



Network Notification

Date: January 20, 2010

Number: OH-P-2010-01

To: All Ohio Contracted Home Health Agencies and Hospital-based Home Health Agencies

From: CareSource

Subject: Prior Authorization Waived for all skilled home visits – Effective 2/1/2010

As part of our ongoing commitment to timely and clearly articulated communication of policy or process changes, the information listed below supplements current policies to include those listed in the CareSource Provider Manual.

1. Effective for dates of service beginning February 1, 2010, CareSource will waive prior authorization requirements for home skilled nursing, physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy and social work visits.

CareSource will allow up to two skilled nursing visits (2 hours total) per day. More than two skilled nursing visits (2 hours or more) per day will require prior authorization.

2. In addition, to facilitate the carve-out of the pharmacy benefit from the Ohio Medicaid managed care plans effective February 1, 2010, CareSource will no longer require prior authorization for home health infusion and injection nursing visits (99601, 99602, 99506). Any medical supplies used during these visits should be billed to CareSource with the appropriate code.
3. CareSource will no longer reimburse per diem codes associated with a home injection/infusion. Please bill medical supplies using the appropriate HCPCS code.

Please refer to our previous memo: *Subject: Pharmacy Benefit changes as mandated by ODJFS (OH-P-2009-01)* for more information.

CareSource will conduct ongoing audits of home health services to ensure medically appropriate utilization. CareSource may contact you to provide documentation for these audits.