specialty care:

- **Blue Distinction Centers:** Facilities recognized for their expertise in delivering specialty care
- **Blue Distinction Centers+:** Facilities recognized for their expertise and efficiency in delivering specialty care

*Both have a proven history of delivering better results than hospitals without these recognitions.*

**To learn more about your health plan's benefit levels for specialty care procedures and conditions, please refer to your benefit booklet.**

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Blue Distinction Centers (BDC) met overall quality measures for patient safety and outcomes, developed with input from the medical community. A Local Blue Plan may require additional criteria for facilities located in its own service area; for details, contact your Local Blue Plan. Blue Distinction Centers+ (BDC+) also met cost measures that address consumers' need for affordable healthcare. Each facility's cost of care is evaluated using data from its Local Blue Plan. Facilities in CA, ID, NY, PA, and WA may lie in two Local Blue Plans' areas, resulting in two evaluations for cost of care; and their own Local Blue Plans decide whether one or both cost of care evaluation(s) must meet BDC+ national criteria.

National criteria for BDC and BDC+ are displayed on [www.bcbs.com](http://www.bcbs.com). Individual outcomes may vary. For details on a provider's in-network status or your own policy's coverage, contact your Local Blue Plan and ask your provider before making an appointment. Neither Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association nor any Blue Plans are responsible for non-covered charges or other losses or damages resulting from Blue Distinction or other provider finder information or care received from Blue Distinction or other providers.

The Claims Administrator/Insurer complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

ATENCIÓN: Si usted habla español, servicios de asistencia lingüística, de forma gratuita, están disponibles para usted. Llame al número en la parte posterior de su tarjeta de identificación (TTY: 711).

请注意：如果您说中文，可向您提供免费语言协助服务。  
请拨打您的身份证背面的号码（TTY：711）。

