

# Louisiana Department of Health Informational Bulletin



**To:** AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

**Date:** January 3, 2022

**Subject:** Informational Bulletin 20-5: COVID-19 Provider Update

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**Informational Bulletins that summarize policies and/or procedures are intended for quick reference and are accurate on the date they are issued.**

#### **Hospital-Based Utilization Management for Medical Stays**

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will suspend all hospital-based utilization management (UM) for all medical hospitalizations including, but not limited to, initial service authorizations and concurrent reviews and suspend prior authorizations for lower levels of care (e.g., skilled nursing facility, inpatient rehabilitation and long term acute care) for members being discharged from the hospital effective **January 3, 2022**.

#### **Home Health Services at Hospital Discharge**

Also effective **January 3, 2022**, AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will automatically approve the initial authorization for home health services at hospital discharge. Instead of a prior authorization, the hospital or the home health agency shall send a notification of services that a member will receive after discharge and AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will subsequently approve the initial authorization for services.

Questions regarding this message should be directed to AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007. The Provider Services Department can be reached between 7:00 am – 7:00 pm daily.

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[network@amerihealthcaritasla.com](mailto:network@amerihealthcaritasla.com).