



Department of Medicaid

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Maureen M. Corcoran, Director

TO: Contracted Medicaid Managed Care Plans
Contracted MyCare Ohio Plans

FROM: Roxanne Richardson, Deputy Director
Office of Managed Care

DATE: November 12, 2020

SUBJECT: EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY – COVID-19 Surge - Removing Administrative Barriers

As the Governor discussed last evening in a public address, Ohio is experiencing a record-breaking surge in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and ICU admissions across the entire state. In response, the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) is requiring Medicaid managed care organizations (MCO) and MyCare Ohio plans (for services where Medicaid is the primary payer) to lift all prior authorizations and/or pre-certifications for long-term acute care facilities and for all skilled nursing facility (SNF) admissions. It is imperative that we respond swiftly to remove barriers to care and reduce administrative burden on hospitals and SNFs.

MCOs and MCOPs shall assist providers with discharge planning activities including:

- Ensuring the member is transferred to the appropriate facility and level of care
- Adding services for the member's home care needs
- Expediting referrals to participating providers, and
- Ensuring all plans are in place before the member discharges.

Lifting prior authorization requirements for long-term care facilities and NF settings is **effective immediately**. Limited authorizations, i.e. three-day authorizations upon notification a SNF admission, are prohibited. MCOs and MCOPs shall continue to determine their members' level of care upon admission.

MCOs and MCOPs will be notified when this mandate ends. For more information about this directive, contact Roxanne Richardson at Roxanne.Richardson@medicaid.ohio.gov.