

MELVIN D. MARX, P.A.

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

www.melvinmarx.com

Melvin D. Marx
Adebukola Ogunsanya
Jennifer F. Wynn

260 Columbia Ave, Suite 6
Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024
T: (201)242-5800 F: (201)242-5808

March 15, 2016

Re: Memorandum on “Revised” APTP, Undated Internal Appeal Chart & ICD-10

Dear Medical Providers:

1. Uniform Attending Provider Treatment Plan (“APTP”)

Effective February 9, 2016, the revised Attending Provider Treatment Plan form shall be used by all Providers to submit Decision Point Review and Pre-certification Requests. To obtain a copy of this form, click on the following link - http://www.state.nj.us/dobi/pipinfo/aptp_ver160204.pdf.

- **NO OTHER FORMS FOR THIS PURPOSE ARE PERMITTED**
- **Providers should start using the new form immediately. The earlier form will not be accepted by insurers after April 15, 2016.**

Important for providers to note about the “revised” APTP based on DOBIs FAQs:

- ✚ **In Box #35, the patient is asked if they have ever had any of a list of services.**

Box 35. PATIENT MEDICAL HISTORY. HAS PATIENT EVER HAD ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES? CHECKMARK THOSE APPLICABLE BELOW. (*NOTE-ALL BOXES CHECKED REQUIRE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE AND DATE PROVIDED ON SEPARATE ATTACHMENT)

Medications MRI Surgery X-ray Diagnostic test existing conditions co morbidities other

Per DOBI, the intent of Box #35 is “ **to capture the information that a provider takes as part of the patient history before providing treatment and covers both before and after the accident. Thus, whether a 55-year-old patient who had had back surgery prior to an accident resulting in a back injury would be relevant to the treatment being recommended, while a tonsillectomy at age 12 probably would not.**” In essence, it is now putting extra weight on the provider to get a detailed patient history before completing a pre-certification request. We expect this requirement will bring up future issues to be litigated as “history-taken” is incumbent of patients providing truthful and detailed medical history to the provider. At this juncture, we recommend you complete with the information you have assessable to you.

- ✚ **Per DOBI’s FAQ regarding the Diagnosis Pointer column in Box 38?**

In box#36 of the APTP, the diagnosis codes will entered on lines A through L. In the column titled “Diagnosis Pointer” in Box #38, the letter corresponding to the line with the relevant

diagnosis in box #36 should be entered. This provides the carrier/vendor with information so they can clinically relate the requested service (CPT/HCPCS code) to the primary diagnosis. When multiple services are being requested the primary reference letter for each diagnosis should be listed first with other applicable diagnoses following, up to a maximum of four. The above would apply to either ICD-9 or ICD-10 codes. See example below.

- ✚ However per DOBI's FAQ: **No spaces on the form are provided for co-morbidities/treatment complications that are relevant to a Decision Point Review or Precertification request. How should this be handled by providers?**

The Uniform Attending Provider Form is not intended to include ALL the information that is submitted with a Decision Point Review or Precertification request. It should be accompanied by SOAP notes, test results and other information related to the request, including how co-morbidities or treatment complications that affect the treatment or testing requested.

For more information consult our website at www.melvinmarx.com

B. **Internal Appeals:** We have updated our 2016 DPRP list for respective providers which are attached and if you are reading on the website, contact our office for a password to access the list. Given, decision point review packages are subject to changes, it is up to you to keep tabs of any further changes. This list is a courtesy from our office to assist you with the pre-certification and internal appeal process.

C. **ICD 9 v ICD 10:** At this juncture, we again recommend that all medical providers start moving to the ICD-10 diagnosis format in light of the "revised" APTP.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact mdm@melvinmarx.com or ao@melvinmarx.com

Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,



MELVIN D. MARX

MDM/ao
Enclosure