

April 19, 2010

Dear WellCare of Florida / HealthEase of Florida Provider:

WellCare Health Plans, Inc.
The WellCare Group of Companies

In response to significant observed variation from evidence-based standards, professional society guidance and local peer performance, WellCare of Florida / HealthEase of Florida (the Plan) has determined the need for medical necessity determination reviews for the provision of non-emergent, advanced outpatient imaging procedures. The Outpatient Advanced Imaging Program applies to both Medicaid and Medicare products.

Effective June 1, 2010, the Plan will require advanced authorization for all non-emergent, advanced outpatient imaging services provided to Plan members. These medical necessity determination reviews will be required on certain procedures including: MR, CT, PET and SPECT for Medicare and Medicaid, as well as certain ultrasounds, Nuclear Medicine, and Nuclear Cardiology procedures for Medicaid.

We have partnered with CareCore National, LLC for clinical review of cases based upon their expertise in administering similar programs and their record of working effectively with the physician community. If an ordering physician does not receive a Medical Necessity Determination and Authorization number from CareCore National prior to the non-emergent, advanced imaging procedures being performed then claims may not be reimbursed to the rendering provider.

The Advanced Imaging Criteria utilized by CareCore Medical Directors have been vetted by an expert physician review board with relevant medical specialties to validate the criteria are in keeping with published research and guidelines from the appropriate specialty societies. This coverage criteria is available online at www.carecorenational.com.

You will need to obtain an authorization of services performed on or after **June 1st** at www.carecorenational.com or by calling CareCore National directly at 888-333-8641. Please note that CareCore National will begin taking authorization requests May 17th; however an authorization from CareCore National is not required unless the service is rendered on or after the **June 1st** effective date.

You may access FAQs regarding the Imaging Program on our Web site at http://www.wellcare.com/Provider/job_aids

If you have questions about this notice, please contact Provider Services at the numbers listed below or CareCore National Customer Service at 888-333-8641, Option 4.

Florida Medicare Plans: 888-888-9355

Florida Medicaid Plans:

HealthEase: 800-278-0656

Staywell: 866-334-7927

HealthEase Kids: 800-278-8178

Staywell Kids: 866-698-5437

Mailing Address:
8735 Henderson Rd.
Tampa, FL 33634

Thank you for being a valued provider and for working with us to provide coordinated care services to our members.

Sincerely,

WellCare of Florida, Inc.
HealthEase of Florida, Inc.