

interChange Provider Important Message

Attention: All Providers

RE: Reinstatement of Prior Authorization Requirements Previously Modified by PB 2020-33 CMAP COVID-19 Response – Bulletin 23: Changes to the Prior Authorization Requirements for Specified Services and PB 2020-18 “CMAP COVID-19 Response – Bulletin 15: Emergency MEDS Program Changes”

As of publishing of this Important Message, Executive Order (EO) 7EE, Section 4 is set to expire as of April 20, 2021 thereby eliminating the Department of Social Services’ (DSS) authority to waive or modify existing prior authorization (PA) requirements. As such, EFFECTIVE for dates of service April 20, 2021 and forward, CMAP enrolled providers MUST obtain PA or PA thresholds are being revised for the following services:

- In-state and Border Inpatient Hospital Admissions
- Inpatient hospice days greater than 5 days
- Outpatient Behavioral Health Services
- Advanced Radiology and Imaging Services
- Home Health Services (*thresholds returning to the standard levels see 17b-262-732 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies*)
- Dental (Endodontic) Services
- Medical Equipment, Devices and Supplies (*requests for reauthorization must include all complete paperwork*)

As a measure to assist providers in the response to the state public health emergency (PHE) declared to address the spread of COVID-19, DSS, under the authority of Executive Order 7EE, Section 4, temporarily waived or modified the prior authorization requirements for the services listed above. In the absence of continuation of this EO, DSS will not have the authority to continue to waive or modify the PA requirements. Please refer to PB 2020-33 and PB 2020-18 for additional details related to the modifications.

Please note that it is possible that further extensions of such temporary authority to waiver or modify the PA requirements beyond April 20, 2021 may occur, and DSS is closely monitoring the situation and will work to notify providers as expeditiously as possible of any such change.

However, as of publishing of this IM, providers should start the process to secure PA for services in any of the above categories for dates of service April 20, 2021 and forward.