



January 28, 2011

Dear 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 New York, Inc. 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 Monday, February 28, 2011, WellCare of New York, Inc. will require advanced notification for all non-emergent, advanced outpatient imaging services provided to Plan members. These medical necessity determination reviews will be required on certain procedures including: MRI, PET, CAT and SPECT.

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 not be reimbursed.

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, 2011** effective date.

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

WellCare of New York, Inc. (Medicare): **1-800-278-5155**

WellCare of New York, Inc. (Medicaid): **1-800-288-5441**

WELLCARE OF NEW YORK INC.

Medicaid Toll-Free Telephone: 800-288-5441

Medicare Toll-Free Telephone: 800-278-5155

Web Address: www.wellcare.com

E-mail: nypr@wellcare.com

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 of New York, Inc.