

NOTICE:

Prior Authorization Update Clarification

4/6/2017

Dear Provider:

We have received questions regarding our recently updated prior authorization guidelines. Specifically, we have been asked whether all “outpatient procedures” require prior authorization. The answer is that most routine office-based and outpatient services do not require prior authorization, but all ambulatory surgical center services do require prior authorization. More specifically:

- All procedures to be performed at an Ambulatory Surgery Center (Place of Service 24, either free standing or on the campus of a hospital) must be prior authorized effective 4/1/17.
- Some procedures to be performed in a hospital outpatient setting (Place of Service 22) require prior authorization; please refer to the Health Choice prior authorization guidelines on our websites (HCGenerations.com, HealthChoiceAZ.com, HealthChoiceIntegratedCare.com) for a listing of specific procedures.
- All services performed at an ambulatory surgery center (Place of Service 24) require prior authorization. Requests for ambulatory surgery center services can only be submitted by the ordering/requesting physician. The ordering/requesting physician will then be given an authorization number to be transmitted to appropriate facility when the procedure is scheduled to be performed.
- No prior authorization is required for outpatient hospital (Place of Service 22) procedures unless it is on the current prior authorization grid. If it is on the current prior authorization grid, only the ordering/requesting physician can submit the request. The ordering/requesting physician will then be given an authorization number to be transmitted to appropriate facility when the procedure is scheduled to be performed.

Thank you for your continued commitment to serving our members and ensuring the provision of quality care and services. If you have any question or need additional information, please call our Provider Relations Department at (800) 322-8670.

