



Medicare | 2017 | Issue I
PROVIDER NEWSLETTER



ANNUAL PROVIDER SATISFACTION SURVEY

Thank you all who participated in the annual survey process in 2016. WellCare continues to focus efforts on the experiences of our members and providers. The 2016 annual Provider Satisfaction Survey concentrated on a variety of subjects including call center staff, finance issues, utilization and quality management, network/coordination of care, pharmacy, provider relations, and overall satisfaction and loyalty.

Extensive reviews of our 2016 survey results are underway to ensure that our focus is aligned with the needs of our providers. Current areas of focus include enhancing provider services at the local level, claim processing and issue resolution, enriching administrative tools/capabilities, and continued emphasis on quality. The organization is continuously engaged with several cross-functional teams working on these initiatives and others that are aimed at better serving our providers. We anticipate incremental gains on several initiatives in 2017 and continued improvement beyond.

In July/August of 2017, WellCare will conduct the annual Provider Satisfaction Survey to continue measuring progress, as well as better evaluate how we can become more effective and productive business partners.

Your participation is encouraged – and appreciated – as together we strive to positively impact our members’ lives.

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER: QUALITY HEALTH CARE

JOIN THE CONVERSATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Join our digital and social communities for up-to-date information on how we're working with you and others to help our members live better, healthier lives.



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FORMULARY SEARCH APP

PRESCRIBE WITH CONFIDENCE – EVERY DRUG, EVERY PLAN, EVERY TIME

Are you and your team spending valuable time processing prior authorizations?

Formulary Search quickly provides the details you need to select the best therapeutic option, eliminate denials and reduce administrative drain on you and your team.

NEW FORMULARY SEARCH APP EXTENDS THE TOOLS YOU USE TO PRESCRIBE WITH CONFIDENCE

We have expanded our relationship with MMIT to deliver comprehensive drug coverage information directly to your desktop and mobile devices. In addition to WellCare's extensive support resources, Formulary Search is designed to be intuitive, simple and always available.

- Identify coverage and restriction criteria and alternative therapies by brand, region and plan.
- “Favorite” often-prescribed drugs for rapid access.
- No registration, no username, no passwords.

Search from your desktop at www.FormularyLookup.com or download the free app today.



Discover drugs by name, brand and policy.
Review restriction data and alternatives.
Understand coverage for any Payer and policy.
Go! Prescribe with confidence.

Q1 2017 PROVIDER FORMULARY UPDATE

The Medicare Formulary has been updated. Find the most up-to-date, complete Formulary at www.wellcare.com. Select your state from the drop-down menu and click on *Pharmacy* under Medicare in the *Providers* drop-down menu.

You can also refer to the Provider Manual to view more information regarding WellCare's pharmacy Utilization Management (UM) policies and procedures. To find your state's Provider Manual visit www.wellcare.com. Select your state from the drop-down menu and click on *Overview* under Medicare in the *Providers* drop-down menu.

2017 EDIT EXPANSION

WellCare Health Plans is expanding its claims edit library with additional policies. Periodic updates of our edits ensure claims are processed accurately and efficiently based on our medical coverage policies, reimbursement policies, benefit plans and industry-standard coding practices, mainly Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). These are three examples of the upcoming policies.

ICD-10 LATERALITY AND EXCLUDES 1 NOTE POLICIES:

ICD-10 CM laterality codes indicate conditions that occur on the left, right or bilaterally, and an Excludes 1 Note indicates mutually exclusive diagnoses.

For example, ICD code M17.10 (Unilateral primary osteoarthritis, unspecified knee) should not be billed with M17.12 (Unilateral primary osteoarthritis, left knee). An Excludes 1 Note is used when two conditions cannot occur together (mutually exclusive), such as a congenital form versus an acquired form of the same condition.

CHANGE RECOMMENDATION POLICY:

Through our advanced processing edit logic, each claim will be assessed and a coding recommendation applied rather than a denial, when applicable based on WellCare's Edit Policy. The change recommendation policy will assist to reduce provider disputes for incorrect coding claims scenarios.

For example, according to CMS policy, Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) facilities are no longer required to submit modifier SG (ASC facility service) to indicate that a service was rendered in an ASC. Therefore, modifier SG is unnecessary and may be removed from a claim and processed without a denial.

Please refer to the provider portal for the listing of the upcoming edits and implementation dates.



RxEFFECT

ACCESS YOUR APPOINTMENT AGENDA THROUGH RxEFFECT!

We are pleased to announce that you are now able to access WellCare appointment agendas through RxEffect. The Appointment Agenda is a one-page guide to assist providers in reviewing gaps in a patient's care during an office visit. The document contains current open care gaps and dropped diagnoses. Following the office visit, the provider should include all diagnosis codes (Dx) and procedure codes (CPT/CPT II) on the claim they submit to WellCare.

RxEffect is a web portal available to our Medicare PCPs which provides near real-time member medication adherence status. As before, you can print out and return your appointment agenda replies via facsimile, but will also have the opportunity to electronically submit your responses directly through the RxEffect portal. RxEffect can be accessed directly at portal.rxante.com/ or via a link within the Provider Portal. If you don't have access, speak with your WellCare representative to get started.



ANNUAL CAHPS® SURVEY – FEEDBACK ON WHAT MATTERS TO YOUR PATIENTS

The 2017 Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS®) survey will be mailed to select members of our health plan. The goal of this survey is to gather feedback from our members about their satisfaction levels with providers, the health plan and the quality of the care they receive. We hope you will encourage your patients to participate if selected.

The CAHPS questions directly tied to the care members receive from their personal doctor include:

- Did your doctor explain things in a way that was easy to understand?
- How often did your personal doctor listen to you carefully?
- How often did your personal doctor show respect for what you had to say?
- How often did your personal doctor spend enough time with you?
- Rate your personal doctor from 0–10 using 10 as the best possible doctor.
- How often did you get help from your personal doctor's office to manage your care among your different providers?

Your colleagues have offered the following best practices to improve your ratings:

- Slow down and actively listen. Encourage questions and notice if your patient has a puzzled look. It may be helpful to ask your patient to repeat back what they understand.
- Let patients and their caregiver(s) know your office hours and how to get after-hours care.
- Offer to schedule specialist appointments while your patients are in the office.
- If you are running late, instruct your staff to let your patients and their caregiver(s) know and apologize.
- Invite questions and encourage your patients or their caregiver(s) to take notes. Research shows most patients forget two out of three things you tell them when they walk out of the exam room.
- Remember, your patients and/or their caregiver(s) are “sitting on pins and needles” waiting for your call with their test results. It's better to apologize for calling late in the day than to anger a patient or their caregiver(s) by keeping them up all night waiting for your call.

Thank you for the excellent care you provide to our members.

UPDATING PROVIDER DIRECTORY INFORMATION

We rely on our provider network to advise us of demographic changes so we can keep our information current.

To ensure our members and Case Management staff have up-to-date provider information, please give us advance notice of changes you make to your office phone number, office address or panel status (open/closed). Thirty-day advance notice is recommended.

NEW PHONE NUMBER, OFFICE ADDRESS OR CHANGE IN PANEL STATUS

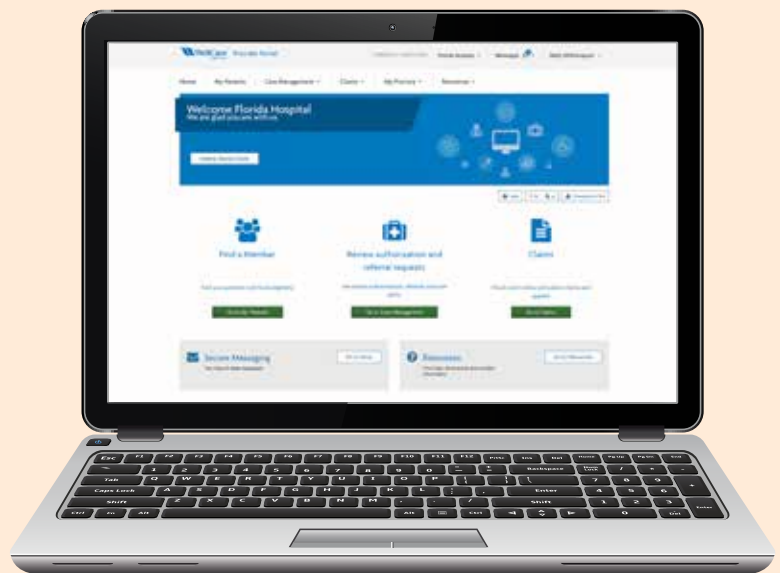
Please call us at 1-855-538-0454.

Thank you for helping us maintain up-to-date directory information for your practice.

AVAILABILITY OF REVIEW CRITERIA

The determination of medical necessity review criteria and guidelines are available to providers upon request. You may request a copy of the criteria used for specific determination of medical necessity by calling Provider Services at the number listed on your *Quick Reference Guide* at www.wellcare.com. Select your state from the drop-down menu and click on *Overview* under Medicare in the *Providers* drop-down menu.

Also, please remember that all Clinical Coverage Guidelines detailing medical necessity criteria for certain medical procedures, devices and tests are available at www.wellcare.com. Select your state from the drop-down menu and click on *Clinical Guidelines* under *Tools* in the *Providers* drop-down menu.



COMING SOON: NEW PROVIDER PORTAL

WELLCARE'S NEW PROVIDER PORTAL ARRIVES IN SPRING 2017!

The portal will have a whole new look and streamlined tools, including:

- Comprehensive member profile with eligibility, benefits & co-pays, care gaps, pharmacy utilization, and more
- Improved authorization & claim submission
- More ways to communicate with us electronically (secure messages & online chat)
- Practice management – update demographic information, select communication preferences, manage users, etc.
- More robust data & reports

Stay tuned for more information.



CommUnity
Assistance Line

CAL NUMBER VIDEO RELAY
1-866-775-2192 1-855-628-7552

We offer non-benefit resources such as help with food, rent and utilities.



DID YOU KNOW? AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL NECESSITY

Did you know that WellCare can perform medical necessity reviews after a provider performs a service? With this process, WellCare can recoup payments to providers that may have been inappropriately paid.

Authorization only confirms whether a service meets WellCare's determination criteria at the time a provider makes an authorization request and does not guarantee payment. In addition, we retain the right to review benefit limitations and exclusions, beneficiary eligibility on the date of service, the medical necessity of services, and correct coding and billing practices.

For more information, please contact your Provider Relations representative or call the Provider Services phone number on the back of this newsletter.

ACCESS TO UTILIZATION STAFF

The Utilization Management (UM) section of your Provider Manual contains detailed information related to the UM program. Your patient, our member, can request materials in a different format including other languages, large print and audiotapes. There is no charge for this service.

If you have questions about the UM Program, please call Provider Services at the number listed on your *Quick Reference Guide* located at www.wellcare.com. Select your state from the drop-down menu and click on *Overview* under *Medicare* in the **Providers** drop-down menu.



CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES – SEE UPDATES

Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) are best practice recommendations based on available clinical outcomes and scientific evidence. WellCare CPGs reference evidence-based standards to ensure that the guidelines contain the highest level of research and scientific content. CPGs are also used to guide efforts to improve the quality of care in our membership. The CPGs are available on the Provider Portal at www.wellcare.com/Florida/Providers/Clinical-Guidelines/CPGs. CPGs on the Provider Portal include, but are not limited to:

GENERAL CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

- Alzheimer's disease and other dementias
- Asthma
- Cancer
- Cholesterol management
- Chronic heart failure
- Chronic kidney disease*
- Congestive heart failure
- COPD
- Coronary artery disease
- Diabetes in adults*
- Diabetes in children
- Fall risk assessment in older adults
- HIV antiretroviral treatment
- HIV screening*
- Hypertension
- Imaging for low back pain
- Lead exposure
- Motivational interviewing and health behavior change
- Obesity in adults
- Obesity in children
- Osteoporosis
- Palliative care
- Pharyngitis
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Sickle cell disease
- Smoking cessation
- Transitions of Care

PREVENTIVE HEALTH GUIDELINES

- Adult preventive health*
- Preventive health pediatric*
- Pregnancy*
- Preconception and inter-pregnancy*
- Postpartum*

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CPGS

- ADHD
- Antipsychotic drug use in children and adolescents
- Behavioral health and sexual offenders in adults
- Behavioral health conditions in high risk pregnancy
- Bipolar disorder
- Depressive disorders in children and adolescents
- Eating disorders
- Major depressive disorders in adults
- Major depressive disorders in adults
- Persons with serious mental illness and medical comorbidities*
- Schizophrenia*
- Substance use disorders
- Substance use disorders in high-risk pregnancy
- Suicidal behaviors
- Behavioral health screening in primary care settings*
- Psychotropic drug use in children*
- Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) *

*CPGs noted have been updated and published to the Provider Portal.



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PROVIDER RESOURCES

WEB RESOURCES

Visit www.wellcare.com to access our Preventive, Behavioral Health and Clinical Practice Guidelines, Clinical Coverage Guidelines, Pharmacy Guidelines, *Quick Reference Guides*, key forms and other helpful resources. From the www.wellcare.com home page, select your state from the drop-down menu and click on *Providers* near the top of the page. You may also request hard copies of any of the above documents by contacting your Provider Relations Representative.

PROVIDER NEWS

Remember to check messages regularly to receive new and updated information. Visit the secure area of www.wellcare.com to find copies of the latest correspondence. Access the secure portal from the home page by selecting your state from the drop-down menu and clicking on *Secure Login* in the *Providers* drop-down menu. You will see *Messages from WellCare* located in the right column.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA AVAILABLE

Please remember that all Clinical Coverage Guidelines, detailing medical necessity criteria for several medical procedures, devices and tests, are available on our website at www.wellcare.com. From the home page, select your state from the drop-down menu and click on *Clinical Guidelines* under *Tools* in the *Providers* drop-down menu.



**WE'RE JUST A PHONE CALL
OR CLICK AWAY!**

WellCare Health Plans, Inc.
1-855-538-0454

Representing the
following states:
AR, CT, LA, MS, SC, TN, TX

www.wellcare.com