Provider Memorandum

Coronavirus Response: Extension of Modified Prior Authorizations Process

Molina Healthcare of Illinois (Molina) continues to monitor developments related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex M. Azar announced another extension of the Public Health Emergency (PHE), effective when the previous extension expires on January 21, 2021. The extension will be for 90 days and will now be in effect until mid-April.

The current Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) enhancement (6.2%) will remain in effect until at least the end of June. The statute states the enhanced FMAP will be in place until the last day of the calendar quarter in which the secretary terminates the Public Health Emergency.

Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements will be maintained until the end of the month in which the PHE ends—in this case, April 30, 2021. States will not able to proceed with any redetermination or disenrollment plans, per federal rules.

Therefore, Molina has extended the following procedural changes for providers.

1) Any Prior Authorization (PA) that is time-limited for a procedure that was found to be medically necessary and approved may be extended until April 30, 2021, without need for further review. This includes eviCore authorizations.

2) Any therapy (PT/ST/OT) that has been approved may also be extended without additional review.
   Note: No additional visits may be approved. However, the same number of visits may be extended with the authorizations not to expire before April 30, 2021.

3) Utilization Management (UM) for new procedures not previously approved and physical therapy requests must go through the normal review process but should not expire before April 30, 2021.

4) Regarding medical necessity review for inpatient stays and concurrent review, providers should follow normal procedures.

Molina will continue to monitor this situation and issue further updates as needed. Visit our COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions page for more information.

Questions?

We're here to help. Contact your Provider Network Manager or email the Provider Network Management team at MHILProviderNetworkManagement@MolinaHealthcare.com. For help identifying your Provider Network Manager, visit Molina's Service Area page at MolinaHealthcare.com.

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Note: Molina's website and documents are best viewed in Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge.