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Dear Patty:

**Q: What does a Pulmonologist specialize in?**

**A:** A pulmonologist is a physician who specializes in diagnosing and treating diseases that affect the respiratory system.

**Q: What type of diseases do Pulmonologists treat?**

**A:** Some of the diseases Pulmonologists treat are the following:

- Asthma
- Bronchitis
- Pulmonary Fibrosis
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Obstructive Sleep Apnea
- Pneumonia

**Q: Do I need a referral from my Primary Care Physician (PCP) to consult with a Pulmonologist?**

# Patty's Points



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**A:** Your Florida Blue Plan does not require a referral if the Pulmonologist is in the network. However, the Pulmonologist's office may require one per their office policy.

Although a referral is not required, please be aware that certain tests or procedures may require a prior authorization. It is the responsibility of the Pulmonologist to submit the request to Florida Blue for prior authorization and your responsibility to make sure there is an approval prior to services rendered.

**Q: What are the copays to consult with an in-network Pulmonologist?**

**A:** The copays vary by plan type:

PLAN TYPE	COPAY PER VISIT
HMO Basic	\$75
HMO Premium	\$65
PPO Standard	\$80

**Q: I was diagnosed with Obstructive Sleep Apnea and prescribed a CPAP Machine. Is it covered?**

**A:** Yes, CPAP machines and supplies are covered under the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) benefit. Your doctor may contact CareCentrix, Florida Blue's in-network DME Coordinator at 1-877-561-9910 and initiate a request.

In addition, your doctor may contact BayCare HomeCare at 1-800-940-5151, option #3. BayCare HomeCare has a direct contract with Florida Blue and is not a vendor under CareCentrix.



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**Q: What are my out-of-pocket expenses for authorized DME?**

A: Your out of pocket will vary by plan. Please refer to chart below:

PLAN TYPE	OUT OF POCKET
HMO Basic*	\$0
HMO Premium*	\$0
PPO Standard	\$2,500 Deductible + 30% Coinsurance

\*Authorized DME services not subject to Deductible or Coinsurance

**Q: Are the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccines covered?**

A: The two RSV vaccine drugs, **Abrysvo** and **Arexvy**, for people **60 and older** are covered effective September 1, 2023. Both vaccines are covered at **\$0 member cost share** at **Walgreens only** or at **an in-network physician's office**, when services are billed as a wellness/routine office visit.

Additionally, the RSV immunization **Beyfortus** will be covered at **\$0 member cost share** for infants at **an in-network physician's office**, when services are billed as a wellness/routine office visit.