

## **INTERNAL ONLY – NOT FOR EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION**

Provider Communications is sharing a critical update that [was recently communicated](#) to our oncology providers. Beginning **August 1, 2023**, Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (Neighborhood) is modifying its Granulocyte-Colony Stimulating Factor (G-CSF) first treatment strategy. Please review the FAQs below for details regarding this change.

### **What is the new change to the G-CSF first treatment strategy?**

Neighborhood is discontinuing the requirement for a short-acting G-CSF as the first treatment strategy.

### **When will this change take effect?**

This change is effective August 1, 2023.

### **What does this change mean for providers?**

Providers will now have the flexibility to prescribe long-acting G-CSF products as the first treatment if the member meets Neighborhood's authorization requirements.

### **Can members still obtain short-acting G-CSF products as the first treatment?**

Yes, members can still obtain short-acting G-CSF products as the first treatment if requested and if the treatment meets Neighborhood's authorization requirements.

### **Does this affect how long-acting G-CSF products are billed?**

Yes. As of August 1, 2023, all long-acting G-CSF products administered to Medicaid members will no longer be covered under the Pharmacy Benefit. Instead, these products must be billed under the Medical Benefit.

### **What should providers do if they have any questions?**

If providers have any questions, they should contact Neighborhood's Provider Services at 1-800-963-1001. Please familiarize yourself with these details to be able to effectively communicate this change to our providers.