

NETWORK ACCESS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH RARE DISEASES

New policies that support the rare disease community in Minnesota: *What you should know*

In 2023, the Minnesota Legislature enacted the “network access bill” that aimed at reducing the diagnostic odyssey, addressing health equity, and improving outcomes by allowing individuals with a rare disease (or suspected rare disease) to access appropriate specialists who may be out-of-network.



WHAT IS THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THIS POLICY?

Any Minnesota resident:

- with a diagnosis of the rare disease as defined by the Genetic and Rare Disease Center list created by the National Institute of Health (NIH)
- Or who
 - (i) has received two or more clinical consultations from a primary care provider or specialty provider that are specific to the presenting complaint;
and
 - (ii) has documentation in the enrollee’s medical record of a developmental delay through standardized assessment, developmental regression, failure to thrive, or progressive multisystemic involvement;
and
 - (iii) had laboratory or clinical testing that failed to provide a definitive diagnosis or resulted in conflicting diagnoses.

DOES THIS POLICY APPLY TO BOTH IN AND OUT-OF-STATE PROVIDERS?

Yes. It applies to both in and out of state providers.

WHICH TYPES OF HEALTH PLAN COMPANIES DOES THIS APPLY TO?

Any health plan issued or renewed in Minnesota for Minnesota residents, or to cover a Minnesota resident. These include:

- Minnesota Medicaid (MA)
- MinnesotaCare
- Commercial insurance companies (both non-profit and for profit)
- The State Employee Group Insurance Plan (SEGIP)
(employer-sponsored plans are not included)

WHEN DID THE POLICY GO INTO EFFECT?

This policy went into effect January 1st, 2024.

LEARN MORE For more information on RDAC policy goals, click [here](#).