

## E-Consult Consortium Introduction for Virginia Managed Care Plans

Virginia managed care plans have the opportunity to work together to improve access to specialty care for our Medicaid patients. E-consults facilitate communications between primary care providers and specialists, often eliminating the need for member travel and time off work for an in-person specialty care visit.

### What are the benefits of e-consult?

- ✓ Increased access to specialty care for Medicaid patients
- ✓ Reduced turnaround time for care management guidance
- ✓ Streamlined care coordination
- ✓ Earlier diagnosis and management limiting disease exacerbation
- ✓ Reduction in unnecessary or inappropriate referrals

### How do primary care providers use e-consult?

PCPs log in to an e-consult platform and ask an adult or pediatric specialist a clinical question. The specialist responds with guidance within 3 business days. The PCP accepts the e-consult and can download it to the patient's health record or EHR.

### How can we work together as a Virginia E-Consult Consortium?

Providers in clinics across the country have demonstrated increased engagement in and utilization of e-consult when it is covered by all managed care plans. This reduces the decision-making required to determine if a patient is eligible to receive an e-consult. Managed care plans have collaborated to form consortia to support provider education and share best practices for incorporating e-consult into the primary care provider's specialty referral process.

### What is required of managed care plans to support e-consult?

- Contract with an e-consult platform that offers a specialty network for managed care members.
- Cover the costs of the platform and the e-consult encounters for your plan members.
- Work to engage clinics, especially those with a high volume of specialty referrals, excessive wait times and/or long distance to travel for in-person specialty care.
- Support the formation of a Virginia E-Consult Consortium.

### Help us to convene the first meeting of the Virginia E-Consult Consortium

We invite your leaders to join us on **DATE 2025** to facilitate the first meeting of the Virginia E-Consult Consortium. Participation in the Consortium is free and open to all e-consult stakeholders in the Commonwealth of Virginia. [Register here.](#) (add Eventbrite info)

### How can managed care plans get started with e-consult?

Contact [econsultworkgroup@bluepathhealth.com](mailto:econsultworkgroup@bluepathhealth.com) to learn about the consortium and how to work with an e-consult vendor. (Add e-consult web page URL)