

## Notice of Change to G-CSF First Treatment Strategy

June 1, 2023

Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (Neighborhood) is implementing important changes to our Medicaid Pharmacy Benefit coverage, as well as our Medicaid, Commercial, and INTEGRITY (MMP) Medical Benefit coverage. These changes are designed to help keep healthcare costs as low as possible for our patients while ensuring safe and effective prescription drug utilization.

Effective **August 1, 2023**, Neighborhood **will discontinue the requirement for a short-acting Granulocyte-Colony Stimulating Factor (G-CSF) as the first treatment strategy.**

As a result, providers will have the option to prescribe long-acting G-CSF products as the first treatment, provided the member meets Neighborhood's authorization requirements.

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

### **Change to Benefit Billing**

Furthermore, **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.**

If you have any questions about this communication, please contact Neighborhood's Provider Services at 1-800-963-1001.