

Remicade infusion precertification initiative

Summary of change: Effective September 1, 2017, Amerigroup Community Care will require Remicade infusion (service code J1745) for members 18 years old and over to be performed in a freestanding facility or in a member's home. Remicade infusion performed in the outpatient hospital facility-based setting will require prior authorization (PA). Please note, the PA requirement for the Remicade prescription has not changed and will still need to be submitted to our Pharmacy department.

Why is this change necessary?

In the Maryland market where the availability and accessibility to outpatient infusion centers (OICs) is adequate, Remicade will require review and precertification of the site of service when medical necessity of the service is met and hospital outpatient site of service is requested.

Outpatient hospital facility-based intravenous medication infusion is medically necessary for persons who meet any of the following criteria:

- Patient is medically unstable based upon submitted clinical history.
- Patient needs initial medication infusion or re-initiation after more than six months following discontinuation of therapy.
- Patient has previous experience of a severe adverse event following infusion (e.g., anaphylaxis, seizure, thromboembolism, myocardial infarction and renal failure).
- Patient has continuing experience of adverse events that cannot be mitigated by premedication.
- Patient is physically and/or cognitively impaired, and no home caregiver is available.
- Patient is 18 or younger.

Please use one of the following methods to request PA:

- **Phone:** 1-800-454-3730
- **Fax:** 1-800-964-3627
- **Web:** <https://www.availity.com>

If you do not have a medical reason to refer the member to a hospital or there are not extenuating considerations that require a member to be treated at a hospital, the member should be referred to a freestanding OIC facility.

Participating provider listings change periodically. For the latest list, see the provider directory found at <https://providers.amerigroup.com/MD> or call Provider Services at the number listed below to find the facility most convenient for your patient.

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 Provider Services at 1-800-454-3730.

The information in this update may be an update or change to your provider manual. Find the most current manual at:

<https://providers.amerigroup.com>