



## BlueDistinction® Centers for Cancer Care

Blue Distinction is a national designation given by Blue Cross Blue Shield Plans to recognize providers that demonstrate expertise in delivering quality specialty care – safely, effectively, and cost-efficiently. The goal of the program is to help patients find both quality and value for their specialty care needs, while providing a credible foundation on which employers may customize their employee benefits.

### Distinction in Your Community and Nationwide

The Blue Distinction Centers for Cancer Care program aims to improve patient outcomes and cost by addressing fragmented delivery of care. It is available for all cancer types and various care settings, including physician groups, cancer centers, hospitals, and accountable care organizations (ACOs).

Designation as a Blue Distinction Center for Cancer Care differentiates providers locally, as well as nationally. This highly respected designation acknowledges the expertise you have demonstrated and your commitment to improving quality and affordability. Designations are awarded based on quality criteria, focused on foundational elements that support delivery of patient-centered, evidence-based cancer care. In addition to meeting quality and business criteria, each designated provider entity is required to have a value-based payment arrangement with their local Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) Plan, setting targets for delivering higher quality, lower cost care for patients. Although a value-based payment arrangement is one of the requirements of the designation, the actual cost of care is not being measured on a national basis at this point and the BDC+ designation is not offered at this time.

While the new Blue Distinction Centers for Cancer Care program launches on Jan. 1, 2018, designations will be awarded on an ongoing basis, and the program will continue to expand in the future.

#### **Selection Criteria:**

- Provider entities must meet 12 quality criteria, business criteria, and local BCBS Plan criteria (if applicable); and
- Provider entities must have a value-based payment arrangement or contract with their local BCBS Plan.

#### **Designation Process:**

- BCBS Plans will confirm that the provider entity meets the selection criteria. In some cases, provider entities may be asked by their local BCBS Plan to submit data for this assessment.
- Provider entities will also be evaluated under Blue Brands criteria, as part of the business criteria, before a final eligibility decision can be determined.
- Provider entities meeting all selection criteria are eligible for designation as Blue Distinction Centers for Cancer Care, upon full execution of a Participation Agreement.
- Blue Distinction Centers for Cancer Care designations will be posted beginning on Jan. 1, 2018 on [National Doctor and Hospital Finder](#) and [Blue Distinction Center Finder](#). A directory of Blue Distinction Centers for Cancer Care will also be available on BCBS.com.
- BCBS Plans will work with designated provider entities to market their Cancer Care designation status.

For more information, please visit [bcbs.com](http://bcbs.com).