

## **Asthma self-management education reminder**

**Summary of change:** Amerigroup Community Care has begun working with Resurgica (or other vendor) and the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) to provide in-home asthma self-management education and environmental assessments to help our members improve their asthma.

### **What is the impact of this change?**

Georgia DPH created the Georgia Asthma Control Program to address asthma through statewide initiatives. Amerigroup is collaborating with Resurgica (or other vendor) and DPH to educate parents and children on the basics of asthma, asthma management, self-management strategies and interventions. Families are given information about the most common triggers of asthma and those identified specific to the member. Their home is also assessed, and families are educated about simple techniques to remove triggers. Parents and caregivers receive materials and resources at no cost, including hypoallergenic bedding and smoking cessation classes.

### **What does this mean to me?**

As we work together, you may:

- Have increased interaction with your patients.
- Be called to share medical information you have on file.
- Receive status updates regarding your patients' asthma control status.
- Be asked to provide your patients' current *Asthma Action Plan*.
- Be asked to discuss patients' needs for asthma controller medication.
- Be asked for a prescription for a spacer, peak flow meter or nebulizer.

Members will receive:

- One in-home visit from a Resurgica (or other vendor) clinician to evaluate the child after an asthma-related ER visit or inpatient stay, as well as draw labs to identify allergens.
- Four in-home visits from a DPH health educator, including an environmental/home assessment by a DPH environmental health specialist.
- Asthma self-management education.
- Tobacco/smoking cessation assistance.
- A hypoallergenic pillow and bedding encasements (as needed).
- Referrals to Amerigroup Disease Management and community health organizations (as needed).

### **What if I need assistance?**

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services at 1-800-454-3730.