

Ladies First

Clinical Navigation Services

The primary focus of Ladies First is screening and diagnosis of breast and cervical cancer, but patients with cancer or pre-cancerous results are eligible to receive treatment for up to 5 years, with minimal co-pays. Our research has shown that this aspect of the program is perhaps the least understood and most underutilized. Indeed, Ladies First and other states' CDC-funded breast and cervical cancer prevention efforts began as screening-only programs. But thanks to an intense lobbying effort on the part of health care providers around the nation, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-354) was passed. This act allows Vermont to provide treatment and other coverage for breast and cervical cancer, including pre-cancerous conditions, to women eligible for Ladies First (and similar programs around the country).

Treatment coverage applies to the breast and cervical cancer portions of the Ladies First program, and may be applied retroactively up to 90 days if the member is eligible (that is, if she did not have Vermont Medicaid coverage or credible insurance prior to signing up).

"On January 4, 2001, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) provided guidance to Vermont for enrolling, directly from Ladies First onto full treatment benefits, uninsured women under age 65 who are in need of treatment for breast or cervical cancer, including those with pre-cancerous conditions." The Ladies First clinical navigator initiates applications for this program. The clinical navigator also enters notes, activities and barriers into the Ladies First Medical Information and Tracking System (MedIT). This allows the clinical navigator to track patients, navigate and track necessary short-term follow-up.

Providers may receive more information on clinical navigation services by calling our provider support line at 1-800-510-2282 and by speaking with our clinical navigator.

Vermont's treatment eligibility criteria.

A woman must be:

- Diagnosed with breast cancer, cervical cancer, or a pre-malignant condition (moderate or severe cervical dysplasia)
- Enrolled in Ladies First
- Have no other creditable health insurance
- Require treatment services
- A U.S. citizen or [qualified alien](#).
- Under the age of 65

Aid Category BG/BH covers eligible members for as long as they need treatment, up to 5 years. In order to receive this, however **referral by the Ladies First clinical navigator is required.**

If a patient does not qualify for Ladies First services, they can apply for coverage through VT [Health Connect](#).

Other resources not affiliated with BCCTP are: [The American Cancer Society](#), [Susan G. Komen](#), and [Cancer Care Inc.](#)

For more information about Ladies First clinical navigation services, please call the Ladies First clinical navigator at 1-800-510-2282.