

January 14, 2011

Dear Provider,

In response to significant observed variation from evidence-based standards, professional society guidance, and local peer performance, WellCare Health Plans of New Jersey, Inc. (WellCare) has determined the need for medical necessity determination reviews for the provision of non-emergent, outpatient advanced imaging procedures.

Effective Monday, February 28, 2011, WellCare will require advanced authorization for all non-emergent, outpatient advanced imaging services provided to Plan members. These medical necessity determination reviews will be required on certain procedures including: MR, PET, CT and SPECT. Please review the New Jersey Medicare Quick Reference Guide at https://www.wellcare.com/WCAssets/corporate/assets/NJ_Medicare_QRG.pdf for a complete list of services requiring authorization.

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 a treating physician does not receive a Medical Necessity Determination and Authorization number from CareCore National prior to performing non-emergent, advanced imaging procedures, claims may be denied.

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 criterion is available online at www.carecorenational.com.

You will need to obtain an authorization of services performed on or after **February 28, 2011** at www.carecorenational.com or by calling CareCore National directly at 1-888-333-8641. Please note that CareCore National will begin taking authorization requests on **Monday, February 14, 2011**; however, an authorization from CareCore National is not required unless the service is rendered on or after the **February 28th** effective date.

You may access FAQs regarding the Imaging Program on our Web site listed below.

WELLCARE HEALTH PLANS, INC.
PO BOX 31577
TAMPA, FL 33634-3577

WellCare Health Plans, Inc.: **1-866-687-8570**
http://www.wellcare.com/Provider/job_aids

If you have questions about this notice, please contact Provider Services at the numbers listed above or CareCore National Customer Service at 1-888-333-8641, Option 4.

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

Sincerely,

WellCare Health Plans of New Jersey, Inc.