



Elm and Oak Health September 2026 Provider Newsletter

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Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

September 2026 Is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

In the United States, prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men after skin cancer and the second leading cause of cancer-related death, following lung cancer. Approximately 11% of men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during their lifetime, with risk increasing as men age. While it is rare in men under 40, the highest incidence occurs between ages 65 and 74.

Several factors can increase the risk of developing prostate cancer. Age is the most significant, but ethnicity also plays a role, with African American men at higher risk compared to White or Hispanic men. Family history is another important factor, especially for men with a first-degree relative diagnosed before age 65. Diet may also influence risk; some observational studies suggest that diets high in animal fat may increase risk, while diets rich in vegetables and possibly soy may be associated with a lower risk. However, these dietary links are not definitively established.

Prostate cancer often develops without early symptoms, and many cases are asymptomatic at diagnosis. Screening typically begins with a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test, which can indicate the need for further evaluation. Age-specific PSA ranges are used to interpret results. A digital rectal exam may also be performed, though it is not always recommended as a routine screening tool. If PSA levels are elevated, further testing may include imaging, such as MRI, to assess the prostate and guide the need for a biopsy. It is important to note that a definitive diagnosis of prostate cancer requires tissue examination from a biopsy, not PSA testing or imaging alone.

Once diagnosed, the cancer is staged based on tumor size, lymph node involvement, presence or absence of metastasis, PSA level, and tumor grade.

Treatment is individualized and may include surgery, radiation therapy, hormone therapy, chemotherapy, or immunotherapy, depending on the specific characteristics of the disease and the patient's overall health.

In summary, prostate cancer remains a significant health concern for men, particularly as they age. While risk is influenced by factors such as age, ethnicity, family history, and possibly diet, the disease often develops without noticeable symptoms, making awareness and appropriate screening especially important. Early detection through PSA testing and proper diagnostic evaluation can help guide timely and effective care. Ultimately, understanding individual risk and working closely with a healthcare team allows for personalized treatment approaches and improved outcomes.

Let's Get Checked!

In the final quarter of 2026, Molina Healthcare of NY will use the *Let'sGetChecked* (LGC) program to support one last push toward closing care gaps. Program materials will be mailed to members to encourage completion of health screenings from home. This year, LGC kits include diabetic HbA1c testing, kidney health testing, colorectal cancer screening (FIT kits), and chlamydia screening for women with Molina Medicaid, HARP, or Essential Plan coverage.

Patients will receive a call, and if they agree to participate, the kit will be mailed to their home for completion. If you have questions about the program or your practice's eligible members, please contact Kaitlyn at Kbrusehaber@elmandoakhealth.com.

End of Year Supplemental Data Guidance

Before sending any documents, please ensure that the required information is contained within the documents. Double check that the following are correct and included:

- Member Name
- Member Date of Birth
- Date(s) of Service
- Progress Notes must include provider's signature (e-signature acceptable)
- Member Name, Date of Birth, and Date of Service are legible on each page

****Please forward charts *no later* than 12/30/2026 by one of the following methods:**

Elm & Oak Health Attn: Quality Dept.

- **Fax:** 1(877)244-3771 *or*
- **Email:** Quality@elmandoakhealth.com

Fax cover sheet must include:

- Charts must be in .pdf format
- Please send charts separated per patient and per measure
- Practice Name and Practice Staff Contact information
- Measure name (*i.e. CBP, GSD, W30, WCV etc.*)

Important 2027 Medicaid Changes

Starting January 1, 2027, some people who have Medicaid coverage will need to show they are working, going to school, helping in the community, or participating in job training to keep their health coverage. This is a new federal rule from the government called Work Requirements for Medicaid Coverage.

Requirements

Earned income of \$580 per month **OR** A) Work at least 80 hours per month B) Go to school at least half-time C) Join a job training or work program D) Volunteer or assist in your community • A combination of any of the above activities (A-D)

Guidance

NYS will be reaching out to individuals with exactly what needs to be done to keep their Medicaid coverage.

Medicaid recipients should make sure NYS has their correct phone number, email address, and home address so important information can be received. If enrolled in Medicaid through New York State of Health, enrollees can update their contact information in these ways:

- Go to NY State of Health account at nystateofhealth.ny.gov.
- Meet with an enrollment assistor to update account information.
- Call the NY State of Health Customer Service Center at 1-855-355-5777 (TTY: 1-800-662-1220).
- If enrolled in Medicaid via a county's Local Department of Social Services, contact that office to update information.

Use this link to the NY State of Health Provider Toolkit which includes a FAQ and promotional materials:

<https://info.nystateofhealth.ny.gov/HR1-Tool-Kit#PartnerFAQ>

Child and Adolescent Well Child Visits (WCV)

Children 3-21 years of age with one well-child visit with a PCP or an OBGYN practitioner within the calendar year.

TIP: Molina allows 1 per calendar year visit. Does not follow the 365-day rule

Adults' Access to Preventive/Ambulatory Health Series (AAP)

The percentage of members, 20 years of age and older, who had an ambulatory or preventive care visit during the calendar year.

TIP: This is a great opportunity to also discuss preventive screenings



Molina Matters: Key Updates, Clear Takeaways

- To review how to manage claims click here: [Managing claims](#)
- Availity Appeals and Reconsideration changes: [Availity Appeals and Reconsideration changes](#)
- Submit and track your appeals on Availity Essentials: [Submit and track your appeals on Availity Essentials](#)

- Molina Provider Q1 2026 Newsletter: [Provider Newsletter](#)
- Prior Authorization Lookup Tool: [Provider Prior Authorization Look-Up Tool](#)
- Provider Manual: [Provider Manual](#)



Access and Availability Standards Reminder Grid

Providers responsible for coordinating a member's health care must offer appointments to Molina members within the applicable timeframes outlined below. Please refer to the Access and Availability Tip Sheet for additional guidance: [Access & Availability Standards Tip Sheet](#)



Culturally Aware Care Builds Stronger Connections

Reminder: Annual completion of Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) training is required.

Available CLAS training modules include:

- Module 1: Introduction to Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services
- Module 2: Health Outcomes
- Module 3: Seniors and Persons with Disabilities
- Module 4: LGBTQ and Immigrants/ Refugees (optional)
- Module 5: Providing Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services
- Provider Training Attestation Form (All Other State Providers)



**Unlock key insights in the Elm and Oak Health Provider Guide:
Stay Informed-Don't miss out**

Click on this link to learn more: [Provider-Orientation-Guide](#). If you have any questions, please reach out via email to: pfmemails@elmandoakhealth.com or providerrelations@elmandoakhealth.com or by telephone call 716-331-0525.

Provider Data Validation

To maintain accurate records, please submit all necessary documentation to update your practice information to pfmemails@elmandoakhealth.com.

These changes include:

- Change in office location(s)/address, office hours, phone, fax or email.
- Addition or closure of office location(s).
- Addition of a provider (within an existing clinic/practice).
- Change in provider or practice name, Tax ID and/or NPI.
- Opening or closing your practice to new patients (PCPs only).

- Change in specialty.
- Change in billing address.
- Any other information that may impact member access to care.



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