



State of Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals
Bureau of Health Services Financing

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 26, 2014

TO: Community Health Solutions
United Health Care Community Plan

FROM: Libby Gonzales, Medicaid Benefits and Services

SUBJECT: PET Scan Approval Requests and Claims Processing

This memo summarizes the submission process for PET scan requests from the shared savings plans and claims processing instructions for those scans that are approved.

Although PET Scans are currently a non-covered service of the Louisiana Medicaid program, requests for them for Legacy Medicaid recipients and members of the shared plans are reviewed on a case by case basis for medical necessity by the Medicaid Medical Director. Requests for PET scans for shared plan members should be sent by secure email from the plan medical director to the Medicaid Medical Director. Additionally, Benefits and Services staff, Annette Passman, (Annette.Passman@LA.Gov) should be copied on all requests.

Effective immediately, submitted PET scan requests should contain the following information:

- Member name
- Member 13 digit Medicaid ID #
- Date of birth
- Requesting provider and the 7 digit Medicaid provider ID number
- Name of facility where scan will be performed along with facility Medicaid ID number
- Billing codes that will be submitted with the claim
- Clinical diagnosis and all supporting clinical documentation to support the medical necessity of the scan.

Approval or denial of the requested scan will be communicated to the health plan medical director by email. Upon approval of a request, the health plan will be required to complete the following:

- assign a PA number to the request.
- communicate the assigned PA number for approved scans back to the Benefits and Services section (Annette Passman at Annette.Passman@LA.Gov).
- communicate the approval along with the assigned PA number or the denial of the request to the requesting provider verbally and in writing.
- Additionally, the plan shall communicate verbally and in writing the following to the requesting provider:
 - PET scans are only allowed to be performed at outpatient hospitals.
 - PET scans performed at free standing or physician clinics will not be reimbursed.
 - The outpatient hospital billing for the PET scan will be reimbursed for the full service only.
 - The professional component for the reading radiologist must be paid by the outpatient hospital as they have received payment for the full service.
 - The outpatient hospital should communicate to the reading radiologist that they are responsible for reimbursing the professional component therefore the reading radiologist should bill the outpatient hospital.
 - Separate billing for the professional or the technical components for PET scans will not be reimbursed by Medicaid or the health plan.

Claims for PET scans may be submitted electronically and must include the health plan assigned PA number in addition to appropriate codes.

If you have any questions about the PET scan approval and claims processing process, please contact Annette Passman via email at Annette.Passman@la.gov or 225-342-6254.

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