

Provider Update



March 1, 2014 - Changes to Precertification Utilization Review¹

Summary of changes: Effective March 1, 2014, Amerigroup and its health plan subsidiaries will continue to use McKesson InterQual Level of Care criteria for medical necessity review for the following medical health (nonbehavioral health) services: inpatient concurrent review, inpatient site of service appropriateness, home health and outpatient rehabilitation. Except in cases where superseded by state Medicaid requirements or regulatory guidance, or Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requirements, **all other medical outpatient and behavioral health services will be reviewed for medical necessity using WellPoint medical policies and clinical utilization management guidelines.**

What this means to you: Existing precertification requirements have not changed. Please share this notice with other members of your practice and office staff.

Why is this change necessary?

In December 2012, Amerigroup Corporation and its subsidiaries were acquired by WellPoint, Inc. (WellPoint). On May 1, 2013, WellPoint medical policies replaced all guidelines/policies used by Amerigroup where overlap in policies existed. WellPoint maintains these medical policies, as well as clinical Utilization Management (UM) guidelines. The UM guidelines may be used by health plans or lines of business, depending on local practice patterns and business needs. Adoption of uniform policies across WellPoint and its subsidiaries simplifies and improves the transparency of our utilization review process, providing public access to the medical policies and clinical guidelines at www.unicare.com/home-providers.html.

What is the impact of this change?

Effective March 1, 2014, Amerigroup will use the following criteria for behavioral health and medical health services:

Behavioral Health Services	Criteria
All requests: Outpatient, Inpatient and Concurrent Reviews	WellPoint Behavioral Health Medical Policies and Clinical Utilization Management Guidelines
Medical Health Services	Criteria
Outpatient	WellPoint Medical Policies and Clinical Utilization Management Guidelines
Inpatient Site of Service	McKesson InterQual Level of Care - Guidelines for Surgery and Procedures Performed in the Inpatient Setting List
Inpatient Concurrent Reviews	McKesson InterQual Level of Care - Acute Adult, Acute Pediatric, Long-Term Acute Care, Rehabilitation and Sub/Acute Skilled Nursing Facility
Outpatient Health Home Care	McKesson InterQual Level of Care - Home Care
Outpatient Rehabilitation and Chiropractic	McKesson InterQual Level of Care – Outpatient Rehabilitation and Chiropractic

What if I need assistance?

If you have questions about this communication, received this fax in error or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call our Provider Services team at 1-800-454-3730.

¹ This is applicable only to states, covered populations and services for which Amerigroup provides behavioral health utilization management services and where the use of WellPoint Behavioral Health UM Guidelines is not superseded by regulatory or contractual requirement.

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