

Provider Update

Outpatient Therapy Services Precertification Initiative

Summary of Change: Effective December 15, 2013, Amerigroup Community Care will require outpatient therapy services rendered in a hospital outpatient or other facility outpatient setting to be precertified. This applies to New Jersey Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare and Amerivantage (Medicare Advantage) members.

What does this mean to you? You must obtain precertification from Amerigroup via our therapy vendor, Therapy Network of New Jersey (TNNJ), prior to referring a member for therapy services in a hospital outpatient or other facility outpatient setting.

Why is this change necessary?

We are committed to providing quality, accessible health care in an efficient manner. In many cases, the appropriate setting for outpatient therapy services is in a provider office setting.

What is the impact of this change?

This initiative applies to providers in New Jersey and covers outpatient therapy services including but not limited to Occupational Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT) and Speech Therapy (SPT). Outpatient PT, OT and SPT services are rehabilitative services for the purpose of attaining maximum reduction of physical or mental disability and restoration of the individual to his or her best functional level.

How do I request precertification?

You must call TNNJ at 1-855-825-7818 to request precertification. You can also request precertification by downloading a form at www.HN1therapynetwork.com and faxing the completed request to 1-855-825-7820.

If a hospital outpatient or other facility setting is not necessary, you can refer the member to an in-network therapy provider in an office setting — precertification isn't required. Any claims submitted for OT, PT or SPT services rendered in a hospital outpatient or other facility setting for dates of service of December 15, 2013, or later without precertification will be denied.

Finding a therapy provider

If you are helping a member obtain medically necessary PT, OT and/or SPT services, refer him or her to a participating therapy provider. To find a participating therapy provider in your area, see our provider directory at providers.amerigroup.com or contact TNNJ at 1-855-825-7818.

What if I need assistance?

If you have questions regarding this communication or received it in error, please contact your local Provider Relations representative or call our Provider Services team:

- Medicaid providers call 1-800-454-3730
- Medicare providers call 1-866-805-4589

Amerigroup New Jersey, Inc. is an HMO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Amerigroup New Jersey, Inc. depends on contract renewal.



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