



CIRCULAR

Reference: Guidelines for Diagnosis, Treatment and Care of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease)
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Circular 33 of 2023: Prescribed Minimum Benefit definition guideline for inflammatory bowel disease (Ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease)

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) hereby informs stakeholders of the commencement of the process to develop Prescribed Minimum Benefit (PMB) definition guidelines for inflammatory bowel disease (ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease).

2. Background

- 2.1 The CMS in its efforts to be an agile and transformative regulator to promote affordable and accessible healthcare cover towards universal health coverage, is putting efforts into the Benefit Definition Guidelines Project to clarify PMB entitlements and to offer guidance to all stakeholders in interpreting PMB provisions in terms of the relevant legislation.
- 2.2 The PMB definition guideline development process, is based on the best available evidence and clinical practice knowledge for the assessment and treatment of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). Our recommendations will be compiled by technical experts, healthcare professionals and the medical schemes industry representatives.
- 2.3 Attached to this Circular is the [Guideline Scope](#) that sets out what the PMB Definition Guidelines will/will not cover. The scope provides a framework for the development of the guideline and highlights the topics that should be considered for the PMB Definitions Guideline development.
- 2.4 A CAC will be set up and will comprise of technical experts selected from the CMS Technical Expert Panel and relevant stakeholders with expertise in IBD and representation of various interest groups within the medical schemes industry.
- 2.5 It should be noted that stakeholder representations in the CAC are on a voluntary basis to provide advice and representation of all stakeholder interests and, thus, are not remunerated positions.

- 2.6 Stakeholders are requested to prepare submissions to aid in establishing the IBD PMB definition guidelines.
- 2.7 Stakeholders who would like to be considered for the CAC on IBD can email their CVs to pmbreview@medicalschemes.co.za. The committee will consider all the submissions received and proposals regarding the basket of benefits and care to be made available to manage ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.
- 2.8 To ensure good governance, stakeholders accepted to join the CAC will be required to complete a confidentiality agreement and non-disclosure agreement.
- 2.9 All PMB-related queries may be addressed to pmbreview@medicalschemes.co.za

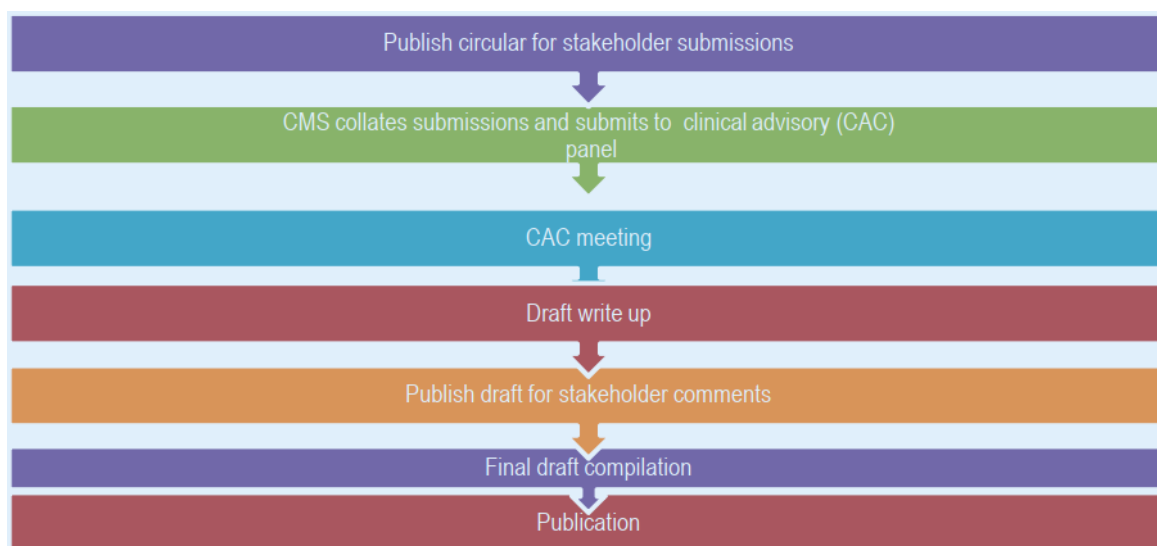


Figure 1: The process for PMB definition guideline publication.

Please take note of the following deadlines:

Due date for submissions	Due date for CVs	Tentative CAC meeting date
31 October 2023	31 October 2023	24 November 2023

Yours sincerely,

Dr Sipho Kabane
Chief Executive and Registrar
Council for Medical Schemes