

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: July 26, 2017

Subject: Important Billing and Claims Processing Updates

Summary: Important updates that may affect billing and claims processing.

Important Note: All claims submitted to AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana must comply with applicable state and federal guidelines, state contract requirements, health plan coverage, and reimbursement policies, and submission requirements. For the most current information on claims submission procedures and health plan policies, please visit our website and refer to the Claims Filing Instructions.

Practitioners, Groups, Hospitals, and Facilities

- **HPV Immunizations – Effective August 1, 2017**, AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will allow members who begin the HPV Immunizations at age 21-26 to complete the series at age 27. However, prior authorization will be required once member reaches 27 years of age.
- **Inpatient Respite Care 5-Day Rule - Effective September 1, 2017**, AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana's system will be updated to align with the Louisiana Department of Health's rule that respite care or general inpatient care can be billed for a maximum of five (5) continuous days at a time, including the date of admission, but not counting the date of discharge. Under this rule, day six (6), and any subsequent days, are subject to the routine home care rate. This update impacts Inpatient Respite Care billed with revenue code 655 and General Inpatient Care billed with revenue code 656.

Respite care is not covered for members who are under hospice care and a resident in a nursing facility, or as a resident in an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

- **Once Per Lifetime Procedures - Effective September 1, 2017**, AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will implement edits for procedures that should only be performed once per a member's lifetime. If a once in a lifetime procedure has been previously performed on a member and another bill is received for the same procedure, the claim will deny with edit N30 "Lifetime Max Exceeded".

Please Note: Claims recoveries are possible if AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana identifies that a Once Per Lifetime Code was previously reimbursed more than once.

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Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

- **Effective November 1, 2017**, there is no longer a limit on the number of units DME providers can bill for code A9900.
- **Effective November 1, 2017**, the rate for DME claims billed with code K0739 and without a modifier will reimburse at the correct rate. Additionally, claims beginning with dates of service January 1, 2017 will be automatically reprocessed to reimburse at the correct rate; no action is required by providers to facilitate reprocessing of these claims.
- **Effective November 1, 2017**, codes that are listed as manually-priced items on the Louisiana Medicaid Fee Schedule will be repriced at 70% of the 2017 Medicare (first quarter) DME-POS Fee Schedule. AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will update this fee schedule annually according to Medicare's (first quarter) DME-POS Fee Schedule for the current year. The DME-POS Fee Schedule can be found on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) website at www.cms.gov.

Manually-priced codes at \$750 or less that do not have a fee on the Medicare Fee Schedule will be priced at 67.4% of the billed charges. As a reminder, DME billed charges of \$750 and greater, as well as all DME rentals, require prior authorization.

Ambulance Providers

- Supplies CANNOT be billed separately on air ambulance claims. Supplies are included in the ambulance charges. If supplies are billed separately, the claim will deny. For additional information, please refer to the Louisiana Medicaid Ambulance Fee Schedule under Air Ambulance at www.lamedicaid.com.

Questions:

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions about this communication, please contact AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana's Provider Services department at 1-888-922-0007 or your Provider Network Management Account Executive.