



## Reid June Informed Newsletter

June 23, 2020

### Passing the Torch

Enjoy this farewell video from Robert Good, DO, retiring chief medical officer at Health Alliance, as he welcomes Chester Ho, MD as the new chief medical officer. Get to know Dr. Ho and his vision for Health Alliance – continuing the important work Dr. Good has done since 2013 in population health and medical management, and providing exceptional experiences and outcomes for partners and members.

[View video here.](#)

### Important Notice: Timely Filing Requirements

We will return back to the timely filing requirements as stated in the provider's contract effective 7/1/2020 based on an outpatient claim through date or inpatient claim discharge date.

In March, we temporarily extended the claims timely filing requirement to 180 days to provide relief during the early weeks and months of the COVID-19 public health emergency. This temporary extension will now come to an end.

## Diabetes Preventive Screenings

Preventive healthcare screenings are essential for people with diabetes. National guidelines lay out a number of screenings that need to be completed to help prevent complications of the disease.

Unfortunately, a recent study found that fewer than 60% of patients with diabetes received recommended screenings – 58% for HbA1C tests and 57% for lipid profile tests ([Dai, M., Peabody, M. R., Peterson, L. E., and Mainous, A. G., 2018](#)).

Pre-visit screenings can help increase the likelihood that patients with diabetes receive the appropriate preventive tests. Using a template, like the one [linked here](#), can further improve the chances that patients complete all recommended screenings. This template can be printed and started by the medical office assistant prior to a patient's visit, and then given to the patient as a take-home reminder to complete the labs, screenings and/or vaccines that were ordered during the visit.

Please share this template with your office assistants and encourage its regular use.

## Yearly Nephropathy Screenings for Patients with Diabetes

Did you know that 20-40% of people diagnosed with diabetes also develop kidney disease? Or that 40-50% of all diagnosed cases of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) are related to diabetes? Despite these statistics, many people with diabetes do not get their recommended yearly nephropathy urine screenings. Providers should make sure their patients stay up to date with this screening so kidney damage can be detected early and interventions can be started if needed. Providers should educate their patients on the importance of these yearly diabetic nephropathy screenings and order the tests when due. Please remember to:

- Review your patient's health record and order a nephropathy screening if it's due. If it's not due yet, give your patient a reminder or when it will be due.
- Educate your patients about how symptoms of kidney failure don't typically occur until nearly all function is lost, which is why yearly nephropathy screenings are so important.
- Stress the importance of staying within their target blood sugar ranges and keeping their blood pressure controlled.

- Encourage your patients to lead a healthier lifestyle. This includes engaging in physical activity, maintaining a healthy weight, limiting salt intake and eating enough fruits and vegetables.
- Encourage your patients to engage in [health coaching or care coordination](#). Our members can call the number on the back of their insurance ID card or visit the webpage linked above to find out more about these helpful services.

## Reminder: Please Use Claim Frequency Code 7 for Corrected or Replacement Claims

To ensure accurate and timely processing, we remind you to use frequency code 7 when submitting any corrected or replacement claims. When submitting a corrected or replacement claim, also make sure that the new claim lists *all* of the services that were on the original claim (where appropriate). Your new claim should *not* only mention the services denied and/or needing correction.

## Using GuidingCare's Prior Authorization Tool: Helpful Tips

When using the Prior Authorization Tool in Altruista Health's GuidingCare® platform, here are some helpful tips:

- Use the Down Arrow key for Diagnosis and Procedure Code to populate the verification section.
- Select Radio Button under Member Eligibility before moving forward.
- Use N0-PROV when referring OON provider feature.
- Use the NPI1 for the Provider Search to narrow your search.

## Pharmacy Updates

### Medicare

---

#### New Drug Reviews

- Rinvoq (upadacitinib)—Treatment of moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis in adults who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to methotrexate
  - Formulary placement recommendations
    - Tier 5 with PA

- Akliel (trifarotene)—Topical treatment of acne vulgaris in patients 9 years of age and older
  - Formulary placement recommendations
    - Non-Formulary
- Zelnorm (tegaserod)—Treatment of irritable bowel syndrome with constipation in women (<65 years of age)
  - Formulary placement recommendations
    - Non-Formulary

### Step Therapy and Tier Changes

- Move from Tier 1 to Tier 2—Effective 2021

<b>Antacids</b>		
Cimetidine	Famotidine	Lansoprazole
Nizatidine	Omeprazole	Pantoprazole
Rabeprazole	Ranitidine	
<b>Antivirals/Anti-infectives/Antifungals</b>		
Acyclovir	Amphotericin B	Aztreonam
Griseofulvin	Meropenem	Piperacillin-Tazobactam
Terbinafine		
<b>Cardiovascular Agents</b>		
Alfuzosin	Bumetanide	Colestipol
Desmopressin	Diltiazem ER	Fenofibrate
Fenofibric Acid	Gemfibrozil	Methylclothiazide
Metolazone	Niacin	Nicardipine
Pindolol	Prazosin	Propafenone
Propranolol		
<b>Endocrinology</b>		
Liothyronine	Testosterone Cypionate	Testosterone Enanthate
<b>Gastroenterology</b>		
Loperamide	Meclizine	Megestrol
Metoclopramide	Polyethylene Glycol	Prochlorperazine
Sucralfate		
<b>Neurology</b>		
Carbamazepine	Fluphenazine	Mitoxantrone
Nortriptyline	Oxcarbazepine	Phenobarbital
Phenytoin ER	Risperidone	Sumatriptan
<b>Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs</b>		
Diclofenac Potassium	Etodolac	Mefenamic Acid
<b>Pain Medications</b>		
Acetaminopen with Codeine	Lidocaine	Tramadol

<b>Prenatal Vitamins</b>		
Multiple medications		
<b>Respiratory</b>		
Acetylcysteine	Zafirlukast	
<b>Other</b>		
Baclofen	Betamethasone Valerate	Bethanechol
Bromocriptine	Calcium Acetate	Deferoxamine
Dexamethasone	Epinastine	Fluticasone
Glycopyrrolate	Oxybutynin	Potassium Chloride solution
Potassium Cl 20meQ packets	Sodium Fluoride	Tretinoin

- Move from Tier 2 to Tier 1—Effective 2020
  - Amiodarone 200mg
    - Recommendation informed by usage guidelines and specialist feedback

### Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine Coverage

- No official HAMP PA policy is in place; general policy is to cover when rx is written for appropriate indication
- Will monitor on month-by-month basis as COVID-19 situation evolves
- Communication has been sent to members warning about self-medication

### Contact Us

1-800-851-3379, option 3

All contents copyright © 2015 Health Alliance Medical Plans. All rights reserved. Every effort has been made to ensure that this information is accurate. It is not intended to replace the legal source. In case of any discrepancy between this information and the legal source, the legal source will govern in all cases. [Report a compliance concern or potential fraud, waste or abuse.](#)

[Legal and Privacy](#)  
[Privacy Practices](#)  
[Code of Conduct](#)

We recommend you [download Adobe Reader](#) to view all PDF files on this page.