

# PROVIDERALERT



**To:** AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

**Date:** July 19, 2021

**Subject:** Behavioral Health Providers: ADHD Follow-Up Care after Medication Administration

**Summary:** AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana is providing Best Practice follow-up recommendations for members prescribed ADHD medication.

The **ADHD Population** is described as members 0-20 years of age who received newly prescribed ADHD medication.

**Recommendation:** At least three follow-up care visits within a 10-month period, one of which must be within 30 days of when the first ADHD medication was dispensed.

There are two phases for ADHD follow-up visits for medication compliance:

- 1. Initiation phase:** Patients should receive one follow-up visit with a practitioner with prescribing authority during the 30 days following the earliest prescription dispensing date.
- 2. Continuation phase:** Patients who remained on the medication for at least 210 days, and had a follow-up visit in the initiation phase should receive at least two follow-up visits within 270 days after the initiation phase ended.

Timeline for ADHD Follow-up Visits



When a patient restarts an ADHD medication (has not filled a prescription in three months) it is Best Practice to schedule an ADHD follow-up visit within 30 days.

**Documentation required:**

The earliest prescription dispensing date for an ADHD medication is required. Telephone and telehealth visits are acceptable in both the Initiation and Continuation Phases. Only one of the two Continuation Phase visits can be an e-visit or virtual check.

### **What do you need to know?**

- Studies indicate that behavioral therapy has positive effects when it is combined with medication for ADHD.
- Children under six (6) years old should receive behavioral health therapy as the first line of treatment before administration of medications for best practice.
- Children 6-12 should receive both ADHD medication and behavioral therapy.
- Adolescents (13-18) should receive medication and behavioral therapy too, if possible.
- This information can also be collected through Electronic Clinical Data Systems. Please discuss options for a direct data feed with your Account Executive. Direct data feeds can improve provider quality performance and reduce the burden of medical record requests.

### **References**

*American Academy of Pediatrics. Subcommittee on Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Steering Committee on Quality Improvement and Management. ADHD: Clinical guideline for the diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder in children and adolescents. Pediatrics. 2011;128(5):1007–1022*

**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 Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007 or your [Provider Network Management Account Executive](#).

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#### **Where can I find more information on COVID-19?**

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana has updated its website to streamline communications and important notifications about COVID-19. Please visit <http://amerihealthcaritasla.com/covid-19> for up-to-date information for both providers and members, including frequently asked questions, and important provider alerts from AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana and the Louisiana Department of Health.