



Frequently Asked Questions

Effective 12-4-23, Bluestem Clinic is a hospital-provider-based clinic within Gove County Medical Center (GCMC)

WHY IS GCMC ACQUIRING BLUESTEM MEDICAL LLP?

Access to rural healthcare is a valuable asset that also presents many challenges, especially financially. We continue to see many facilities struggling to survive so joining and becoming one facility gives the best chance at continuing to provide exceptional healthcare in our rural community. In addition, there is increased federal funding with becoming one entity versus separate entities. Providing healthcare to our rural community is at the heart and soul of why the providers chose to practice here, raise their families here, and invest in this community. They want to make sure that legacy continues for many generations to come and joining GCMC strengthens the chances for stability.

WHAT DOES THE TERM "PROVIDER-BASED" MEAN?

This is a Medicare status for hospitals and clinics that meet specific Medicare regulations and requires that we bill Medicare in two parts (Part A and Part B).

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT THE BILLING PROCESS?

Since services will now be provided in a department of the hospital, Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and Medicaid patients will see separate charges, one for the provider and one for the facility. Patients with commercial insurance will not see separate charges.

Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and Medicaid beneficiaries are responsible for the co-insurance amount on the services they receive. These amounts are determined by Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and Medicaid and are based on the services performed. Medicare patients who have supplemental insurance may have coverage that will reimburse their co-pays and deductibles. Please check with your insurance plan.

The total cost of charges for Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and Medicaid patients will not exceed charges incurred by non-Medicare/Medicare Advantage/Medicaid patients receiving the same service.

Frequently Asked Questions Continued on Backside

WILL THERE BE A CHANGE IN HOW PATIENTS RECEIVE CARE?

No. Patients will continue to receive excellent quality care from their providers, and scheduling appointments and tests will be handled as they always have been in the past. However, there is a change in how GCMC will bill your insurance carrier for these services.

WHERE WILL I CHECK IN FOR MY CLINIC VISIT?

You will check in at the Bluestem Clinic for all clinic visits and you will check in at the hospital patient registration for all hospital services.

WILL I STILL RECEIVE A BILL FROM BLUESTEM MEDICAL?

Yes, any service provided prior to December 4, 2023, will be billed from Bluestem Medical, LLP. Any services provided on December 4, 2023 and after will be billed from GCMC.

WILL THERE STILL BE A CLINIC IN GRAINFIELD?

Yes, we are excited to be able to provide additional services and a more consistent schedule in Grainfield.

For more information, please visit the hospital website at www.gcmc.org or call Patient Financial Services at 785-754-3341 for more information and answers to your questions or concerns.

Thank you for choosing Gove County Medical Center for your healthcare needs. We are
Committed to Others. Always.