

Expanded Psychiatric Services (EPS)

When your benefit plan includes Expanded Psychiatric Services (EPS), you and your covered dependents will receive 100 percent coverage for mental health and chemical dependency (alcohol and drug abuse services) when care is coordinated by a participating EPS provider. In order to receive maximum benefits, you must first contact an EPS provider to coordinate all services (inpatient, outpatient and emergency room). You will not have to meet a deductible, pay a copay or file claims when you visit a participating EPS provider.

It is important to check your group benefit materials for more information on your mental health, drug and alcohol abuse benefits when you do not use an EPS provider.

Covered benefits for mental and nervous disorders, chemical detoxification and rehabilitation services under this program include:

- Inpatient care (you must be admitted by an EPS provider)
- Outpatient visits
- Individual, group and family therapy or counseling
- Psychological tests
- Lab tests
- Professional services of staff members who are trained in the treatment of mental health and chemical dependency, including: psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and other qualified professionals

Exclusions for EPS benefits:

- Speech therapy
- Diagnosis or treatment of mental retardation
- Rehabilitative treatment associated with permanent or temporary disability
- Rehabilitative treatment associated with hearing or vision impairment
- Any treatment not recommended by the EPS provider, even if court ordered
- Treatment for chronic pain or solely for obesity
- Services relating to narcotic maintenance therapy such as methadone maintenance
- Services related to nicotine addiction
- Sex therapy programs or treatment for sex offenders
- Prescription drugs are not dispensed by EPS providers and are covered according to contract benefits for drugs related to mental health conditions
- Residential psychiatric facilities

For a list of participating EPS providers please go to our website at **AlabamaBlue.com** and click on “Find a Doctor.” Then select “Behavioral Health Providers,” enter your zip code, and select “Expanded Psychiatric Services” for Network or Plan.



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Alabama**

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association