# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## CUSTOMER INFORMATION
- Eligibility Verification ................................................................. 1
- 2015 ID Cards .............................................................................. 1
- Maximum Out-of-Pocket (MOOP) ................................................... 2
- Customer Hold Harmless .............................................................. 2
- Customer Confidentiality .............................................................. 2
- Customer Rights and Responsibilities ............................................ 2
- Advance Medical Directives ......................................................... 5
- Benefits and Services .................................................................. 5
- Emergency Services and Care After Hours .................................... 6
- Excluded Services ........................................................................ 6
- Grievance and Appeal Process ..................................................... 7
- Dual Eligible Customers ............................................................... 8
- Cigna-HealthSpring Cost-sharing Chart ........................................ 8
- Medicaid Coverage Groups .......................................................... 8

## COORDINATION OF CARE WITH STAR+PLUS MEDICAID ................................................. 9

## PROVIDER INFORMATION ......................................................................................... 12
- Providers Designated as Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) ............... 12
- The Role of the Primary Care Physician (PCP) ................................. 12
- The Role of the Specialist Physician .............................................. 12
- Administrative, Medical, and Reimbursement Policy Changes ........ 13
- Communication among Providers .................................................. 13
- Provider Marketing Guidelines ..................................................... 13
- Customer Assignment to New PCP ............................................... 14
- Provider Participation .................................................................. 14
- Plan Notification Requirements for Providers ............................... 15
- Closing Patient Panels ................................................................ 15
- Medical Record Standards ......................................................... 15
- Access and Availability Standards for Providers ......................... 16
- Physician Rights and Responsibilities ......................................... 16
- Provision of Health Care Services ................................................. 17
- Delegation .................................................................................... 17

## CONTRACT EXCLUSIONS .................................................................................. 17

## TRANSMISSION OF LAB RESULTS .................................................................... 17

## EXCHANGE OF ELECTRONIC DATA .................................................................. 17
- Experience the Ease of HSConnect ............................................. 18

## CREDENTIALING AND RECRECREDENTIALING PROGRAM ...................................... 20
- Practitioner Selection Criteria ...................................................... 20
- Application Process ..................................................................... 20
- Credentialing and Recredentialing Process ................................... 20
- Office Site Evaluations ................................................................. 20
- Practitioner Rights ....................................................................... 21
- Organizational Provider Selection Criteria ................................... 21
- Organizational Provider Application and Requirements .............. 21
- Organizational Site Surveys .......................................................... 21
- Credentialing - Accreditation for DME, Orthotics, and Prosthetic Providers ................................................................. 22
- SNF - Site Visit Requirements ...................................................... 22
- Credentialing Committee and Peer Review Process .................... 22
- Non-discrimination in the Decision-making Process .................... 22
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provider Notification</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeals Process and Notification of Authorities</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confidentiality of Credentialing Information</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing Monitoring</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provider Directory</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAIMS</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims Submission</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICD-10 Diagnosis and Procedure Code Reporting</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination of Benefits and Subrogation Guidelines</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worker’s Compensation</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subrogation</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeals</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconsiderations</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH CARE PLAN EFFECTIVENESS DATA AND INFORMATION SET (HEDIS®)</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STARS GUIDANCE</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Rating Components</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Reform</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Measure Weighting</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Rating Timeline</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH SERVICES</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goals</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Departmental Functions</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior Authorization</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient Prior Authorization Department</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient Biologicals and Drugs - Part B</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICD-10 Diagnosis and Procedure Code Reporting</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decisions and Time Frames</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retrospective Review</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concurrent Review</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Readmission</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Role of the Cigna-HealthSpring ACCM (Acute Care Case Manager)</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharge Planning and Acute Care Management</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverse Determinations</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Management Program Goals</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Management Approach</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Use Services</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination with Network Providers</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Evaluation</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confidentiality</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuity of Care</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ORGANIZATION PROGRAM CHANGES</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livanta</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KePRO</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECIAL NEEDS PLAN - MODEL OF CARE</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFERRAL PROCESS</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referral Guidelines</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Referrals</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Care Physician’s Referral Responsibilities</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist Physician’s Referral Responsibilities</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHARMACY PRESCRIPTION BENEFIT</strong></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part D Drug Formulary</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHARMACY QUALITY PROGRAMS</strong></td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narcotic Case Management</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication Therapy Management</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Utilization Review</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE</strong></td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Part D Program Changes</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CIGNA HOME DELIVERY PHARMACY</strong></td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>QUALITY CARE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM</strong></td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Statement</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Principles</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Management Program Goals</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CORPORATE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (CQIC)</strong></td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CORPORATE COMPLIANCE PROGRAM</strong></td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overview</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraud, Waste, and Abuse</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS</strong></td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DISPUTE RESOLUTION</strong></td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>APPENDIX</strong></td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare Advantage Quick Reference Guide</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior Authorization List</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERA/EFT Enrollment Process</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health Services Quick Facts and Phone Guide</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request for Appeal or Reconsideration</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted Case Management and Rehabilitative Services Request Form</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance Directive: Texas</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance Directive: Arkansas</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Practice Guidelines</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Eligibility Verification

All participating providers are responsible for verifying a customer’s eligibility at each and every visit. Please note that customer data is subject to change. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) retroactively terminates customers for various reasons. When this occurs, the Cigna-HealthSpring’s claim recovery unit will request a refund from the provider. The provider must then contact CMS Eligibility to determine the customer’s actual benefit coverage for the date of service in question.

You can verify customer eligibility the following ways:

• Call the Health Plan – You must call the Health Plan to verify eligibility when the customer cannot present identification or does not appear on your monthly eligibility list. Please note: the Health Plan should have the most updated information, therefore, call the Health Plan for accuracy.

• HSConnect – The Cigna-HealthSpring web portal, HSConnect, allows our providers to verify customer eligibility online through visiting https://healthspring.hsconnectonline.com/HSConnect.

• Ask to see the customer’s Identification Card – Each customer is provided with an individual customer identification card. Noted on the ID card is the customer’s identification number, plan code, name of PCP, copayment, and effective date. Since changes do occur with eligibility, the card alone does not guarantee the customer is eligible.

• Pursue additional proof of identification – Each PCP and specialist office is provided with a monthly Eligibility Report upon request which lists new and current Cigna-HealthSpring customers with their effective dates. Please be sure to refer to the most current month’s Eligibility Report.

2015 ID Cards

This card does not guarantee coverage or payment.

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</thead>
</table>

<Services may require a referral by the PCP or authorization by the health plan.>
<Medicare limiting charges apply.>

Customer Service: <phone number>  TTY: <phone number>
Provider Services: <phone number>
Authorization/Referral: <phone number>
Medical Claims: <address>

24 Hour Health Information Line: <phone number>
Website: <URL>

This card does not guarantee coverage or payment.

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<Services may require a referral by the PCP or authorization by the health plan.>
<Medicare limiting charges apply.>

Customer Service: <phone number>  TTY: <phone number>
Provider Services: <phone number>
Authorization/Referral: <phone number>
Medical Claims: <address>

Pharmacy Help Desk: <phone number>
Pharmacy Claims: <address>

24 Hour Health Information Line: <phone number>
Website: <URL>
Maximum Out-of-Pocket (MOOP)

The Maximum Out-of-Pocket (MOOP) benefit is now a part of all Cigna-HealthSpring benefit plans. Customers have a limit on the amount they will be required to pay out-of-pocket each year for medical services which are covered under Medicare Part A and Part B. Once this Maximum Out-of-pocket expense has been reached, the customer no longer is responsible for any out-of-pocket expenses, including any cost shares, for the remainder of the year for covered Part A and Part B services (excluding the customer’s Medicare Part B premium and Cigna-HealthSpring plan premium).

Customer Hold Harmless

Participating providers are prohibited from balance billing Cigna-HealthSpring customers including, but not limited to, situations involving non-payment by Cigna-HealthSpring, insolvency of Cigna-HealthSpring, or Cigna-HealthSpring’s breach of its Agreement. Provider shall not bill, charge, collect a deposit from, seek compensation or reimbursement from, or have any recourse against customers or persons, other than Cigna-HealthSpring, acting on behalf of customers for Covered Services provided pursuant to the Participating Provider’s Agreement. The provider is not, however, prohibited from collecting copayments, coinsurances or deductibles for covered services in accordance with the terms of the applicable customer’s Benefit Plan.

Customer Confidentiality

At Cigna-HealthSpring, we know our customers’ privacy is extremely important to them, and we respect their right to privacy when it comes to their personal information and health care. We are committed to protecting our customers’ personal information. Cigna-HealthSpring does not disclose customer information to anyone without obtaining consent from an authorized person(s), unless we are permitted to do so by law. Because you are a valued provider to Cigna-HealthSpring, we want you to know the steps we have taken to protect the privacy of our customers. This includes how we gather and use their personal information. Cigna-HealthSpring’s privacy practices apply to all of Cigna-HealthSpring’s past, present, and future customers.

When a customer joins a Cigna-HealthSpring Medicare Advantage plan, the customer agrees to give Cigna-HealthSpring access to Protected Health Information. Protected Health Information (“PHI”), as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”), is information created or received by a health care provider, health plan, employer or health care clearinghouse, that: (i) relates to the past, present, or future physical or behavioral health or condition of an individual, the provision of health care to the individual, or the past, present or future payment for provision of health care to the individual; (ii) identifies the individual, or with respect to which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the individual; and (iii) is transmitted or maintained in an electronic medium, or in any form or medium. Access to PHI allows Cigna-HealthSpring to work with providers, like yourself, to decide whether a service is a Covered Service and pay your clean claims for Covered Services using the customers’ medical records. Medical records and claims are generally used to review treatment and to do quality assurance activities. It also allows Cigna-HealthSpring to look at how care is delivered and carry out programs to improve the quality of care Cigna-HealthSpring’s customers receive. This information also helps Cigna-HealthSpring manage the treatment of diseases to improve our customers’ quality of life.

Cigna-HealthSpring’s customers have additional rights over their health information. They have the right to:

- Send Cigna-HealthSpring a written request to see or get a copy of information about them, or amend their personal information that they believe is incomplete or inaccurate. If we did not create the information, we will refer Cigna-HealthSpring’s customer to the source of the information.
- Request that we communicate with them about medical matters using reasonable alternative means or at an alternative address, if communications to their home address could endanger them.
- Receive an accounting of Cigna-HealthSpring’s disclosures of their medical information, except when those disclosures are for treatment, payment, or health care operations, or the law otherwise restricts the accounting.

As a Covered Entity under HIPAA, providers are required to comply with the HIPAA Privacy Rule and other applicable laws in order to protect customer PHI. To discuss any breaches of the privacy of our customers, please contact our HIPAA Privacy Officer at 1-615-236-6157.

Customer Rights and Responsibilities

Cigna-HealthSpring customers have the following rights:

The right to be treated with dignity and respect

Customers have the right to be treated with dignity, respect, and fairness at all times. Cigna-HealthSpring must obey laws against discrimination that protect customers from unfair treatment. These laws say that Cigna-HealthSpring cannot discriminate against customers (treat customers unfairly) because of a person’s race, disability, religion, gender, sexual orientation, health, ethnicity, creed, age, or national origin. If customers need help with communication,
such as help from a language interpreter, they should be directed to call Customer Services. Customer Services can also help customers file complaints about access to facilities (such as wheel chair access). Customers can also call the Office for Civil Rights at 1-800-368-1019 or TTY/TDD 1-800-537-7697, or the Office for Civil Rights in their area for assistance.

**The right to the privacy of medical records and personal health information**

There are federal and state laws that protect the privacy of customer medical records and personal health information. Cigna-HealthSpring keeps customers’ personal health information private as required under these laws. Any personal information that a customer gives Cigna-HealthSpring is protected. Cigna-HealthSpring staff will make sure that unauthorized people do not see or change customer records. Generally, we will get written permission from the customer (or from someone the customer has given legal authority to make decisions on their behalf) before we can give customer health information to anyone who is not providing the customer’s medical care. There are exceptions allowed or required by law, such as release of health information to government agencies that are checking on quality of care.

The laws that protect customer privacy give them rights related to getting information and controlling how their health information is used. Cigna-HealthSpring is required to provide customers with a notice that tells them about these rights and explains how Cigna-HealthSpring protects the privacy of their health information. For example, customers have the right to look at their medical records, and to get copies of the records (there may be a fee charged for making copies). Customers also have the right to ask plan providers to make additions or corrections to their medical records (if customers ask plan providers to do this, they will review customer requests and figure out whether the changes are appropriate). Customers have the right to know how their health information has been given out and used for routine and non-routine purposes. If customers have questions or concerns about privacy of their personal information and medical records, they should be directed to call Customer Services. Cigna-HealthSpring will release a customer’s information, including prescription drug event data, to Medicare, which may release it for research and other purposes that follow all applicable federal statutes and regulations.

**The right to see participating providers, get covered services, and get prescriptions filled within a reasonable period of time**

Customers will get most or all of their health care from participating providers, that is, from doctors and other health providers who are part of Cigna-HealthSpring. Customers have the right to choose a participating provider (Cigna-HealthSpring will work with customers to ensure they find physicians who are accepting new patients). Customers have the right to go to a women’s health specialist (such as a gynecologist) without a referral. Customers have the right to timely access to their providers and to see specialists when care from a specialist is needed. Customers also have the right to timely access to their prescriptions at any network pharmacy. “Timely access” means that customers can get appointments and services within a reasonable amount of time. The Evidence of Coverage explains how customers access participating providers to get the care and services they need. It also explains their rights to get care for a medical emergency and urgently needed care.

**The right to know treatment choices and participate in decisions about their health care**

Customers have the right to get full information from their providers when they receive medical care, and the right to participate fully in treatment planning and decisions about their health care. Cigna-HealthSpring providers must explain things in a way that customers can understand. Customers have the right to know about all of the treatment choices that are recommended for their condition including all appropriate and medically necessary treatment options, no matter what their cost or whether they are covered by Cigna-HealthSpring. This includes the right to know about the different medication management treatment programs Cigna-HealthSpring offers and those in which customers may participate. Customers have the right to be told about any risks involved in their care. Customers must be told in advance if any proposed medical care or treatment is part of a research experiment and be given the choice to refuse experimental treatments.

Customers have the right to receive a detailed explanation from Cigna-HealthSpring if they believe that a plan provider has denied care that they believe they are entitled to receive or care they believe they should continue to receive. In these cases, customers must request an initial decision. “Initial decisions” are discussed in the customers’ Evidence of Coverage.

Customers have the right to refuse treatment. This includes the right to leave a hospital or other medical facility, even if their doctor advises them not to leave. This also includes the right to stop taking their medication. If customers refuse treatment, they accept responsibility for what happens as a result of refusing treatment.

**The right to use advance directives (such as a living will or a power of attorney)**

Customers have the right to ask someone such as a family customer or friend to help them with decisions about their health care. Sometimes, people become
unable to make health care decisions for themselves due to accidents or serious illness. If a customer wants to, he/she can use a special form to give someone they trust the legal authority to make decisions for them if they ever become unable to make decisions for themselves. Customers also have the right to give their doctors written instructions about how they want them to handle their medical care if they become unable to make decisions for themselves. The legal documents that customers can use to give their directions in advance of these situations are called “advance directives.” There are different types of advance directives and different names for them. Documents called “living wills” and “powers of attorney for health care” are examples of advance directives.

If customers decide that they want to have an advance directive, there are several ways to get this type of legal form. Customers can get a form from their lawyer, from a social worker, from Cigna-HealthSpring, or from some office supply stores. Customers can sometimes get advance directive forms from organizations that give people information about Medicare. Regardless of where they get this form, keep in mind that it is a legal document. Customers should consider having a lawyer help them prepare it. It is important to sign this form and keep a copy at home. Customers should give a copy of the form to their doctor and to the person they name on the form as the one to make decisions for them if they can’t. Customers may want to give copies to close friends or family customers as well.

If customers know ahead of time that they are going to be hospitalized and they have signed an advance directive, they should take a copy with them to the hospital. If customers are admitted to the hospital, the hospital will ask them whether they have signed an advance directive form and whether they have it with them. If customers have not signed an advance directive form or does not have a copy available during admission, the hospital has forms available and will ask if the customer wants to sign one. Remember, it is a customer’s choice whether he/she wants to fill out an advance directive (including whether they want to sign one if they are in the hospital). According to law, no one can deny them care or discriminate against them based on whether or not they have signed an advance directive. If customers have signed an advance directive and they believe that a doctor or hospital has not followed the instructions in it, customers may file a complaint with their State Board of Medicine or appropriate state agency (this information can be found in the customer’s Evidence of Coverage).

The right to make complaints

Customers have the right to make a complaint if they have concerns or problems related to their coverage or care. Customers or an appointed/authorized representative may file “Appeals,” “grievances,” concerns and Coverage Determinations. If customers make a complaint or file an appeal or Coverage Determination, Cigna-HealthSpring must treat them fairly (i.e., not discriminate against them) because they made a complaint or filed an appeal or Coverage Determination. To obtain information relative to appeals, grievances, concerns and/or Coverage Determinations, customers should be directed to call Customer Services.

The right to get information about their health care coverage and cost

The Evidence of Coverage tells customers what medical services are covered and what they have to pay. If they need more information, they should be directed to call Customer Services. Customers have the right to an explanation from Cigna-HealthSpring about any bills they may get for services not covered by Cigna-HealthSpring. Cigna-HealthSpring must tell customers in writing why Cigna-HealthSpring will not pay for or allow them to get a service and how they can file an appeal to ask Cigna-HealthSpring to change this decision. Staff should inform customers on how to file an appeal, if asked, and should direct customers to review their Evidence of Coverage for more information about filing an appeal.

The right to get information about Cigna-HealthSpring, plan providers, drug coverage, and costs

Customers have the right to get information about the Cigna-HealthSpring plans and operations. This includes information about our financial condition, about the services we provide, and about our health care providers and their qualifications. Customers have the right to find out from us how we pay our doctors. To get any of this information, customers should be directed to call Customer Services. Customers have the right to get information from us about their Part D prescription coverage. This includes information about our financial condition and about our network pharmacies. To get any of this information, staff should direct customers to call Customer Services.

The right to get more information about customers’ rights

Customers have the right to receive information about their rights and responsibilities. If customers have questions or concerns about their rights and protections, they should be directed to call Customer Services. Customers can also get free help and information from their State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). In addition, the Medicare program has written a booklet called Customers Medicare Rights and Protections. To get a free copy, customers should be directed to call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).
TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. Customers can call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Or, customers can visit www.medicare.gov on the web to order this booklet or print it directly from their computer.

**The right to take action if a customer thinks they have been treated unfairly or their rights are not being respected**

- If customers think they have been treated unfairly or their rights have not been respected, there are options for what they can do.
- If customers think they have been treated unfairly due to their race, color, national origin, disability, age, or religion, we must encourage them to let us know immediately. They can also call the Office for Civil Rights in their area.
- For any other kind of concern or problem related to their Medicare rights and protections described in this section, customers should be encouraged to call Customer Services. Customers can also get help from their State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP).

**Cigna-HealthSpring customers have the following responsibilities:**

Along with certain rights, there are also responsibilities associated with being a customer of Cigna-HealthSpring. Customers are responsible for the following:

- To become familiar with their Cigna-HealthSpring coverage and the rules they must follow to get care as a customer. Customers can use their Cigna-HealthSpring Evidence of Coverage and other information that we provide them to learn about their coverage, what we have to pay, and the rules they need to follow. Customers should always be encouraged to call Customer Services if they have any questions or complaints.
- To advise Cigna-HealthSpring if they have other insurance coverage.
- To notify providers when seeking care (unless it is an emergency) that they are enrolled with Cigna-HealthSpring and present their plan enrollment card to the provider.
- To give their doctors and other providers the information they need to provide care for them and to follow the treatment plans and instructions that they and their doctors agree upon. Customers must be encouraged to ask questions of their doctors and other providers whenever the customer has them.
- To act in a way that supports the care given to other patients and helps the smooth running of their doctor’s office, hospitals, and other offices.
- To pay their plan premiums and any copayments or coinsurances they may have for the Covered Services they receive. Customers must also meet their other financial responsibilities that are described in their Evidence of Coverage.
- To let Cigna-HealthSpring know if they have any questions, concerns, problems, or suggestions regarding their rights, responsibilities, coverage, and/or Cigna-HealthSpring operations.
- To notify Cigna-HealthSpring Customer Services and their providers of any address and/or phone number changes as soon as possible.
- To use their Cigna-HealthSpring plan only to access services, medications and other benefits for themselves.

**Advance Medical Directives**

The Federal Patient Self-Determination Act ensures the patient’s right is to participate in health care decision-making, including decisions about withholding resuscitative services or declining/withdrawing life sustaining treatment. In accordance with guidelines established by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and our own policies and procedures, Cigna-HealthSpring requires all participating providers to have a process in place pursuant to the intent of the Patient Self Determination Act. All providers contracted directly or indirectly with Cigna-HealthSpring may be informed by the customer that the customer has executed, changed, or revoked an advance directive. At the time a service is provided, the provider should ask the customer to provide a copy of the advance directive to be included in his/her medical record.

If the Primary Care Physician (PCP) and/or treating provider cannot as a matter of conscience fulfill the customer’s written advance directive, he/she must advise the customer and Cigna-HealthSpring. Cigna-HealthSpring and the PCP and/or treating provider will arrange for a transfer of care. Participating providers may not condition the provision of care or otherwise discriminate against an individual based on whether the individual has executed an advance directive. However, nothing in The Patient Self-Determination Act precludes the right under state law of a provider to refuse to comply with an advance directive as a matter of conscience.

To ensure providers maintain the required processes to Advance Directives, Cigna-HealthSpring conducts periodic patient medical record reviews to confirm that required documentation exists.

**Benefits and Services**

All Cigna-HealthSpring customers receive benefits and services as defined in their Evidence of Coverage (EOC). Each month, Cigna-HealthSpring makes available
to each participating Primary Care Physician a list of their active customers. Along with the customer’s demographic information, the list includes the name of the plan in which the customer enrolled. Please be aware that recently-terminated customers may appear on the list. (See “Eligibility Verification” section of this manual).

Cigna-HealthSpring encourages its customers to call their Primary Care Physician to schedule appointments. However, if a Cigna-HealthSpring customer calls or comes to your office for an unscheduled non-emergent appointment, please attempt to accommodate the customer and explain to them your office policy regarding appointments. If this problem persists, please contact Cigna-HealthSpring.

Emergency Services and Care After Hours

Emergency Services

An emergency is defined by Cigna-HealthSpring as the sudden onset of a medical condition with acute symptoms. A customer may reasonably believe that the lack of immediate medical attention could result in:

- Permanently placing the customer’s health in jeopardy
- Causing serious impairments to body functions
- Causing serious or permanent dysfunction of any body organ or part

In the event of a perceived emergency, customers have been instructed to first contact their Primary Care Physician for medical advice. However, if the situation is of such a nature that it is life threatening, customers have been instructed to go immediately to the nearest emergency room facility. Customers who are unable to contact their PCP prior to receiving emergency treatment have been instructed to contact their PCP as soon as is medically possible or within forty-eight (48) hours after receiving care. The PCP will be responsible for providing and arranging any necessary follow-up services.

For emergency services within the service area, the PCP is responsible for providing, directing, or authorizing a customer’s emergency care. The PCP or his/her designee must be available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week to assist customers needing emergency services. The hospital may attempt to contact the PCP for direction. Customers have a copayment responsibility for outpatient emergency visits unless an admission results.

For emergency services outside the service area, Cigna-HealthSpring will pay reasonable charges for emergency services received from non-participating providers if a customer is injured or becomes ill while temporarily outside the service area. Customers may be responsible for a copayment for each incident of outpatient emergency services at a hospital’s emergency room or urgent care facility.

Urgent Care Services

Urgent Care services are for the treatment of symptoms that are non-life threatening but that require immediate attention. The customer must first attempt to receive care from his/her PCP. Treatment at a participating Urgent Care Center will be covered by Cigna-HealthSpring without a referral.

Continue or Follow-up Treatment

Continuing or follow-up treatment, except by the PCP, whether in or out of service area, is not covered by Cigna-HealthSpring unless specifically authorized or approved by Cigna-HealthSpring. Payment for covered benefits outside the service area is limited to medically necessary treatment required before the customer can reasonably be transported to a participating hospital or returned to the care of the PCP.

Excluded Services

In addition to any exclusion or limitations described in the customer’s EOC, the following items and services are not covered under Original Medicare Plan or by Cigna-HealthSpring:

- Services that are not reasonable and necessary, according to the standards of the Original Medicare Plan, unless these services are otherwise listed by our plan as a covered service.
- Experimental or investigational medical and surgical procedures, equipment, and medications, unless covered by the Original Medicare Plan or unless, for certain services, the procedures are covered under an approved clinical trial. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will continue to pay through Original Medicare for clinical trial items and services covered under the September 2000 National Coverage Determination that are provided to plan customers. Experimental procedures and items are those items and procedures determined by our plan and the Original Medicare Plan to not be generally accepted by the medical community.
- Surgical treatment of morbid obesity unless medically necessary or covered under the Original Medicare Plan.
- Private room in a hospital, unless medically necessary.
- Private duty nurses.
- Personal convenience items, such as a telephone or television in a customer’s room at a hospital or skilled nursing facility.
- Nursing care on a full-time basis in a customer’s home.
- Custodial care unless it is provided in conjunction with covered skilled nursing care and/or skilled rehabilitation services. This includes
care that helps people with activities of daily living like walking, getting in and out of bed, bathing, dressing, eating, using the bathroom, preparation of special diets, and supervision of medication that is usually self-administered.

• Homemaker services.
• Charges imposed by immediate relatives or customers of the customer’s household.
• Meals delivered to the customer’s home.
• Elective or voluntary enhancement procedures, services, supplies, and medications including but not limited to: weight loss, hair growth, sexual performance, athletic performance, cosmetic purposes, anti-aging, and mental performance unless medically necessary.
• Cosmetic surgery or procedures, unless needed because of accidental injury or to improve the function of a malformed part of the body. All stages of reconstruction are covered for a breast after a mastectomy, as well as for the unaffected breast to produce a symmetrical appearance.
• Routine dental care (i.e. cleanings, fillings, or dentures) or other dental services unless otherwise specified in the EOC. However, non-routine dental services received at a hospital may be covered.
• Chiropractic care is generally not covered under the plan with the exception of manual manipulation of the spine and is limited according to Medicare guidelines.
• Routine foot care is generally not covered under the plan and is limited according to Medicare guidelines.
• Orthopedic shoes unless they are part of a leg brace and included in the cost of the brace. Exception: orthopedic or therapeutic shoes are covered for people with diabetic foot disease.
• Supportive devices for the feet. Exception: orthopedic or therapeutic shoes are covered for people with diabetic foot disease.
• Hearing aids and routine hearing examinations unless otherwise specified in the EOC.
• Eyeglasses, with the exception of after cataract surgery, routine eye examinations, radical keratotomy, LASIK surgery, vision therapy, and other low vision aids and services unless otherwise specified in the EOC.
• Self-administered prescription medication for the treatment of sexual dysfunction, including erectile dysfunction, impotence, and anorgasm or hyporgasm unless otherwise included in the customer’s Part D benefit. Please see the formulary for details.

• Reversal of sterilization measures, sex change operations, and non-prescription contraceptive supplies.
• Acupuncture.
• Naturopath services.
• Services provided to veterans in Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities. However, in the case of emergency situations received at a VA hospital, if the VA cost-sharing is more than the cost-sharing required under the plan, the plan will reimburse veterans for the difference. Customers are still responsible for our plan cost-sharing amount.

Any of the services listed above that are not covered will remain not covered even if received at an emergency facility. For example, non-authorized, routine conditions that do not appear to a reasonable person to be based on a medical emergency are not covered if received at an emergency facility.

Grievance and Appeal Process

All telephonic inquiries received by Cigna-HealthSpring’s Medicare Advantage Customer Service Department will be resolved on an informal basis, except for inquiries that involve “appealable” issues. Appealable issues will be routed through either the standard or expedited appeal process. In situations where a customer is not in agreement with the informal resolution, the customer must submit a written request for reconsideration. All other written correspondence received by Cigna-HealthSpring will be documented and routed through the appropriate appeal or grievance channels.

Cigna-HealthSpring customers have the right to file a complaint, also referred to as a grievance, regarding any problems they observe or experience with the health plan. Situations for which a grievance may be filed include but are not limited to:

• Complaints about services in an optional Supplementary Benefit package.
• Dissatisfaction with the office experience such as excessive wait times, physician behavior or demeanor, or inadequacy of facilities.
• Involuntary disenrollment situations.
• Poor quality of care or service received.

Cigna-HealthSpring customers have the right to appeal any decision about Cigna-HealthSpring’s failure to provide what they believe are benefits contained in the basic benefit package. These include:

• Reimbursement for urgently needed care outside of the service area or Emergency Services worldwide.
• A denied claim for any health services furnished by a non-participating provider or supplier they
believe should have been provided, arranged for, or reimbursed by Cigna-HealthSpring.

- Services not received, but believed to be the responsibility of Cigna-HealthSpring.
- A reduction or termination of a service a customer feels medically necessary.

In addition, a customer may appeal any decision related to a hospital discharge. In this case, a notice will be given to the customer with instructions for filing an appeal. The customer will remain in the hospital while the appeal documentation is reviewed. The customer will not be held liable for charges incurred during this period, regardless of the outcome of the review. Please refer to the Cigna-HealthSpring Evidence of Coverage (EOC) for additional benefit information.

### Dual Eligible Customers

Many of your customers may have Cigna-HealthSpring as their primary insurance payer and Medicaid as their secondary payer. This will require you to coordinate the benefits of these “dual eligible” Cigna-HealthSpring customers by determining whether the customer should be billed for the deductibles and copayments, or coinsurances associated with their benefit plan. Providers may not assess a QMB (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary) or QMB-Plus for Cigna-HealthSpring copayments, coinsurances, and/or deductibles.

Providers will accept as payment in full Cigna-HealthSpring’s payment and will not seek additional payment from the state or dual eligible customers. Additional information concerning Medicaid provider participation is available at: [www.cignahealthspring.com](http://www.cignahealthspring.com).

A customer’s level of Medicaid eligibility can change due to their medical and financial needs. Cigna-HealthSpring encourages you to verify customers’ Medicaid eligibility when rendering services which will help you determine if the customer owes a deductible or copay.

Medicaid eligibility can be obtained by using the Medicaid telephonic Eligibility Verification System. If you do not have access to the system, please contact your State Medicaid provider for additional information.

**Please note:** Each state varies in their decision to cover the cost-share for populations beyond QMB and QMB+.

### Cigna-HealthSpring Cost-sharing Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient’s Medicaid Plan</th>
<th>Patient’s liability</th>
<th>Medicaid provides benefits</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>QDWI</td>
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### Medicaid Coverage Groups

#### Full Benefit Dual Eligibles (FBDE)

An “FBDE” is an individual who is eligible for Medicaid either categorically or through optional coverage groups such as medically-needy or special income levels for institutionalized or home and community-based waivers, but who does not meet the income or resource criteria for QMB or SLMB. Obligations may effectively be covered by the state Medicaid benefit, but certain conditions must be met including:

1. The service is also covered by Medicaid;
2. The provider is a Medicaid provider;
3. And, the Medicaid fee schedule amount is greater than the Medicare amount paid.

#### Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB Only)

A “QMB” is an individual who is entitled to Medicare Part A, has income that does not exceed 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), and whose resources do not exceed twice the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) limit. A QMB is eligible for Medicaid payment of Medicare premiums, deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments (except for Part D). QMBs who do not qualify for any additional Medicaid benefits are called “QMB Only”. Providers may not assess a QMB for Cigna-HealthSpring deductibles, copayments, or coinsurances.

#### Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Plus (QMB+)

A “QMB+” is an individual who meets standards for QMB eligibility and also meets criteria for full Medicaid benefits in the state. These individuals often qualify for full Medicaid benefits by meeting Medically Needy standards, or through spending down excess income to the Medically Needy level.
Specified Low-income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB Only)

An “SLMB” is an individual who is entitled to Medicare Part A, has income that exceeds 100% FPL but is less than 120% FPL, and whose resources do not exceed twice the SSI limit. The only Medicaid benefit for which a SLMB is eligible is payment of Medicare Part B premiums. SLMBs who do not qualify for any additional Medicaid benefits are called “SLMB Only.”

Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary Plus (SLMB+)

A “SLMB+” is an individual who meets the standards for SLMB eligibility, but who also meets the criteria for full state Medicaid benefits. Such individuals are entitled to payment of the Medicare Part B premium, as well as full state Medicaid benefits. These individuals often qualify for Medicaid by meeting the Medically Needy standards, or through spending down excess income to the Medically Needy level.

Qualifying Individual (QI)

A “QI” is an individual who is entitled to Part A, has income that is at least 120% FPL but less than 135% FPL, resources that do not exceed twice the SSI limit, and who is not otherwise eligible for Medicaid. A QI is similar to an SLMB in that the only benefit available is Medicaid payment of the Medicare Part B premium; however, expenditures for QIs are 100% federally funded and the total expenditures are limited by statute.

Other Full Benefit Dual Eligibles (FBDE)

An “FBDE” is an individual who is eligible for Medicaid either categorically or through optional coverage groups such as medically-needy or special income levels for institutionalized or home and community-based waivers, but who does not meet the income or resource criteria for QMB or SLMB.

Qualified Disabled and Working Individual (QDWI)

A “QDWI” is an individual who lost Medicare Part A benefits due to returning to work, but who is eligible to enroll in and purchase Medicare Part A. The individual’s income may not exceed 200% FPL and resources may not exceed twice the SSI limit. The individual may not be otherwise eligible for Medicaid. QDWIs are eligible only for Medicaid payment of Part A premiums.

COORDINATION OF CARE WITH STAR+PLUS MEDICAID

The state of Texas’ goal for managed Medicaid services is to integrate acute care and Long Term Services and Supports, including services provided through Medicare Advantage Dual Special Needs Plans (MA-Dual SNP); provide continuity of care; and ensure timely access to quality care through an adequate provider network that includes behavioral health services and disease management services.

The term “dual eligible” refers to someone who is enrolled in both Medicaid and Medicare. Some dual eligible clients are eligible for STAR+PLUS. Dual eligible clients must choose a STAR+PLUS MCO, but do not choose a PCP because they receive acute care services from their Medicare providers. The STAR+PLUS MCO covers only Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) for dual eligible customers.

Certain Medicaid clients are excluded from enrolling in STAR+PLUS. This includes:

- Residents of nursing facilities until 03/01/2015.
- STAR+PLUS HMO customers who have been in a nursing facility for more than 4 months until 03/01/2015.
- Clients of Medicaid 1915(c) waiver services other than Community-Based Alternatives services.
- Clients not eligible for full Medicaid benefits, such as Frail Elderly program customers, Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries, Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries, Qualified Disabled Working Individuals and undocumented aliens.
- Children in state foster care.
- People not eligible for Medicaid.
- Undocumented immigrants.

In service areas where STAR+PLUS is available, customers are eligible for Community-Based Long-Term Care Services and Supports through their STAR+PLUS MCO.

Long-term Care Services available to all STAR+PLUS customers include:

- Providers offering Personal Attendant Services (PAS) assist customers with the performance of activities of daily living and household chores necessary to maintain the home in a clean, sanitary, and safe environment. The level of assistance provided is determined by the customer’s needs and plan of care. Services may also include the provision of nursing tasks delegated by a registered nurse in accordance with state rules promulgated by the Texas Board of Nursing, and protective supervision provided solely to ensure the health and welfare of a customer with cognitive/memory impairment and/or physical weakness.
- Day Activity and Health Services (DAHS) include nursing and personal care services, physical rehabilitation services, nutrition services, transportation services, and other supportive services. These services are offered by facilities
Long-term Care Services Available to STAR+PLUS customers who qualify under the HCBS STAR+PLUS Waiver (SPW) (previously known as 1915 (c) Nursing Facility Waiver program):

Adaptive Aids
Adaptive aids and medical equipment include devices, controls, or medically necessary supplies that enable customers with functional impairments to perform activities of daily living or to perceive, control, or communicate with the environment in which they live. A complete listing of covered adaptive aids and medical equipment is available in the STAR+PLUS Handbook which is available at www.dads.state.tx.us/handbooks/sph.

Adult Foster Care
Adult foster care is a 24-hour living arrangement in a Department of Human Services (DHS) foster home for people who, because of physical or mental limitations, are unable to continue residing in their own homes. Services may include meal preparation, housekeeping, personal care, help with activities of daily living, supervision, and the provision or arrangement of transportation.

Assisted Living
Assisted living (AL) is a twenty-four (24) hour living arrangement in a licensed personal care facility in which personal care, home management, escort, social and recreational activities, twenty-four (24) hour supervision, supervision of, assistance with, and direct administration of medications, and the provision or arrangement of transportation are provided. Under the HCBS STAR+PLUS Waiver (SPW), personal care facilities may contract to provide services in two distinct types of living arrangements: (1) assisted living apartments, (2) assisted living non-apartment settings.

Dental Services
The services provided by a dentist to preserve teeth and meet the medical need of the customer. Allowable services include emergency dental treatment necessary to control bleeding, relieve pain and eliminate acute infection; preventive procedures required to prevent the imminent loss of teeth; the treatment of injuries to teeth or supporting structures; dentures and the cost of preparation and fitting; and routine procedures necessary to maintain good oral health.

Emergency Response Services
Emergency Response Services (ERS) are electronic monitoring systems for use by functionally impaired individuals who live alone or are isolated in the community. In an emergency, the customer can press a call button to signal for help. The electronic monitoring system, which has a twenty-four (24) hour, seven (7) day per week capability, helps ensure that the appropriate persons or service agency responds to an alarm call from the customer.

Financial Management Services
Assistance to customers with managing funds associated with services elected for self-direction and is provided by the consumer directed services agency. This service includes initial orientation and ongoing training related to the responsibilities of being an employer and adhering to legal requirements for employers.

Home Delivered Meals
Home delivered meals are provided to people who are unable to prepare their own meals and for whom there are no other persons available to do so or where the provision of a home delivered meal is the most cost-effective method of delivering a nutritionally adequate meal. Modified diets, where appropriate, will be provided to meet the customer’s individual requirements.

Home Modifications
Minor home modifications are services that assess the need for, arrange for, and provide modifications and/or improvements to an individual’s residence to enable them to reside in the community and to ensure safety, security and accessibility.

Medical Supplies
Medical supplies not available under the 1915(b) Waiver program.

Nursing Services
In-home Nursing Services include, but are not limited to, assessing and evaluating health problems and the direct delivery of nursing tasks, providing treatments and health care procedures ordered by a physician and/or required by standards of professional practice or state law, delegating nursing tasks to unlicensed persons according to state rules promulgated by the Texas Board of Nursing, developing the health care plan and teaching customers about proper health maintenance.

Respite Services
Respite Services offer temporary relief to persons caring for functionally impaired adults in community settings other than Adult Foster Care (AFC) homes or Assisted Living /Residential Care (AL/RC) facilities. Respite services are provided on an in-home basis and out-of-home basis and are limited to thirty (30)
days per year. Room and board is included in the Waiver program payment for out-of-home settings.

**Support Consultation**

Support Consultation is an optional service component that offers practical skills training and assistance to enable an individual to successfully direct those services the individual elects for participant-direction. This service is provided by a certified support advisor, and includes skills training related to recruiting, screening, and hiring workers, preparing job descriptions, verifying employment eligibility and qualifications, completion of documents required to employ an individual, management of workers, and development of effective back-up plans for services considered critical to the individual's health and welfare in the absence of the regular provider or an emergency situation. Support consultation is provided only by a certified support advisor certified by the Department of Aging and Disability.

**Therapy Services**

- Physical therapy includes specialized techniques for the evaluation and treatment of chronic conditions related to functions of the neuromusculoskeletal systems. Services include the full range of activities provided by a physical therapist or a licensed physical therapy assistant under the direction of a licensed physical therapist, within the scope of the therapist’s state licensure.

- Occupational therapy includes interventions and procedures for chronic conditions to promote or enhance safety and performance in instrumental activities of daily living, education, work, play, leisure and social participation. Services include the full range of activities provided by an occupational therapist or a licensed occupational therapy assistant under the direction of a licensed occupational therapist, within the scope of the therapist’s state licensure.

- Speech therapy includes evaluation and treatment of impairments, disorders or deficiencies related to a customer’s speech and language which are chronic conditions. Services include the full range of activities provided by speech and language pathologists under the scope of their state licensure.

**Transition Assistance Services (TAS)**

Offers a maximum of $2,500 to enhance the ability of nursing facility residents to transition and receive services in the community. TAS helps defray the costs associated with setting up a household for those customers establishing an independent residence. TAS include, but are not limited to, payment of security deposits to lease an apartment, purchase of essential furnishings (table, eating utensils), payment of moving expenses, etc.

**Employment Assistance (effective September 1, 2014)**

Employment Assistance Services is a service that assists individuals to obtain competitive integrate employment and includes, but are not limited to the following: Identifying a member’s employment preferences, job skills, and requirements for a work setting and work conditions; locating prospective employers offering employment compatible with a member’s identified preferences, skills, and requirements; and contacting a prospective employer on behalf of a member and negotiating employment.

**Supported Employment (effective September 1, 2014)**

Supported Employment Services are assistive services provided in order to sustain paid employment, to a member who, because of a disability, requires intensive, ongoing support to be self-employed, work from home, or perform in a work setting at which members without disabilities are employed. Supported Employment includes employment adaptations, supervision, and training related to a member’s diagnosis.

**Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy (effective May 15, 2014)**

Cognitive rehabilitation therapy is a service that assists an individual in learning or relearning cognitive skills that have been lost or altered as a result of damage to brain cells/chemistry in order to enable the individual to compensate for the lost cognitive functions. Cognitive rehabilitation therapy is provided when determined to be medically necessary through an assessment an appropriate professional. Cognitive rehabilitation therapy is provided in accordance with the plan of care developed by the assessor, and includes reinforcing, strengthening, or reestablishing previously learned patterns of behavior, or establishing new patterns of cognitive activity or compensatory mechanisms for impaired neurological systems conducted by an appropriate professional. Cognitive rehabilitation therapy is provided in accordance with the plan of care developed by the assessor, and includes reinforcing, strengthening, or reestablishing previously learned patterns of behavior, or establishing new patterns of cognitive activity or compensatory mechanisms for impaired neurological systems.

**Targeted Case Management (effective September 1, 2014)**

Targeted Case Management (TCM) are services designed to assist Members who are diagnosed with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness.
(SPMI) and Severe Emotional Disturbance (SED) with gaining access to needed medical, social, educational and other services and supports.

**Mental Health Rehabilitative Service (effective September 1, 2014)**

Mental Health Rehabilitative Services are those age-appropriate services determined by HHSC and Federally-approved protocol as medically necessary to reduce a Member's disability resulting from severe mental illness or serious emotional or behavioral disorders that help to increase the Member's level of functioning and maintain independence in the home and the community. These services include the following: medication training and support, psychosocial rehabilitative services, skills training and development, crisis intervention, and day programming for acute episodes.

**PROVIDER INFORMATION**

**Providers Designated as Primary Care Physicians (PCPs)**

Cigna-HealthSpring recognizes Family Medicine, General Practice, Geriatric Medicine, and Internal Medicine physicians as Primary Care Physicians (PCPs).

Cigna-HealthSpring may recognize Infectious Disease Physicians as PCPs for customers who may require a specialized physician to manage their specific health care needs.

All contracted credentialed providers participating with Cigna-HealthSpring are listed in the region-appropriate Provider Directory, which is provided to customers and made available to the public.

**The Role of the Primary Care Physician (PCP)**

Each Cigna-HealthSpring customer must select a Cigna-HealthSpring Participating Primary Care Physician (PCP) at the time of enrollment. The PCP is responsible for managing all the health care needs of a Cigna-HealthSpring customer as follows:

- Manage the health care needs of Cigna-HealthSpring customers who have chosen the physician as their PCP.
- Ensure that customers receive treatment as frequently as is necessary based on the customer’s condition.
- Develop an individual treatment plan for each customer.
- Submit accurately and timely claims and encounter information for clinical care coordination.
- Comply with Cigna-HealthSpring’s pre-authorization and referral procedures.
- Refer customers to appropriate Cigna-HealthSpring participating providers.

- Comply with Cigna-HealthSpring’s Quality Management and Utilization Management programs.
- Participate in Cigna-HealthSpring’s 360 Assessment Program.
- Use appropriate designated ancillary services.
- Comply with emergency care procedures.
- Comply with Cigna-HealthSpring access and availability standards as outlined in this manual, including after-hours care.
- Bill Cigna-HealthSpring on the CMS 1500 claim form or electronically in accordance with Cigna-HealthSpring billing procedures.
- Ensure that, when billing for services provided, coding is specific enough to capture the acuity and complexity of a customer's condition and ensure that the codes submitted are supported by proper documentation in the medical record.
- Comply with Preventive Screening and Clinical Guidelines.
- Adhere to Cigna-HealthSpring’s medical record standards as outlined in this manual.

**The Role of the Specialist Physician**

Each Cigna-HealthSpring customer is entitled to see a Specialist Physician for certain services required for treatment of a given health condition. The Specialist Physician is responsible for managing all the health care needs of a Cigna-HealthSpring customer as follows:

- Provide specialty health care services to customers as needed.
- Collaborate with the customer’s Cigna-HealthSpring Primary Care Physician to enhance continuity of health care and appropriate treatment.
- Provide consultative and follow-up reports to the referring physician in a timely manner.
- Comply with access and availability standards as outlined in this manual including after-hours care.
- Comply with Cigna-HealthSpring’s pre-authorization and referral process.
- Comply with Cigna-HealthSpring’s Quality Management and Utilization Management programs.
- Bill Cigna-HealthSpring on the CMS 1500 claim form in accordance with Cigna-HealthSpring’s billing procedures.
- Ensure that, when billing for services provided, coding is specific enough to capture the acuity and complexity of a customer’s condition and ensure that the codes submitted are supported by proper documentation in the medical record.
• Refer customers to appropriate Cigna-HealthSpring participating providers.
• Submit encounter information to Cigna-HealthSpring accurately and timely.
• Adhere to Cigna-HealthSpring’s medical record standards as outlined in this manual.

Administrative, Medical, and Reimbursement Policy Changes

From time to time, Cigna-HealthSpring may amend, alter, or clarify its policies. Examples of this include, but are not limited to, regulatory changes, changes in medical standards, and modification of Covered Services. Specific Cigna-HealthSpring policies and procedures may be obtained by calling our Provider Services Department at 1-800-230-6138. Cigna-HealthSpring will communicate changes to the Provider Manual through the use of a variety of methods including but not limited to:
• Annual Provider Manual Updates
• Letter
• Facsimile
• Email
• Provider Newsletters

Providers are responsible for the review and inclusion of policy updates in the Provider Manual and for complying with these changes upon receipt of these notices.

Communication among Providers

• The PCP should provide the Specialist Physician with relevant clinical information regarding the customer’s care.
• The Specialist Physician must provide the PCP with information about his/her visit with the customer in a timely manner.
• The PCP must document in the customer’s medical record his/her review of any reports, labs, or diagnostic tests received from a Specialist Physician.

Provider Marketing Guidelines

The below is a general guideline to assist Cigna-HealthSpring providers who have contracted with multiple Medicare Advantage plans and accept Medicare FFS patients determine what marketing and patient outreach activities are permissible under the CMS guidelines. CMS has advised Medicare Advantage plans to prohibit providers from steering, or attempting to steer an undecided potential enrollee toward a specific plan, or limited number of plans, offered either by the plan sponsor or another sponsor, based on the financial interest of the provider or agent. Providers should remain neutral parties in assisting plans to market to beneficiaries or assisting in enrollment decisions.

Provider Can:
• Mail/call their patient panel to invite patients to general Cigna-HealthSpring sponsored educational events to learn about the Medicare and/or Medicare Advantage program. This is not a sales/marketing meeting. No sales representative or plan materials can be distributed. Sales representative cards can be provided upon request.
• Mail an affiliation letter one time to patients listing only Cigna-HealthSpring.
• Have additional mailings (unlimited) to patients about participation status but must list all participating Medicare Advantage plans and cannot steer towards a specific plan. This letter may not quote specific plan benefits without prior CMS approval and the agreement of all plans listed.
• Notify patients in a letter of a decision to participate in a Cigna-HealthSpring sponsored programs.
• Utilize a physician/patient newsletter to communicate information to patients on a variety of subjects. This newsletter can have a Cigna-HealthSpring corner to advise patients of Cigna-HealthSpring information.
• Provide objective information to patients on specific plan formularies, based on a patient’s medications and health care needs.
• Refer patients to other sources of information, such as the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), Cigna-HealthSpring marketing representatives, state Medicaid, or 1-800-Medicare to assist the patient in learning about the plan and making a health care enrollment decision.
• Display and distribute in provider offices Cigna-HealthSpring MA and MAPD marketing materials, excluding application forms. The office must display or offer to display materials for all participating MA plans.
• Notify patients of a physician’s decision to participate exclusively with Cigna-HealthSpring for Medicare Advantage or to close panel to original Medicare FFS if appropriate.
• Record messages on our auto dialer to existing Cigna-HealthSpring customers as long as the message is not sales related or could be construed as steerage. The script must be reviewed by Cigna-HealthSpring Legal /Government programs.
• Have staff dressed in clothing with the Cigna-HealthSpring logo.
• Display promotions items with the Cigna-HealthSpring logo.
• Allow Cigna-HealthSpring to have a room/space in provider offices completely separate from where patients have a prospect of receiving health care, to provide beneficiaries access to a Cigna-HealthSpring sales representative.

Provider Cannot:
• Quote specific health plan benefits or cost share in patient discussions.
• Urge or steer towards any specific plan or limited set of plans.
• Collect enrollment applications in physician offices or at other functions.
• Offer inducements to persuade beneficiaries to enroll in a particular plan or organization.
• Health Screen potential enrollees when distributing information to patients, as health screening is prohibited.
• Expect compensation directly or indirectly from the plan for beneficiary enrollment activity.
• Call customers who are disenrolling from the health plan to encourage re-enrollment in a health plan.
• Mail notifications of health plan sales meetings to patients.
• Call patients to invite patients to sales, and marketing activity of a health plan.
• Advertise using Cigna-HealthSpring’s name without Cigna-HealthSpring’s prior consent and potentially CMS approval depending upon the content of the advertisement.

Customer Assignment to New PCP

Cigna-HealthSpring Primary Care Physicians have a limited right to request a customer be assigned to a new Primary Care Physician. A provider may request to have a customer moved to the care of another provider due to the following behaviors:
• Fraudulent use of services or benefits
• The customer is disruptive, unruly, threatening, or uncooperative to the extent that customer seriously impairs Cigna-HealthSpring’s or the provider’s ability to provide services to the customer or to obtain new customers and the aforementioned behavior is not caused by a physical or behavioral health condition.
• Threats of physical harm to a provider and/or office staff.
• Non-payment of required copayment for services rendered.
• Receipt of prescription medications or health services in a quantity or manner which is not medically beneficial or not medically necessary.

• Repeated refusal to comply with office procedures essential to the functioning of the provider’s practice or to accessing benefits under the managed care plan.
• The customer is steadfastly refusing to comply with managed care restrictions (e.g., repeatedly using the emergency room in combination with refusing to allow the managed care organization to coordinate treatment of the underlying medical condition).

The provider should make reasonable efforts to address the customer’s behavior which has an adverse impact on the patient/physician relationship, through education and counseling, and if medically indicated, referral to appropriate specialists.

If the customer’s behavior cannot be remedied through reasonable efforts, and the PCP feels the relationship has been irreparably harmed, the PCP should complete the customer transfer request form and submit it to Cigna-HealthSpring.

Cigna-HealthSpring will research the concern and decide if the situation warrants requesting a new PCP assignment. If so, Cigna-HealthSpring will document all actions taken by the provider and Cigna-HealthSpring to cure the situation. This may include customer education and counseling.

A Cigna-HealthSpring PCP cannot request a disenrollment based on adverse change in a customer’s health status or utilization of services medically necessary for treatment of a customer’s condition.

Procedure

• Once Cigna-HealthSpring has reviewed the PCP’s request and determined that the physician/patient relationship has been irreparably harmed, the customer will receive a minimum of thirty (30) days notice that the physician/patient relationship will be ending. Notification must be in writing, by certified mail, and Cigna-HealthSpring must be copied on the letter sent to the patient.
• The physician will continue to provide care to the customer during the thirty (30) day period or until the customer selects or is assigned to another physician. Cigna-HealthSpring will assist the customer in establishing a relationship with another physician.
• The physician will transfer, at no cost, a copy of the medical records of the customer to the new PCP and will cooperate with the customer’s new PCP in regard to transitioning care and providing information regarding the customer’s care needs.

A customer may also request a change in PCP for any reason. The PCP change that is requested by the customer will be effective the first (1st) of the month following the receipt of the request, unless circumstances require an immediate change.
Provider Participation

Providers must be contracted with and credentialed by Cigna-HealthSpring according to the following guidelines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New to plan and not previously credentialed</td>
<td>Practicing in a solo practice</td>
<td>Requires a signed contract and initial credentialing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New to plan and not previously credentialed</td>
<td>Joining a participating group practice</td>
<td>Requires initial credentialing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Already participating and credentialed</td>
<td>Leaving a group practice to begin a solo practice</td>
<td>Does not require credentialing; however a new contract is required and the previous group practice affiliation is terminated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Already participating and credentialed</td>
<td>Leaving a participating group practice to join another participating group practice</td>
<td>Does not require credentialing yet the group practice affiliation will be amended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Already participating and credentialed</td>
<td>Leaving a participating group practice to join a non-participating group practice</td>
<td>The provider’s participation is terminated unless the non-participating group signs a contract with Bravo Health/Cigna-HealthSpring. Credentialing is still valid until re-credentialing due date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By providing this information in a timely manner, you will ensure that your practice is listed correctly in the Provider Directory.

**Please note:** Failure to provide up to date and correct information regarding demographic information regarding your practice and the physicians that participate may result in the denial of claims for you and your physicians.

Closing Patient Panels

When a participating Primary Care Physician elects to stop accepting new patients, the provider’s patient panel is considered closed. If a participating Primary Care Physician closes his or her patient panel, the decision to stop accepting new patients must apply to all patients regardless of insurance coverage. Providers may not discriminate against Cigna-HealthSpring customers by closing their patient panels for Cigna-HealthSpring customers only, nor may they discriminate among Cigna-HealthSpring customers by closing their panel to certain product lines. Providers who decide that they will no longer accept any new patients must notify Cigna-HealthSpring’s Network Management Department, in writing, at least 30 days before the date on which the patient panel will be closed or the time frame specified in your contract.

Medical Record Standards

Cigna-HealthSpring requires the following items in customer medical records:

- Identifying information of the customer.
- Identification of all providers participating in the customer’s care and information on services furnished by these providers.
- A problem list, including significant illnesses and medical and psychological conditions.
- Presenting complaints, diagnoses, and treatment plans.
- Prescribed medications, including dosages and dates of initial or refill prescriptions.
- Information on allergies and adverse reactions (or a notation that the patient has no known allergies or history of adverse reactions).
- Information on advanced directives.
- Past medical history, physical examinations, necessary treatments, and possible risk factors for the customer relevant to the particular treatment.
Note: Unless otherwise specifically stated in your provider services agreement, medical records shall be provided at no cost to Cigna-HealthSpring and Cigna-Healthspring customers.

Access and Availability Standards for Providers

A Primary Care Physician (PCP) must have their primary office open to receive Cigna-HealthSpring customers five (5) days and for at least 20 hours per week. The PCP must ensure that coverage is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. PCP offices must be able to schedule appointments for Cigna-HealthSpring customers at least two (2) months in advance of the appointment. A PCP must arrange for coverage during absences with another Cigna-HealthSpring participating provider in an appropriate specialty which is documented on the Provider Application and agreed upon in the Provider Agreement.

Primary Care Access Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment Type</th>
<th>Access Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urgent</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Urgent/Non-Emergent</td>
<td>Within one (1) week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Routine and Preventive</td>
<td>Within 30 Business Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Call Response (After Hours)</td>
<td>Within 30 minutes for emergency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting Time in Office</td>
<td>30 minutes or less</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specialist Access Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment Type</th>
<th>Access Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urgent</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Urgent/Non-Emergent</td>
<td>Within one (1) week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Within 30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Index of Suspicion of Malignancy</td>
<td>Less than seven (7) days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Behavioral Health Access Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appointment Type</th>
<th>Access Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency</td>
<td>Within 6 hours of the referral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urgent/Symptomatic</td>
<td>Within 48 hours of the referral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Routine</td>
<td>Within ten (10) business days of the referral*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Revised 03/2013

After-hours Access Standards

All participating providers must return telephone calls related to medical issues. Emergency calls must be returned within 30 minutes of the receipt of the telephone call. Non-emergency calls should be returned within a 24-hour time period. A reliable 24 hours a day/7 days a week answering service with a beeper or paging system and on-call coverage arranged with another participating provider of the same specialty is preferred.

Physician Rights and Responsibilities

Physician Rights:

- Cigna-HealthSpring encourages your feedback and suggestions on how service may be improved within the organization.
- If an acceptable patient-physician relationship cannot be established with a Cigna-HealthSpring customer who has selected you as his/her Primary Care Physician, you may request that Cigna-HealthSpring have that customer removed from your care.
- You may request a claims reconsideration on any claims submissions in which you feel are not paid according to payment policy.
- You may request an appeal on any claims submission in which you feel are not paid in keeping with the level of care rendered or clinical guidelines.
- You may request to discuss any referral request with the Medical Director or Chief Medical Officer after various times in the review process, before a decision is rendered or after a decision is rendered.

Physician Responsibilities:

- You have agreed to treat Cigna-HealthSpring customers the same as all other patients in your practice, regardless of the type or amount of reimbursement.
- Primary Care Physicians shall use best efforts to provide patient care to new customers within four (4) months of enrollment with Cigna-HealthSpring.
- Primary Care Physicians shall use best efforts to provide follow-up patient care to customers that have been in the hospital setting within ten (10) days of hospital discharge.
- Primary Care Physicians are responsible for the coordination of routine preventive care along with any ancillary services that need to be rendered with authorization.
- All providers are required to code to the highest level of specificity necessary to fully describe a customer’s acuity level. All coding should be conducted in accordance with CMS guidelines and all applicable state and federal laws.
- Specialists must provide specialty services upon referral from the Primary Care Physician and work closely with the referring physician regarding the treatment the customer is to receive. Specialists must also provide continuous 24 hour, 7 days a week access to care for Cigna-HealthSpring customers.
- Specialists are required to coordinate the referral process (i.e. obtain authorizations) for further care that they recommend. This responsibility does not revert back to the Primary Care Physician while the care of the customer is under the direction of the Specialist.
• In the event you are temporarily unavailable or unable to provide patient care or referral services to a Cigna-HealthSpring customer, you must arrange for another physician to provide such services on your behalf. This coverage cannot be provided by an Emergency Room.

• You have agreed to provide continuing care to participating customers.

• You have agreed to utilize Cigna-HealthSpring’s participating physicians/facilities when services are available and can meet your patient’s needs. Approval prior to referring outside of the contracted network of providers may be required.

• You have agreed to participate in Cigna-HealthSpring’s peer review activities as they relate to the Quality Management/Utilization Review program.

• You may not balance bill a customer for providing services that are covered by Cigna-HealthSpring. This excludes the collection of standard copays. You may bill a customer for a procedure that is not a covered benefit if you have followed the appropriate procedures outlined in the Claims section of this manual.

• All claims must be received within the timeframe specified in your contract.

Provision of Health Care Services

Participating providers shall provide health care services to all customers, consistent with the benefits covered in their policy, without regard to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability or medical condition, sexual orientation, claims experience, medical history, evidence of insurability (including conditions arising out of acts of domestic violence), genetic information, source of payment, or any other bases deemed unlawful under federal, state, or local law.

Delegation

Delegation is a formal process by which Cigna-HealthSpring enters into a written contract with an entity to provide administrative or health care services on behalf of a Medicare eligible customer. A function may be fully or partially delegated.

Full delegation allows all activities of a function to be delegated. Partial delegation allows some of the activities to be delegated. The decision of what function may be considered for delegation is determined by the type of participation agreement a provider group has with Cigna-HealthSpring, as well as the ability of the provider group to perform the function. Contact the local Cigna-HealthSpring provider representative for detailed information on delegation.

Although Cigna-HealthSpring can delegate the authority to perform a function, it cannot delegate the responsibility.

Delegated providers must comply with the responsibilities outlined in the Delegated Services Agreement.

CONTRACT EXCLUSIONS

Cigna-HealthSpring retains the right to deliver certain services through a vendor or contractor. Should Cigna-HealthSpring elect to deliver certain services for which you are currently contracted to provide through a vendor or contractor, you will be provided a minimum of thirty (30) day’s advance notice and your contract terms will be honored during that notice period. After such time and notification, Cigna-HealthSpring retains the right to discontinue reimbursement for services provided by the vendor or contractor.

TRANSMISSION OF LAB RESULTS

Cigna-HealthSpring has implemented the Health Level Seven (HL7) standard messaging format for the transmission of lab results data, version 2.5.1. This data is essential for HEDIS® reporting, in support of early detection and quality improvement for our customers. HL7 provides a robust and standardized approach to data exchange that is widely recognized and used in the health care industry. Where not explicitly stated otherwise, the HL7 standards are the required format for the transmission of lab results data to Cigna-HealthSpring. A companion guide, containing additional details and instructions for submitting lab results data in this format, can be found on our website at: http://www.cigna.com/iwov-resources/medicare-2015/docs/hcp-companion-guide.pdf.

EXCHANGE OF ELECTRONIC DATA

Information Protection Requirements and Guidance

Cigna-HealthSpring follows all applicable laws, rules, and regulations regarding the electronic transmittal and reception of Customer and Provider information. As such, if an electronic connection is made to facilitate such data transfer, all applicable laws must be followed. At all times, a provider must be able to track disclosures, provide details of data protections, and respond to requests made by Cigna-HealthSpring regarding information protection.

When an electronic connection is needed, relevant connection details will be provided to a customer by the Cigna-HealthSpring IT Operations team, who will engage with provider’s staff to appropriately implement the connection. Any files placed for receipt by provider staff must be downloaded in 24 hours, as all data is deleted on a fixed schedule. If the files are unable to be downloaded, then alternate
arrangements for retransmission must be made. The provider and provider’s staff will work collaboratively with Cigna-HealthSpring to ensure information is adequately protected and secure during transmission.

Experience the Ease of HSConnect

- View customer eligibility
- Create referrals and precertifications
- Search authorizations
- Search claims

Quick access to your most recent authorizations and their details, are just a click away.
Submit referrals online! Receive Auto-Approvals for most specialties.

Check the status of a submitted claim. View the details and Remittance Advice.

Need More Help?
Contact the HSConnect Help Line: 1-866-952-7596 or e-mail HSConnectHelp@HealthSpring.com
CREDENTIALING AND REcredentialing Program

All practitioner and organizational applicants to Cigna-HealthSpring must meet basic eligibility requirements and complete the credentialing process prior to becoming a participating provider. Once an application has been submitted, the provider is subject to a rigorous verification process that includes primary and secondary source verifications of all applicable information for the contracted specialty(s). Upon completion of the verification process, providers are subject to a peer review process whereby they are approved or denied participation with the plan. No provider can be assigned a health plan effective date or be included in a provider directory without undergoing the credentialing verification and peer review process. All providers who have been initially approved for participation are required to recredential at least once every three years in order to maintain their participating status.

Practitioner Selection Criteria

Cigna-HealthSpring utilizes specific selection criteria to ensure that practitioners who apply to participate meet basic credentialing and contracting standards. At minimum these include, but are not limited to:

- Holds appropriate, current and unencumbered licensure in the state of practice as required by state and federal entities.
- Holds a current, valid, and unrestricted federal DEA and state controlled substance certificate as applicable.
- Is board-certified or has completed appropriate and verifiable training in the requested practice specialty.
- Maintains current malpractice coverage with limits commensurate with the community standard in which practitioner practices.
- Participates in Medicare and has a Medicare number and/or a National Provider Identification number.
- Has not been excluded, suspended, and/or disqualified from participating in any Medicare, Medicaid, or any other government health related program.
- Is not currently opted out of Medicare.
- Has admitting privileges at a participating facility as applicable.

Application Process

1. Submit a completed state mandated credentialing application, CAQH Universal Credentialing Application form or CAQH ID, with a current signed and dated Attestation and Consent and Release form that is less than 90 days old.

2. If any of the Professional Disclosure questions are answered yes on the application, supply sufficient additional information and explanations.

3. Provide appropriate clinical detail for all malpractice cases that are pending, or resulted in a settlement or other financial payment.

4. Submit copies of the following:
   - All current and active state medical licenses, DEA certificate(s), and state controlled substance certificate as applicable.
   - Evidence of current malpractice insurance that includes the effective and expiration dates of the policy and term limits.
   - Five years of work history documented in a month/year format either on the application or on a current curriculum vitae. Explanations are required for any gaps exceeding six (6) months.
   - If a physician, current and complete hospital affiliation information on the application. If no hospital privileges and the specialty warrants hospital privileges, a letter detailing the alternate coverage arrangement(s) or the name of the alternate admitting physician should be provided.

Credentialing and Recredentialing Process

Once a practitioner has submitted an application for initial consideration, Cigna-HealthSpring’s Credentialing Department will conduct primary source verification of the applicant’s licensure, education and/or board certification, privileges, lack of sanctions or other disciplinary action, and malpractice history by querying the National Practitioner Data Bank. The credentialing process generally takes up to ninety (90) days to complete, but can in some instances take longer. Once credentialing has been completed and the applicant has been approved, the practitioner will be notified in writing of their participation effective date. To maintain participating status, all practitioners are required to recredential at least every three (3) years. Information obtained during the initial credentialing process will be updated and re-verified as required. Practitioners will be notified of the need to submit recredentialing information at least 4 months in advance of their three year anniversary date. Three (3) separate attempts will be made to obtain the required information via mail, fax, email, or telephonic request. Practitioners who fail to return recredentialing information prior to their recredentialing due date will be notified in writing of their termination from the network.

Office Site Evaluations

Office site surveys and medical record keeping practice reviews may be required when it is deemed
necessary as a result of a patient complaint, quality of care issue, and/or as otherwise mandated by state regulations. Practitioner offices will be evaluated in the following categories:

1. Physical appearance and accessibility
2. Patient safety and risk management
3. Medical record management and security of information
4. Appointment availability

Providers who fail to pass the area of the site visit specific to the complaint or who score less than 90% on the site evaluation overall will be required to submit a corrective action plan and make corrections to meet the minimum compliance score. A follow-up site evaluation will be done within sixty (60) days of the initial site visit if necessary to ensure that the correction action has been implemented.

Practitioner Rights

- Review information obtained from any outside source to evaluate their credentialing application with the exception of references, recommendations or other peer-review protected information. The provider may submit a written request to review his/her file information at least thirty days in advance at which time the Plan will establish a time for the provider to view the information at the Plan’s offices.
- Right to correct erroneous information when information obtained during the credentialing process varies substantially from that submitted by the practitioner. In instances where there is a substantial discrepancy in the information, Credentialing will notify the provider in writing of the discrepancy within thirty (30) days of receipt of the information. The provider must submit a written response and any supporting documentation to the Credentialing Department to either correct or dispute the alleged variation in their application information within thirty (30) days of notification.
- Right to be informed of the status of their application upon request. A provider may request the status of the application either telephonically or in writing. The Plan will respond within two business days and may provide information on any of the following: application receipt date, any outstanding information or verifications needed to complete the credentialing process, anticipated committee review date, and approval status.

Organizational Provider Selection Criteria

When assessing organizational providers, Cigna-HealthSpring utilizes the following criteria:

- Must be in good standing with all state and federal regulatory bodies.
- Has been reviewed and approved by an accrediting body.
- If not accredited, can provide appropriate evidence of successfully passing a recent state or Medicare site review, or meets other plan criteria.
- Maintains current professional and general liability insurance as applicable.
- Has not been excluded, suspended, and/or disqualified from participating in any Medicare, Medicaid, or any other government health related program.

Organizational Provider Application and Requirements

1. A completed Ancillary/Facility Credentialing Application with a signed and dated attestation.
2. If responded Yes to any disclosure question in the application, an appropriate explanation with sufficient details/information is required.
3. Copies of all applicable state and federal licenses (i.e. facility license, DEA, Pharmacy license, etc).
4. Proof of current professional and general liability insurance as applicable.
5. Proof of Medicare participation.
6. If accredited, proof of current accreditation.
7. Note: Current accreditation status is required for DME, Prosthetic/Orthotics, and non-hospital based high tech radiology providers who perform MRIs, CTs and/or Nuclear/PET studies.
8. If not accredited, a copy of any state or CMS site surveys that occurred within the last three years including evidence that the organization successfully remediated any deficiencies identified during the survey.

Organizational Site Surveys

As part of the initial assessment, an on-site review will be required on all hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, free-standing surgical centers, home health agencies and inpatient, residential or ambulatory mental health or substance abuse centers that do not hold acceptable accreditation status or cannot provide evidence of successful completion of a recent state or CMS site survey. Any organizational provider may also be subject to a site survey as warranted subsequent to the receipt of a complaint. Organizational providers who are required to undergo a site visit must score a minimum of 85% on the site survey tool. Providers who fall below acceptable limits will be required to submit a written Corrective Action Plan (CAP) within thirty (30) days and may be re-audited at minimum within sixty (60) days to verify specific corrective action items as needed.
Providers who fail to provide an appropriate CAP or who are unable to meet minimum standards even after re-auditing will not be eligible for participation.

**Credentialing - Accreditation for DME, Orthotics, and Prosthetic Providers**

All Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Orthotics and Prosthetic providers are required by Medicare to be accredited by one of the 10 national accreditation organizations. The most current listing of these organizations can be found at [http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/Downloads/DeemedAccreditationOrganizationsCMB.pdf](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/Downloads/DeemedAccreditationOrganizationsCMB.pdf).

Pharmacies who provide Durable Medical Equipment but are exempt from the accreditation requirement under Public Law #111-148 which amended title XVII of the Social Security Act, must provide the following information with their initial application:

- Evidence the pharmacy has been enrolled with Medicare as a supplier of Durable Medical Equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and suppliers and has been issued a provider number for at least 5 years.
- An attestation that the pharmacy has met all criteria under the above referenced amendment.

**SNF - Site Visit Requirements**

**Organizational Site Surveys**

As part of the initial assessment, an on-site review will be required on all hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, free-standing surgical centers, home health agencies and inpatient, residential or ambulatory mental health or substance abuse centers that do not hold acceptable accreditation status or cannot provide evidence of successful completion of a recent (within last 3 years) state or CMS site survey.

Skilled nursing facilities that have been fined or have had denial of new admissions due to deficiencies found during annual licensure or complaint surveys conducted within the last three years must report that activity with their initial or recredentialing application. Explanations will be required for each event along with confirmation from the state licensing entity that the corrective action plan was accepted and the facility is currently in compliance with Medicare participation requirements.

**Credentialing Committee and Peer Review Process**

All initial applicants and recredentialed providers are subject to a peer review process prior to approval or re-approval as a participating provider. Providers who meet all of the acceptance criteria may be approved by the Medical Director. Providers who do not meet established thresholds are presented to the Credentialing Committee for consideration. The Credentialing Committee is comprised of contracted primary care and specialty providers, and has the authority to approve or deny an appointment status to a provider. All information considered in the credentialing and recredentialing process must be obtained and verified within one hundred eighty (180) days prior to presentation to the Medical Director or the Credentialing Committee. All providers must be credentialed and approved before being assigned a participating effective date.

**Non-discrimination in the Decision-making Process**

Cigna-HealthSpring’s credentialing program is compliant with all guidelines from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and state regulations as applicable. Through the universal application of specific assessment criteria, Cigna-HealthSpring ensures fair and impartial decision-making in the credentialing process, and does not make credentialing decisions based on an applicant’s race, gender, age, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or due to the type of patients or procedures in which the provider specializes.

**Provider Notification**

All initial applicants who successfully complete the credentialing process are notified in writing of their plan effective date. Providers are advised to not see Cigna-HealthSpring customers until they receive notification of their plan participation and effective date. Applicants who are denied by the Credentialing Committee will be notified via a certified letter within sixty (60) days of the decision outcome detailing the reasons for the denial/term and any appeal rights to which the provider may be entitled.

**Appeals Process and Notification of Authorities**

In the event that a provider’s participation is limited, suspended, or terminated, the provider is notified in writing within sixty (60) days of the decision. Notification will include a) the reasons for the action, b) outline of the appeals process or options available to the provider, and c) the time limits for submitting an appeal. All appeals will be reviewed by a panel of peers. When termination or suspension is the result of quality deficiencies, the appropriate state and federal authorities, including the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) are notified of the action.

**Confidentiality of Credentialing Information**

All information obtained during the credentialing and recredentialing process is considered confidential and is handled and stored in a confidential and secure manner.
as required by law and regulatory agencies. Confidential practitioner credentialing and recredentialing information will not be disclosed to any person or entity except with the written permission of the practitioner or as otherwise permitted or required by law.

**Ongoing Monitoring**

Cigna-HealthSpring conducts routine, ongoing monitoring of license sanctions, Medicare/Medicaid sanctions, and the CMS Opt Out list between credentialing cycles. Participating providers who are identified as having been sanctioned, are the subject of a complaint review, or are under investigation for or have been convicted of fraud, waste, or abuse are subject to review by the Medical Director or the Credentialing Committee who may elect to limit, restrict or terminate participation. Any provider who's license has been revoked or has been excluded, suspended, and/or disqualified from participating in any Medicare, Medicaid, or any other government health related program or who has opted out of Medicare will be automatically terminated from the plan.

**Provider Directory**

To be included in Provider Directories or any other customer information, providers must be fully credentialed and approved. Directory specialty designations must be commensurate with the education, training, board certification, and specialty(ies) verified and approved via the credentialing process. Any requests for changes or updates to the specialty information in the directory may only be approved by Credentialing.

**CLAIMS**

**Claims Submission**

While Cigna-HealthSpring prefers electronic submission of claims, both electronic and paper claims are accepted. If interested in submitting claims electronically, contact Cigna-HealthSpring Provider Services for assistance at 1-800-230-6138.

All completed claims forms should be forwarded to the address noted below:

**Cigna-HealthSpring**  
PO Box 981706  
El Paso, TX 79998

Electronic Payment Id: 52192

**Timely Filing**

As a Cigna-HealthSpring participating provider, you have agreed to submit all claims within 90 days of the date of service. Claims submitted with dates of service beyond 90 days are not reimbursable by Cigna-HealthSpring.

**Claim Format Standards**

Standard CMS required data elements must be present for a claim to be considered a clean claim and can be found in the CMS Claims Processing Manuals. The link to the CMS Claims Processing Manuals is: [https://www.cms.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c12.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c12.pdf)

Cigna-HealthSpring can only pay claims which are submitted accurately. The provider is at all times responsible for accurate claims submission. While Cigna-HealthSpring will make its best effort to inform the provider of claims errors, the claim accuracy rests solely with the provider.

Physicians in the same group practice who are in the same specialty must bill and be paid as though they were a single physician. If more than one service is provided on the same day to the same patient by the same physician or more than one physician in the same specialty in the same group, they must bill and be paid as though they were a single physician. For example, only one evaluation and management service may be reported unless the evaluation and management services are for unrelated problems. Instead of billing separately, the physicians should select a level of service representative of the combined visits and submit the appropriate code for that level.

Physicians in the same group practice, but who are in different specialties may bill and be paid without regard to their customer in the same group.

**Claim Payment**

Cigna-HealthSpring pays clean claims according to contractual requirements and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines. A clean claim is defined as a claim for a Covered Service that has no defect or impropriety. A defect or impropriety includes, without limitation, lack of data fields required by Cigna-HealthSpring or substantiating documentation, or a particular circumstance requiring special handling or treatment, which prevents timely payment from being made on the claim. The term shall be consistent with the Clean Claim definition set forth in applicable federal or state law, including lack of required substantiating documentation for non-participating providers and suppliers, or particular circumstances requiring special treatment that prevents timely payment from being made on the claim. If additional substantiating documentation involves a source outside of Cigna-HealthSpring, the claim is not considered clean.

**Offsetting**

As a contracted Cigna-HealthSpring provider, you will be informed of any overpayments or other payments you may owe us within 365 days of the date on the Explanation of Benefits or within the timeframe as noted in your Agreement. You will have...
thirty (30) days from receipt of notification seeking recovery to refund us. We will provide you with the customer's name, customer's identification number, Cigna-HealthSpring's claim number, your patient account number, date of service, a brief explanation of the recovery request, and the amount or the requested recovery. If you have not refunded us within the thirty (30) days recovery notice period, we will offset the recovery amounts identified in the initial notification, or in accordance with the terms of your Agreement.

**Pricing**

Original Medicare typically has market adjusted prices by code (i.e. CPT or HCPCS) for services that Original Medicare covers. However, there are occasions where Cigna-HealthSpring offers a covered benefit for which Medicare has no pricing. In order to expedite claims processing and payment in these situations, Cigna-HealthSpring will work to arrive at a fair market price by researching other external, publicly available pricing sources, such as other carriers, fiscal intermediaries, or state published schedules for Medicaid. Cigna-HealthSpring requests that you make every effort to submit claims with standard coding. As described in this Manual and/or your Agreement, you retain your rights to submit a Request for Reconsideration if you feel the reimbursement was incorrect.

**Claims Encounter Data**

Providers who are being paid under capitation must submit claims in order to capture encounter data as required per your Cigna-HealthSpring Provider Agreement.

**Explanation of Payment (EOP)/Remittance Advice (RA)**

The EOP/RA statement is sent to the provider after coverage and payment have been determined by Cigna-HealthSpring. The statement provides a detailed description of how the claim was processed.

**Non Payment/Claim Denial**

Any denials of coverage or non-payment for services by Cigna-HealthSpring will be addressed on the Explanation of Payment (EOP) or Remittance Advice (RA). An adjustment/denial code will be listed per each billed line if applicable. An explanation of all applicable adjustment codes per claim will be listed below that claim on the EOP/RA. Per your contract, the customer may or may not be billed for services denied by Cigna-HealthSpring.

The customer may not be billed for a covered service when the provider has not followed the Cigna-HealthSpring procedures. In some instances, providing the needed information may reverse the denial (i.e. referral form with a copy of the EOP/RA, authorization number, etc.). When no benefits are available for the customer, or the services are not covered, the EOP/RA will alert you to this and you may bill the customer.

**Processing of Hospice Claims**

When a Medicare Advantage (MA) customer has been certified as hospice AND the premium Cigna-HealthSpring receives from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is adjusted to hospice status, the financial responsibility for that customer shifts from Cigna-HealthSpring to Original Medicare. While these two conditions exist, Original Medicare covers all Medicare-covered services rendered. The only services Cigna-HealthSpring is financially responsible for during this time include any benefits Cigna-HealthSpring offers above Original Medicare benefits that are non-hospice related, non-Medicare covered services such as vision (eyewear allowable), prescription drug claims, medical visit transportation, etc.

Until both conditions listed above have been met, Cigna-HealthSpring remains financially responsible for the customer. Example: If a customer is certified hospice on the 8th of the month, Cigna-HealthSpring continues to be financially responsible for that customer until the end of that month. The financial responsibility shifts to Original Medicare on the 1st day of the following month; the date the CMS premium to Cigna-HealthSpring has been adjusted to hospice status for that customer. These rules apply for both professional and facility charges.

**ICD-10 Diagnosis and Procedure Code Reporting**

In January 2009, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published a final rule requiring the use of International Classification of Diseases version 10 (ICD-10) for diagnosis and hospital inpatient procedure coding. The rule impacts the health care industry – including health plans, hospitals, doctors, and other health care professionals, as well as vendors and trading partners.

The implementation of ICD-10 has been delayed a few times. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released a rule on July 31, 2014 finalizing October 1, 2015 as the new compliance date for health care providers, health plans, and health care clearing houses to transition to ICD-10, the tenth revision of the International Classification of Diseases.

ICD-10 (International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition, Clinical Modification/Procedure Coding System) consists of two parts:

- ICD-10-CM for Diagnosis coding is for use in all U.S. health care settings. Diagnosis coding
under ICD-10-CM uses 3 to 7 characters instead of the 3 to 5 characters used with ICD-9-CM, adding more specificity.

- **ICD-10-PCS** for Inpatient Procedure coding is for use in U.S. inpatient hospital settings only. ICD-10-PCS uses 7 alphanumeric characters instead of the 3 or 4 numeric characters used under ICD-9-CM procedure coding. Coding under ICD-10-PCS is much more specific and substantially different from ICD-9-CM procedure coding.

**Note:** Procedure codes are only applicable to inpatient claims and not prior authorizations.

The transition to ICD-10 is occurring because ICD-9 codes have limited data about patients’ medical conditions and hospital inpatient procedures. ICD-9 is 30 years old, has outdated terms, and is inconsistent with current medical practice. Also, the structure of ICD-9 limits the number of new codes that can be created, and many ICD-9 categories are full.

ICD-10 will affect diagnosis and inpatient procedure coding for everyone covered by the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA), not just those who submit Medicare or Medicaid claims. The change to ICD-10 does not affect CPT or HCPCS coding for outpatient procedures.

**ICD-9 vs. ICD-10 Claim Submission Guidelines**

Health care professionals must be prepared to comply with the transition to ICD-10 by the new compliance date. Cigna-HealthSpring will strictly adhere to the following guidelines:

- All electronic transactions must use Version 5010 standards, which have been required since January 1, 2012. Unlike the older Version 4010/4010A standards, Version 5010 accommodates ICD-10 codes.
- We currently accept the revised CMS 1500 Health Insurance Claim form (version 02/12). As of October 1, 2014, Cigna-HealthSpring will only accept the CMS 1500 form (02/12). Although the revised CMS 1500 claim form has the functionality for accepting ICD-10 codes, we will not accept ICD-10 codes on claims until the new compliance date.
- Professional and outpatient claims submitted with a date of service or inpatient claims submitted with a discharge date prior to the new compliance date must be processed using ICD-9 codes.
- Professional and outpatient claims submitted with a date-of-service or inpatient claims submitted with a discharge date on or after the new compliance date must be processed using ICD-10 codes.
- Claims with ICD-9 codes for date of service or discharge provided on or after the new compliance date will be rejected.
- Claims with ICD-10 codes for date of service or discharge provided prior to the new compliance date will be rejected.
- Claims submitted with a mix of ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes will be rejected. Claims should be coded based on date of service (outpatient) or discharge date (inpatient).
- Some institutional claims, such as those for long-term or on-going care should be processed as split claims during the transition period. With such a split claim, all services rendered during a particular cycle before the new compliance date would be accounted for on one claim with ICD-9 codes. The other remaining services rendered on or after the new compliance date during that same cycle would be accounted for on a separate claim using ICD-10 codes.
- We can process claims after the compliance date with ICD-9 codes with dates of service or discharge dates prior to the new compliance date for a period of time to allow for claim run-off:
  - Appeals with dates of service or discharge dates before the new compliance date should be submitted with the appropriate ICD-9 codes.
  - Corrected or resubmitted claims with dates of service or discharge dates before the new compliance date should be submitted with the correct ICD-9 codes to the claim office for adjustment or correction.

**Billable vs. Non-billable Codes**

- A billable ICD-9 or ICD-10 code is defined as a code that has been coded to its highest level of specificity.
- A non-billable ICD-9 or ICD-10 code is defined as a code that has not been coded to its highest level of specificity. If a claim is submitted with a non-billable code, the claim will be rejected.
• The following are examples of billable ICD-9 codes with corresponding non-billable codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Billable ICD-9 Codes</th>
<th>Non-billable ICD-9 Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>473.0 - Chronic maxillary sinusitis</td>
<td>473 - Chronic sinusitis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>474.00 - Chronic tonsillitis</td>
<td>474 - Chronic disease of tonsils and adenoids</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• The following is an example of a billable ICD-10 code with corresponding non-billable codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Billable ICD-10 Codes</th>
<th>Non-billable ICD-10 Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M1A.3110 - Chronic gout due to renal impairment, right shoulder, without tophus</td>
<td>M1A.3 - Chronic gout due to renal impairment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1A.311 - Chronic gout due to renal impairment, right shoulder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• It is acceptable to submit a claim using an unspecified code when sufficient clinical information is not known or available about a particular health condition to assign a more specific code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Billable Unspecified ICD-9 Codes</th>
<th>Billable Unspecified ICD-10 Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>428.0 - Congestive heart failure, unspecified</td>
<td>I50.9 - Heart Failure, unspecified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>486 - Pneumonia, organism unspecified</td>
<td>J18.9 - Pneumonia, unspecified organism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Questions Concerning ICD-10
If you have a question as it pertains to ICD-10, please consult with your Network Operations Representative.

Coordination of Benefits and Subrogation Guidelines

General Definitions

Coordination of Benefits (COB): Benefits that a person is entitled to under multiple plan coverage. Coordinating payment of these plans will provide benefit coverage up to but not exceeding one hundred (100) percent of the allowable amount. The respective primary and secondary payment obligations of the two coverages are determined by the Order of Benefits Determination Rule contained in the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) COB Model Regulations Guidelines.

Order of Benefit Determination Rule: Rules which, when applied to a particular customer covered by at least two plans, determine the order of responsibility each plan has with respect to the other plan in providing benefits for that customer. A plan will be determine to have Primary or Secondary responsibility for a person’s coverage with respect to other plans by applying the NAIC rules.

Primary: This carrier is responsible for costs of services provided up to the benefit limit for the coverage or as if no other coverage exists.

Secondary: This carrier is responsible for the total allowable charges, up to the benefit limit for the coverage less the primary payment not to exceed the total amount billed (maintenance of benefits).

Allowable Expense: Any expense customary or necessary, for health care services provided as well as covered by the customer’s health care plan.

Conclusion: COB is applying the NAIC rules to determine which plan is primarily responsible and plan would be in a secondary position when alternate coverage exists. If COB is to accomplish its purpose, all plans must adhere to the structure set forth in the Model COB regulations.

Basic NAIC Rules for COB

Birthday Rule: The primary coverage is determined by the birthday that falls earliest in the year, understanding both spouses are employed and have coverage. Only the day and month are taken into consideration. If both customers have the same date of birth, the plan which covered the customer the longest is considered primary.

Basic NAIC Rules for COB

General Rules: The following table contains general rules to follow to determine a primary carrier:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the Customer/Beneficiary</th>
<th>The Below Conditions Exists</th>
<th>Then the Below Program Pays First</th>
<th>The Below Program Pays Secondary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is age 65 or older, and is covered by a Group Health Plan (GHP) through current employment or a family customer’s current employment</td>
<td>The employer has more than 20 employees, or at least one employer is a multi-employer group that employs 20 or more employees</td>
<td>The Group Health Plan (GHP) pays primary</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring/ Medicare pays secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is age 65 or older and is covered a Group Health Plan (GHP) through current employment or a family customers current employment</td>
<td>The employer has less than 20 employees</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring / Medicare pays primary</td>
<td>Group Health Plan (GHP) pays secondary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(continued)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the Customer/Beneficiary</th>
<th>The Below Conditions Exists</th>
<th>Then the Below Program Pays First</th>
<th>The Below Program Pays Secondary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is entitled based on disability and is covered by a Large Group Health Plan (LGHP) through his/her current employment or through a family customers current employment</td>
<td>The employer has 100 or more employees or at least one employer is a multi-employer group that employs 100 or more employees</td>
<td>The Large Group Health Plan (LGHP) pays primary</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring / Medicare pays secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is entitled based on disability and is covered by a Large Group Health Plan (LGHP) through his/her current employment or through a family customers current employment</td>
<td>The employer employs less than 100 employees</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring / Medicare pays primary</td>
<td>Large Group Health Plan (LGHP) pays secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is age 65 or older or entitled based on disability and has retirement insurance only</td>
<td>Does not matter the number of employees</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring / Medicare pays primary</td>
<td>Retirement Insurance pays secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is age 65 or older or is entitled based on disability and has COBRA coverage</td>
<td>Does not matter the number of employees</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring/ Medicare pays primary</td>
<td>COBRA pays secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becomes dually entitled based on age/ESRD</td>
<td>Had insurance prior to becoming dually entitled with ESRD as in block one above</td>
<td>The Group Health Plan (GHP) pays primary for the first 30 months</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring/Medicare pays secondary (after 30 months Cigna-HealthSpring pays primary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becomes dually entitled based on age/ESRD but then retires and keeps retirement insurance</td>
<td>Had insurance prior to becoming dually entitled with ESRD as in block one above and then retired</td>
<td>The Retirement Insurance pays primary for the first 30 months</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring/Medicare pays secondary (after 30 months Cigna-HealthSpring pays primary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becomes dually entitled based on age/ESRD but then obtains COBRA insurance through employer</td>
<td>Had insurance prior to becoming dually entitled with ESRD as in block one above and picks up COBRA coverage</td>
<td>COBRA insurance would pay primary for the first 30 months (or until the customer drops the COBRA coverage)</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring/Medicare pays secondary (after 30 months Cigna-HealthSpring pays primary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becomes dually entitled based on disability/ESRD</td>
<td>Had insurance prior to becoming dually entitled with ESRD as in block three above</td>
<td>The Large Group Health Plan (LGHP) pays primary</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring/Medicare pays secondary (after 30 months Cigna-HealthSpring pays primary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becomes dually entitled based on disability/ESRD but then obtains COBRA insurance through employer</td>
<td>Had insurance prior to becoming dually entitled with ESRD as in block three above and picks up the COBRA coverage</td>
<td>COBRA insurance would pay primary for the first 30 months or until the customer drops the COBRA coverage</td>
<td>Cigna-HealthSpring/Medicare pays secondary (after 30 months Cigna-HealthSpring pays primary)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Basic Processing Guidelines for COB**

For Cigna-HealthSpring to be responsible as either the primary or secondary carrier, the customer must follow all HMO rules (i.e. pay copays and follow appropriate referral process).

When Cigna-HealthSpring is the secondary insurance carrier:

- All Cigna-HealthSpring guidelines must be met in order to reimburse the provider (i.e. pre-certification, referral forms, etc).
- The provider collects only the copayments required.
- Be sure to have the customer sign the “assignment of benefits” sections of the claim form.
- Once payment and/or EOB are received from the other carriers, submit another copy of the claim with the EOB of Cigna-HealthSpring for reimbursement. Be sure to note all authorization numbers on the claims and attach a copy of the referral form if applicable.
When Cigna-HealthSpring is the primary insurance carrier:

- The provider collects the copayment required under the customer’s Cigna-HealthSpring plan.
- Submit the claim to Cigna-HealthSpring first
- Be sure to have the customer sign the “assignment of benefits” sections of the claim form.
- Once payment and/or remittance advise (RA) has been received from Cigna-HealthSpring, submit a copy of the claim with the RA to the secondary carrier for adjudication.

Please note that Cigna-HealthSpring is a total replacement for Medicare.

- Medicare cannot be secondary when customers have Cigna-HealthSpring.
- Medicaid will not pay the copay for Cigna-HealthSpring customers.

**Worker’s Compensation**

Cigna-HealthSpring does not cover worker’s compensation claims.

When a provider identifies medical treatment as related to an on-the-job illness or injury, Cigna-HealthSpring must be notified. The provider will bill the worker’s compensation carrier for all services rendered, not Cigna-HealthSpring.

**Subrogation**

Subrogation is the coordination of benefits between a health insurer and a third party insurer (i.e., property and casualty insurer, automobile insurer, or worker’s compensation carrier), not two health insurers.

Claims involving Subrogation or Third Party Recovery (TPR) will be processed internally by the Cigna-HealthSpring Claims Department. COB protocol, as mentioned above, would still apply in the filing of the claim.

Customers who may be covered by third party liability insurance should only be charged the required copayment. The bill can be submitted to the liability insurer. The provider should submit the claim to Cigna-HealthSpring with any information regarding the third party carrier (i.e., auto insurance name, lawyers name, etc.). All claims will be processed per the usual claims procedures.

Cigna-HealthSpring uses an outside vendor for review and investigation of all possible subrogation cases. This vendor coordinates all requests for information from the customer, provider and attorneys office and assists with settlements. For claims related questions, please contact Provider Customer Service at 1-800-230-6138. A Provider Representative will gladly provide assistance.

**Appeals**

You may appeal a previous decision not to pay for a service. For example, claims denied for no authorization or no referral, including a decision to pay for a different level of care; this includes both complete and partial denials. Examples of partial denials include: denials of certain levels of care, isolated claim line items, or a decreased quantity of office or therapy visits. Total and partial denials of payment may be appealed using the same appeal process. Your appeal will receive an independent review by a Cigna-HealthSpring representative not involved with the initial decision. Requesting an appeal does not guarantee that your request will be approved or that the initial decision will be overturned. The appeal determination may fully or partially uphold the original decision.

You may appeal a health services or utilization management denial of a service not yet provided, on behalf of a customer. The customer must be aware that you are appealing on his or her behalf. Customer appeals are processed according to Medicare guidelines.

An appeal must be submitted to the address or fax number provided below within 60 days of the original decision. With your appeal request, you must include: a copy of your denial, any medical records that would support the medical necessity for the service, hospital stay, or office visit, and a copy of the insurance verification completed on the date of service.

Appeals can take up to 60 days for review and determination. Timely filing requirements are not affected or changed by the appeal process or by the appeal outcome. If an appeal decision results in approval of payment contingent upon the filing of a corrected claim, the time frame is not automatically extended and will remain consistent with the timely filing provision in the Cigna-HealthSpring agreement. An appeal is a request for Cigna-HealthSpring to review a previously made decision related to medical necessity or clinical guidelines. You must receive a notice of denial, of medical non-coverage, or remittance advice before you can submit an appeal. Please do not submit your initial claim in the form of an appeal. You should submit your appeal using the “Request for Appeal or Reconsideration” form and medical records. There are several ways to submit your appeal to Cigna-HealthSpring. You may send your request via secure e-mail to FAX-SOL@healthspring.com or fax the appeal request to our secure fax line at 1-800-931-0149. Alternatively, for large medical record files, you may mail the appeal request form attached to a CD containing medical records to:
Part C Appeals Address and Fax Number:

- Cigna-HealthSpring
  Attn: Appeals Unit
  PO Box 24087
  Nashville, TN 37202-4087
- Phone: 1-800-511-6943
- Fax: 1-800-931-0149

Reconsiderations

You have up to 180 days to request reconsideration of a claim. You may request claim reconsideration if you feel your claim was not processed appropriately according to the Cigna-HealthSpring claim payment policy or in accordance with your provider agreement. A claim reconsideration request is appropriate for disputing denials such as coordination of benefits, timely filing, or missing information. Payment retractions, underpayments/overpayments, as well as coding disputes should also be addressed through the claim reconsideration process. Cigna-HealthSpring will review your request, as well as your provider record, to determine whether your claim was paid correctly. You may request reconsideration by submitting the completed request form to:

- Cigna-HealthSpring
  Attn: Reconsiderations
  PO Box 20002
  Nashville, TN 37202
- Fax: 1-615-401-4642

HEALTH CARE PLAN EFFECTIVENESS DATA AND INFORMATION SET (HEDIS®)

HEDIS (a standardized data set) is developed and maintained by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), an accrediting body for managed care organizations. The HEDIS measurements enable comparison of performance among managed care plans. The sources of HEDIS data include administrative data (claims/encounters) and medical record review data. HEDIS measurements include measures such as Comprehensive Diabetes Care, Adult Access to Ambulatory and Preventive Care, Glaucoma Screening for Older Adults, Controlling High Blood Pressure, Breast Cancer Screening, and Colorectal Cancer Screening.

Plan-wide HEDIS measures are reported annually and represent a mandated activity for health plans contracting with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Each spring, Cigna-HealthSpring Representatives will be required to collect from practitioner offices copies of medical records to establish HEDIS scores. Selected practitioner offices will be contacted and requested to assist in these medical record collections.

All records are handled in accordance with Cigna-HealthSpring’s privacy policies and in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy rules. Only the minimum necessary amount of information, which will be used solely for the purpose of this HEDIS initiative, will be requested. HEDIS is considered a quality-related health care operation activity and is permitted by the HIPAA Privacy Rule [see 45 CFR 164.501 and 506].

Cigna-HealthSpring’s HEDIS results are available upon request. Contact the Health Plan’s Quality Improvement Department to request information regarding those results.

HEDIS® is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

STARS GUIDANCE

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) uses the Five-Star Quality Rating System to determine how much to compensate Medicare Advantage plans and educate consumers on health plan quality. The Star Ratings system consists of over 50 measures from five different rating systems. The cumulative results of these measures make up the Star rating assigned to each health plan.

Star Ratings have a significant impact on the financial outcome of Medicare Advantage health plans by directly influencing the bonus payments and rebate percentages received. CMS will award quality-based bonus payments to high performing health plans based on their Star Ratings performance. For health plans with a four star or more rating, a bonus payment is paid in the form of a percentage (maximum of five percent) added to the county benchmark. (A county benchmark is the amount CMS expects it to cost to provide hospital and medical insurance in the state and county.) After 2015, any health plans with Star Ratings below four will no longer receive bonus payments.

Star Rating Components

The Star Rating is comprised of over 50 different measures from six different rating systems:

Star Rating System:

- HEDIS-The Health Care Effectiveness Data and Information Set is a set of performance measures developed for the managed care industry. All claims are processed regularly to extract the NCQA (National Committee for Quality Assurance) defined measures. For example, this allows the health plan and CMS to determine how many enrollees have been screened for high blood pressure.
- CAHPS- Consumer Assessment of Health Care Providers and Systems is a series of patient
surveys rating health care experiences performed on behalf of CMS by an approved vendor.

- **CMS**: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services rates each plan on administrative type metrics, such as, beneficiary access, complaints, call center hold times, and percentage of customers choosing to leave a plan.

- **PDE**: Prescription Drug Events is data collected on various medications related events, such as high-risk medications, adherence for chronic conditions, and pricing.

- **HOS**: Health Outcomes Survey is a survey that uses patient-reported outcomes over a 2.5-year time span to measure health plan performance. Each spring a random sample of Medicare beneficiaries is drawn from each participating Medicare Advantage Organization (MAO) that has a minimum of 500 enrollees and is surveyed. Two years later, these same respondents are surveyed again (i.e., follow up measurement).

- **IRE**: Medicare Advantage plans are required to submit all denied enrollee appeals (Reconsiderations) to an Independent Review Entity (MAXIMUS Federal Services).

These systems rate the plans based on six domains:

1. Staying healthy: screenings, tests and vaccines
2. Managing chronic (long term) conditions
3. Customer experience with health plan
4. Customer complaints, problems getting services, and improvement in the health plan’s performance
5. Health plan customer service
6. Data used to calculate the ratings comes from surveys, observation, claims data, and medical records.

CMS continues to evolve the Star Ratings system by adding, removing and adjusting various measures on a yearly basis. CMS weights each measure between one and three points. A three point measure, or triple weighted measure, are those measures that CMS finds most important and should be a focus for health plans. The composition of all rating systems is indicated below.

### Health Reform

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) requires that Medicare Advantage plans be awarded quality-based bonus payments beginning in 2012, as measured by the Star Ratings system. Bonus payments are provided to MA plans that receive four or more stars.

CMS assigns a benchmark amount to each county within a state, which is the maximum amount CMS will pay to provide hospital and medical benefits. All MA plans submit a bid, which is the projected cost to operate MA within the county. The spread between the bid and original benchmark is called the rebate. A bonus payment is the percentage added to the county benchmark, which increases the spread and the amount of revenue received by the health plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan Quality Score</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015 and after</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 3 stars</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 stars</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 stars</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 stars</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5 stars</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 stars</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Individual Star Measures

Individual Star measures can be single-weighted, 1.5-weighted or triple-weighted, with higher weight being given to those measures that CMS deems most important by which to measure plan quality. Triple-weighted measures are typically outcomes measures that measure a health plan’s ability to manage chronic illnesses and keep customers healthy. Certain disease states appear in multiple measures. For example, diabetes directly impacts 7 measures and cardiovascular conditions directly impact 4 measures.

Following is a summary of the weighting of all Star measures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part C Star Rating Measure</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breast Cancer Screening (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorectal Cancer Screening (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardio Care - LDL Screen (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Diabetes Care - LDL Screen (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glaucma Test (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Flu Vaccine (CAHPS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving/Maintaining Physical Health (HOS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring Physical Activity (HOS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult BMI Assessment (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care For Older Adults - Medication Review (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care For Older Adults - Pain Screening (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osteoporosis Fracture Management (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Diabetes Care - Eye Exam (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Diabetes Care - Kidney Disease(HEDIS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Diabetes Care - HBA1C ≤ 9 (HEDIS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Diabetes Care - LDL &lt; 100mg/DL (HEDIS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controlling Blood Pressure (HEDIS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatoid Arthritis Management (HEDIS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(continued)
### Part C Star Rating Measure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improving Bladder Control (HOS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing Risk Of Falling (HOS)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan All Cause Readmissions (HEDIS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting Needed Care Without Delays (CAHPS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting Appointments And Care Quickly (CAHPS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Service (CAHPS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Rating Of Health care Quality (CAHPS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Rating Of Plan (CAHPS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care Coordination (CAHPS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints About The Health Plan (CTM)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary Access And Performance Problems (CMS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customers Choosing To Leave The Plan (CMS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improvement (CMS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan makes Timely Decisions About Appeals (IRE)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviewing Appeals Decisions (IRE)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign language Interpreter and TTY/</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDD Availability (Call Center)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Part D Star Rating Measure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreign language Interpreter and TTY/</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDD Availability (Call Center)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeals Upheld (IRE)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints About The Health Plan (CTM)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary Access And Performance Problems (CMS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customers Choosing To Leave The Plan (CMS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improvement (CMS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rating Of Drug Plan CAHPS</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting Needed Prescription Drugs (CAHPS)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPF Pricing Accuracy (PDE)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Risk Medications (PDE)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes Treatment (PDE)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication Adherence For Oral Diabetes Medications (PDE)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication Adherence For Hypertension (PDE)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication Adherence For Cholesterol (PDE)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Star Rating Timeline

The Star rating process follows a unique lag timeline that must be iterated. Each year, CMS publishes health plan ratings in October which encompass data collected in the previous year. After ratings are determined, bonuses payments can be included in the bid process for the following year. This means that actions taken to affect Stars in a given year take almost three years to realize financially. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Year 1 (CY2011)</th>
<th>Year 2 (CY2012)</th>
<th>Year 3 (CY2013)</th>
<th>Year 4 (CY2014)</th>
<th>Year 5 (CY2015)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Quality Activities to Impact 2013 Rating</td>
<td>2013 Rating Published (Oct.)</td>
<td>2013 Rating Included in 2014 Bid Process</td>
<td>2013 Rating Bonuses Distributed</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Cigna-HealthSpring provides comprehensive mental health and substance abuse services to its customers. Its goal is to treat the customer in the most appropriate, least restrictive level of care possible, and to maintain and/or increase functionality.

Cigna-HealthSpring’s network is comprised of mental health and substance abuse services and providers who identify and treat customers with behavioral health care needs.

Integration and communication among behavioral health and physical health providers is most important. Cigna-HealthSpring encourages and facilitates the exchange of information between and among physical and behavioral health providers. Customer follow-up is essential. High risk customers are evaluated and encouraged to participate in Cigna-HealthSpring’s behavioral health focused case management program where education, care coordination, and support is provided to increase customer’s knowledge and encourage compliance with treatment and medications. Cigna-HealthSpring works with its providers to become part of the strategy and the solution to provide quality behavioral health services.

#### Behavioral Health Services

Behavioral Health services are available and provided for the early detection, prevention, treatment, and maintenance of the customer’s behavioral health care needs. Behavioral health services are interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary: a customer may need one or multiple types of behavioral health providers, and the exchange of information among these providers is essential. Mental health and substance abuse benefits cover the continuum of care from the least restrictive outpatient levels of care to the most restrictive inpatient levels of care.
Behavioral Health services include:

- Access to Cigna-HealthSpring’s customer Service for orientation and guidance.
- Routine outpatient services to include psychiatrist, addictionologist, licensed psychologist and LCSWs, and psychiatric nurse practitioners. PCPs may provide behavioral health services within his/her scope of practice.
- Initial evaluation and assessment.
- Individual and group therapy.
- Psychological testing according to established guidelines and needs.
- Inpatient hospitalization.
- Inpatient and outpatient detoxification treatment.
- Medication management.
- Partial hospitalization programs.

Responsibilities of Behavioral Health Providers:

Cigna-HealthSpring encourages behavioral health providers to become part of its network. Their responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Provide treatment in accordance with accepted standards of care.
- Provide treatment in the least restrictive level of care possible.
- Communicate on a regular basis with other medical and behavioral health practitioners who are treating or need to treat the customer.
- Direct customers to community resources as needed to maintain or increase customer’s functionality and ability to remain in the community.

Responsibilities of the Primary Care Physician:

The PCP can participate in the identification and treatment of their customer’s behavioral health needs. His/her responsibilities include:

- Screening and early identification of mental health and substance abuse issues.
- Treating customers with behavioral health care needs within the scope of his/her practice and according to established clinical guidelines. These can be customers with co-morbid physical and minor behavioral health problems or those customers refusing to access a mental health or substance abuse provider, but requiring treatment.
- Consultation and/or referral of complex behavioral health patients or those not responding to treatment.
- Communication with other physical and behavioral health providers on a regular basis.

Access to Care

Customers may access behavioral health services as needed:

- Customers may self-refer to any in-network behavioral health provider for initial assessment and evaluation, and ongoing outpatient treatment.
- Customers may access their PCP and discuss their behavioral health care needs or concerns and receive treatment that is within their PCP’s scope of practice. They may request a referral to a behavioral health practitioner. Referrals however, are not required to receive most in-network mental health or substance abuse services.
- Customers and providers can call Cigna-HealthSpring Behavioral Health Customer Service to receive orientation on how to access behavioral health services, provider information, and prior authorizations at 1-866-780-8546.

Medical Record Documentation

When requesting prior authorization for specific services or billing for services provided, behavioral health providers must use the DSM-IV multi-axial classification system and document a complete diagnosis. The provision of behavioral health services require progress note documentation that correspond with day of treatment, the development of a treatment plan, and discharge plan as applicable for each customer in treatment.

Continuity of Care

Continuity of Care is essential to maintain customer stability. Behavioral health practitioners and PCPs, as applicable, are required to:

- Evaluate customer if he/she was hospitalized for a behavioral health condition within 7 days post-discharge.
- Provide customers receiving care with contact information for any emergency or urgent matter arising that necessitates communication between the customer and the provider.
- Evaluate customer needs when the customer is in acute distress.
- Communicate with the customer’s other health care providers.
- Identify those customers necessitating follow-up and refer to Cigna-HealthSpring’s behavioral health focused case management program as necessary.
- Discuss cases as needed with a peer reviewer.
- Make request to Cigna-HealthSpring for authorization for customer in an active course of treatment with a non-participating practitioner.
Utilization Management
Cigna-HealthSpring’s Health Services Department coordinates behavioral health care services to ensure appropriate utilization of mental health and substance abuse treatment resources. This coordination assures promotion of the delivery of services in a quality-oriented, timely, clinically-appropriate, and cost-effective manner for the customers.

Cigna-HealthSpring Utilization Management staff base their utilization-related decisions on the clinical needs of customers, the customer’s Benefit Plan, Interqual Criteria, the appropriateness of care, Medicare National Coverage Guidelines, health care objectives, and scientifically-based clinical criteria and treatment guidelines in the context of provider and/or customer-supplied clinical information and other relevant information. For requests for behavioral health services that require authorization, Cigna-HealthSpring will approve the request or issue a notice of denial if the request is not medically necessary.

HEALTH SERVICES
Cigna-HealthSpring’s Health Services Department coordinates health care services to ensure appropriate utilization of health care resources. This coordination assures promotion of the delivery of services in a quality-oriented, timely, clinically-appropriate, and cost-effective manner for the customers.

Cigna-HealthSpring Utilization Management staff base their utilization-related decisions on the clinical needs of customers, the customer’s Benefit Plan, Interqual Criteria, Milliman Guidelines, the appropriateness of care, Medicare National Coverage Guidelines, health care objectives, and scientifically-based clinical criteria and treatment guidelines in the context of provider and/or customer-supplied clinical information and other relevant information. Cigna-HealthSpring in no way rewards or incentivizes, either financially or otherwise, practitioners, utilization reviewers, clinical care managers, physician advisers or other individuals involved in conducting utilization review, for issuing denials of coverage or service, or inappropriately restricting care.

Goals
• To ensure that services are authorized at the appropriate level of care and are covered under the customer’s health plan benefits.
• To monitor utilization practice patterns of Cigna-HealthSpring’s contracting physicians, contracting hospitals, contracting ancillary services, and contracting specialty providers.
• To provide a system to identify high-risk customers and ensuring that appropriate care is accessed.
• To provide utilization management data for use in the process of re-credentialing providers.
• To educate customers, physicians, contracted hospitals, ancillary services, and specialty providers about Cigna-HealthSpring’s goals for providing quality, value-enhanced managed health care.
• To improve utilization of Cigna-HealthSpring’s resources by identifying patterns of over- and under-utilization that have opportunities for improvement.

Departmental Functions
• Prior authorization
• Referral management
• Concurrent review
• Discharge planning
• Case management and disease management
• Continuity of care

Prior Authorization
The Primary Care Physician (PCP) or Specialist is responsible for requesting prior authorization of all scheduled admissions or services/procedures, for referring a customer for an elective admission, outpatient service, and for requesting services in the home. Cigna-HealthSpring recommends requesting prior authorization at least seven (7) days in advance of the admission, procedure, or service. Requests for prior authorization are prioritized according to level of medical necessity. For prior authorizations, providers should call 1-800-511-6932. You may also submit most requests via our online portal 24 hours per day, 7 days per week at: https://HealthSpring.hsconnectonline.com/HSCConnect.

Services requiring prior authorization are listed in the appendix section of this manual, as well as on Cigna-HealthSpring’s website. The presence or absence of a service or procedure on the list does not determine coverage or benefits. Log in to HSConnect or contact customer service to verify benefits, coverage, and customer eligibility.

The Prior Authorization Department, under the direction of licensed nurses, clinical pharmacists, and medical directors, documents and evaluates requests for authorization, including:
• Verification that the customer is enrolled with Cigna-HealthSpring at the time of the request for authorization and on each date of service.
• Verification that the requested service is a covered benefit under the customer’s benefit package.
• Determination of the appropriateness of the services (medical necessity).
• Verification that the service is being provided by the appropriate provider and in the appropriate setting.
• Verification of other insurance for coordination of benefits.

The Prior Authorization Department documents and evaluates requests utilizing CMS guidelines as well as nationally accepted criteria, processes the authorization determination, and notifies the provider of the determination.

Examples of information required for a determination include, but are not limited to:

• Customer name and identification number
• Location of service (e.g., hospital or surgi-center setting)
• Primary Care Physician name
• Servicing/attending physician name
• Date of service
• Diagnosis
• Service/procedure/surgery description and CPT or HCPCS code
• Clinical information supporting the need for the service to be rendered

For customers who go to an emergency room for treatment, an attempt should be made in advance to contact the PCP unless it is not medically feasible due to a serious condition that warrants immediate treatment.

If a customer appears at an emergency room for care which is non-emergent, the PCP should be contacted for direction. The customer may be financially responsible for payment if the care rendered is non-emergent. Cigna-HealthSpring also utilizes urgent care facilities to treat conditions that are non-emergent but require immediate treatment.

Emergency admissions must be pre-certified by Cigna-HealthSpring within twenty-four (24) hours, or the next business day, of admission. Please be prepared to discuss the customer’s condition and treatment plan with our nurse coordinator.

Outpatient Prior Authorization Department

Triage Unit:

• Consists of non-clinical personnel
• Receives all faxes and phone calls for services that require prior authorization
• Handles issues that can be addressed from a non-clinical perspective:
  - Did you receive my fax?
  - Does this procedure/service require prior authorization?
  - Setting up “shells” for services that must be forwarded to clinical personnel for determination

Prior Authorization Unit:

• Consists of RN’s and LPN’s
• Teams of nurses are organized based on customer’s PCP or provider specialty
• Handles all issues that require a clinical determination, such as:
  - Infusion
  - Outpatient Surgical Procedures
  - DME / O&P
  - Ambulance transports
  - Outpatient Diagnostic Testing
  - Outpatient Therapy

Outpatient Biologicals and Drugs - Part B

Prior Authorization Requests

There are several convenient ways to request a prior authorization for Part B drugs and biologicals:

• Log in to HSConnect
• Call the Outpatient Biologicals/Drugs-Part B prior authorization department at 1-888-454-0013, select option 5.
• Fax your request to the Outpatient Biologicals/Drugs-Part B prior authorization department at 1-877-730-3858.

ICD-10 Diagnosis and Procedure Code Reporting

In January 2009, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published a final rule requiring the use of International Classification of Diseases version 10 (ICD-10) for diagnosis and hospital inpatient procedure coding. The rule impacts the health care industry - including health plans, hospitals, doctors and other health care professionals, as well as vendors and trading partners.

The implementation of ICD-10 has been delayed a few times. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released a rule on July 31, 2014 finalizing October 1, 2015 as the new compliance date for health care providers, health plans, and health care clearing houses to transition to ICD-10, the tenth revision of the International Classification of Diseases.
ICD-10 (International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition, Clinical Modification /Procedure Coding System) consists of two parts:

- **ICD-10-CM** for Diagnosis coding is for use in all U.S. health care settings. Diagnosis coding under ICD-10-CM uses 3 to 7 characters instead of the 3 to 5 characters used with ICD-9-CM, adding more specificity.

- **ICD-10-PCS** for Inpatient Procedure coding is for use in U.S. inpatient hospital settings only. ICD-10-PCS uses 7 alphanumeric characters instead of the 3 or 4 numeric characters used under ICD-9-CM procedure coding. Coding under ICD-10-PCS is much more specific and substantially different from ICD-9-CM procedure coding.

**Note:** Procedure codes are only applicable to inpatient claims and not prior authorizations.

The transition to ICD-10 is occurring because ICD-9 codes have limited data about patients’ medical conditions and hospital inpatient procedures. ICD-9 is 30 years old, has outdated terms, and is inconsistent with current medical practice. Also, the structure of ICD-9 limits the number of new codes that can be created, and many ICD-9 categories are full.

ICD-10 will affect diagnosis and inpatient procedure coding for everyone covered by the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA), not just those who submit Medicare or Medicaid claims. The change to ICD-10 does not affect CPT or HCPCS coding for outpatient procedures.

**ICD-9 vs. ICD-10 Authorization Guidelines**

Health care professionals must be prepared to comply with the transition to ICD-10 by the new compliance date. Cigna-HealthSpring will strictly adhere to the following guidelines:

- Prior authorizations and referrals for date of service or admission prior to the new compliance date must be submitted with ICD-9 diagnosis codes.
- Prior authorizations and referrals for date of service or admission on or after the new compliance date must be submitted with ICD-10 diagnosis codes.

**Billable vs. Non-billable Codes**

- A billable ICD-9 or ICD-10 code is defined as a code that has been coded to its highest level of specificity.
- A non-billable ICD-9 or ICD-10 code is defined as a code that has not been coded to its highest level of specificity. If a claim is submitted with a non-billable code, the claim will be rejected.
- The following are examples of billable ICD-9 codes with corresponding non-billable codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Billable ICD-9 Codes</th>
<th>Non-billable ICD-9 Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>473.0 - Chronic maxillary sinusitis</td>
<td>473 - Chronic sinusitis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>474.00 - Chronic tonsillitis</td>
<td>474 - Chronic disease of tonsils and adenoids</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The following is an example of a billable ICD-10 code with corresponding non-billable codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Billable ICD-10 Codes</th>
<th>Non-billable ICD-10 Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M1A.3110 - Chronic gout due to renal impairment, right shoulder, without tophus</td>
<td>M1A.3 - Chronic gout due to renal impairment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1A.311 - Chronic gout due to renal impairment, right shoulder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- It is acceptable to submit a claim using an unspecified code when sufficient clinical information is not known or available about a particular health condition to assign a more specific code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Billable Unspecified ICD-9 Codes</th>
<th>Billable Unspecified ICD-10 Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>428.0 - Congestive heart failure, unspecified</td>
<td>I50.9 - Heart Failure, unspecified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>486 - Pneumonia, organism unspecified</td>
<td>J18.9 - Pneumonia, unspecified organism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Questions Concerning ICD-10**

If you have a question as it pertains to ICD-10, please consult with your Network Operations Representative.

**Decisions and Time Frames**

**Emergency - Authorization is not required**

An Emergency Medical Condition is a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that a prudent layperson, with an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in:

- Serious jeopardy to the health of the individual or, in the case of a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child;
• Serious impairment to bodily functions;
• Or, serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

**Expedited:**

An expedited request can be requested when you as a physician believe that waiting for a decision under the routine time frame could place the customer’s life, health, or ability to regain maximum function in serious jeopardy. Expedited requests will be determined within 72 hours or as soon as the customer’s health requires.

**Routine:**

If all information is submitted at the time of the request, CMS mandates a health plan determination within 14 calendar days.

Once the Precertification Department receives the request for authorization, we will review the request using nationally recognized industry standards or local Coverage Determination criteria. If the request for authorization is approved, Cigna-HealthSpring will assign an authorization number and enter the information in our medical management system. This authorization number can be used to reference the admission, service or procedure.

The requesting provider has the responsibility of notifying the customer that services are approved and documenting the communication in the medical record.

**Retrospective Review**

Retrospective review is the process of determining coverage for clinical services by applying guidelines(criteria to support the claim adjudication process after the opportunity for precertification or concurrent review timeframe has passed. The only scenarios in which retrospective requests can be accepted are:

- Authorizations for claims billed to an incorrect carrier
  - As long as you have not billed the claim to Cigna-HealthSpring and received a denial, you can request a retro authorization from Health Services within 2 business days of receiving the RA from the incorrect carrier.
  - If the claim has already been submitted to Cigna-HealthSpring and you have received a denial, the request for retro authorization then becomes an appeal and you must follow the guidelines for submitting an appeal.

- Services/Admissions after hours, weekends, or holidays
  - Cigna-HealthSpring will retrospectively review any medically necessary services provided to Cigna-HealthSpring customers after hours, holidays, or weekends. Cigna-HealthSpring does require the retro authorization request and applicable clinical information to be submitted to the Health Services dept. within 2 business days of providing the service or admitting the customer.

- In accordance with Cigna-HealthSpring policy, retrospective requests for authorizations not meeting the scenarios listed above may not be accepted and these claims may be denied for payment.

- After confirming the customer’s eligibility and the availability of benefits at the time the service was rendered, providers should submit all supporting clinical documentation with the request for review and subsequent reimbursement via fax to TN and IL: 1-866-287-5834/ AL: 1-205-444-4263, MS: 1-855-595-2205, and NFL: /GA: 1-855-388-1452/ NC: 1-855-500-2774 and SC: 1-855-420-4717/ TX. Please refer to the Prior Authorization Grid on page 56 based on your specific service for authorization guidelines and/or requirements.

- The requesting provider has the responsibility of notifying the customer that services are approved and documenting the communication in the medical record.

**Concurrent Review**

Concurrent Review is the process of initial assessment and continual reassessment of the medical necessity and appropriateness of inpatient care during an acute care hospital admission, rehabilitation admission or skilled nursing facility or other inpatient admission in order to ensure:

- Covered services are being provided at the appropriate level of care;
- And, services are being administered according to the individual facility contract.

Cigna-HealthSpring requires admission notification for the following:

- Elective admissions
- ER and Urgent admissions
- Transfers to Acute Rehabilitation, LTAC and SNF admissions
- Admissions following outpatient procedures or observation status
- Observation status
- Newborns remaining in the hospital after the mother is discharged.

Emergent or urgent admission notification must be received within twenty-four (24) hours of admission or next business day, whichever is later, even when the admission was prescheduled. If the customer’s condition
is unstable and the facility is unable to determine coverage information, Cigna-HealthSpring requests notification as soon as it is determined, including an explanation of the extenuating circumstances. Timely receipt of clinical information supports the care coordination process to evaluate and communicate vital information to hospital professionals and discharge planners. Failure to comply with notification timelines or failure to provide timely clinical documentation to support admission or continued stay could result in an adverse determination.

Cigna-HealthSpring’s Health Services department complies with individual facility contract requirements for concurrent review decisions and timeframes. Cigna-HealthSpring’s nurses, utilizing CMS guidelines and nationally accepted, evidence-based review criteria, will conduct medical necessity review. Cigna-HealthSpring is responsible for final authorization.

Cigna-HealthSpring’s preferred method for concurrent review is a live dialogue between our Concurrent Review nursing staff and the facility’s UM staff within 24 hours of notification or on the last covered day. If clinical information is not received within 72 hours of admission or last covered day, the case will be reviewed for medical necessity with the information Cigna-HealthSpring has available. If it is not feasible for the facility to contact Cigna-HealthSpring via phone, facilities may fax the customer’s clinical information within 24 hours of notification to 1-832-553-3426. Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Reviews should be faxed to 1-832-553-3426. For SNF admission requests, a recent PM&R or physical, occupational and/or speech therapy consult is requested along with the most recent notes for therapy(ies) or recent medical status and expected skilled treatment and service requirements.

Following an initial determination, the concurrent review nurse will request additional updates from the facility on a case-by-case basis. Cigna-HealthSpring will render a determination within 24 hours of receipt of complete clinical information. Cigna-HealthSpring’s nurses will make every attempt to collaborate with the facility’s utilization or case management staff and request additional clinical information in order to provide a favorable determination. Clinical update information should be received 24 hours prior to the next review date. A Cigna-HealthSpring Medical Director reviews all acute, rehab, LTAC, and SNF confinements that do not meet medical necessity criteria and issues a determination. If the Cigna-HealthSpring Medical Director deems that the inpatient or SNF confinement does not meet medical necessity criteria, the Medical Director will issue an adverse determination (a denial). The Concurrent Review nurse or designee will notify the provider(s) e.g. facility, attending/ordering provider verbally and in writing of the adverse determination via notice of denial. The criteria used for the determination is available to the practitioner/facility upon request. To request a copy of the criteria on which a decision is made, call 1-800-511-6932.

In those instances where the attending provider does not agree with the determination, the provider is encouraged to contact Cigna-HealthSpring’s Medical Director for Peer-to-Peer discussion. The telephone number to contact our Medical Director for the discussion call 1-866-849-8857.

Following the Peer-to-Peer discussion, the Medical Director will either reverse the original determination and authorize the confinement or uphold the adverse determination.

For customers receiving hospital care and for those who transfer to a Skilled Nursing Facility or Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation Care, Cigna-HealthSpring will approve the request or issue a notice of denial if the request is not medically necessary. Cigna-HealthSpring will also issue a notice of denial if a customer who is already receiving care in an Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility has been determined to no longer require further treatment at that level of care. This document will include information on the customers’ or their Representatives’ right to file an expedited appeal, as well as instructions on how to do so if the customer or customer’s physician does not believe the denial is appropriate.

Cigna-HealthSpring also issues written Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage (NOMNC) determinations in accordance with CMS guidelines. This notice will be sent by fax to the SNF or HHA. The facility is responsible for delivering the notice to the customer or their authorized representative/power of attorney (POA) and for having the customer, authorized representative or POA sign the notice within the written time frame listed in the Adverse Determination section of the provider manual. The facility is requested and expected to fax a copy of the signed NOMNC back to Health Services at the number provided. The NOMNC includes information on customers’ rights to file a fast track appeal.

**Readmission**

The Health Services Department will review all readmissions occurring within 31 days following discharge from the same facility, according to established processes, to assure services are medically reasonable and necessary, with the goal of high quality cost effective health care services for health plan customers.

The Health Services Utilization Management (UM) staff will review acute Inpatient and Observation readmissions. If admissions are determined to be related; they may follow the established processes to combine the two confinements.
The Role of the Cigna-HealthSpring ACCM (Acute Care Case Manager)

Cigna-HealthSpring Acute Care case managers (ACCMs) are registered nurses. All ACCMs are expected to perform at the height of their license. They understand Cigna-HealthSpring plan benefits and utilize good clinical judgment to ensure the best outcome for the customer.

The Cigna-HealthSpring Acute Care Case Manager has two major functions:

- Ensure the customer is at the appropriate level of care, in the appropriate setting, at the appropriate time through utilization review.
- Effectively manage care transitions and length of stay (LOS).

Utilization review is performed utilizing evidence-based guidelines (Interqual) and collaborating with Primary Care Physicians (PCP), attending physicians, and Cigna-HealthSpring Medical Directors.

The ACCM effectively manages all transitions of care through accurate discharge planning and collaboration with facility personnel to prevent unplanned transitions and readmissions via interventions such as:

- Medication reconciliation.
- Referral of customers to Cigna-HealthSpring programs such as: CHF CCIP Program, Respiratory Care Program, and Fragile Fracture Program.
- Appropriate coordination of customer benefits.
- Obtaining needed authorizations for post-acute care services or medications.
- Collaborating with attending physician and PCP, as needed.
- Introducing and initiating CTI (Care Transition Intervention).
- Addressing STAR measures, as applicable: Hgb A1C and foot care, LDL, colorectal cancer screening, osteoporosis management in women who had a fracture, falls, emotional health, flu and pneumonia vaccines and medication adherence.
- Facilitating communication of care level changes to all parties.
- The goals of the Cigna-HealthSpring ACCM are aligned with the goals of acute care facilities.
- Customers/patients receive the appropriate care, at the appropriate time, and in the most appropriate setting.
- Readmissions are reduced and LOS is managed effectively.

At Cigna-HealthSpring, we strive for Primary Care Physicians (PCP), attending physicians, and acute care facility personnel to view the Cigna-HealthSpring ACCM as a trusted resource and partner in the care of our customers (your patients).

Discharge Planning and Acute Care Management

Discharge Planning is a critical component of the process that begins with an early assessment of the customer’s potential discharge care needs in order to facilitate transition from the acute setting to the next level of care. Such planning includes preparation of the customer and his/her family for any discharge needs along with initiation and coordination of arrangements for placement and/or services required after acute care discharge. Cigna-HealthSpring’s Concurrent Review staff will coordinate with the facility discharge planning team to assist in establishing a safe and effective discharge plan. The Acute Care Managers (ACM) Concurrent Review nurse will facilitate the communication for all needed authorizations for services, equipment, and skilled services upon discharge.

In designated contracted facilities, Cigna-HealthSpring also employs ACMs to assist with the process, review the inpatient medical record, and complete face-to-face customer interviews to identify customers at risk for readmission, in need of post-discharge complex care coordination and to aid the transition of care process. This process is completed in collaboration with the facility discharge planning and acute care management team customers and other Cigna-HealthSpring staff. When permissible by facility agreement, the ACM also completes the concurrent review process onsite at assigned hospitals. The role of the ACM onsite reviewer then also includes the day to day functions of the concurrent review process at the assigned hospital by conducting timely and consistent reviews and discussing with a Cigna-HealthSpring medical director as appropriate. The reviewer monitors the utilization of inpatient customer confinement at the assigned hospitals by gathering clinical information in accordance with hospital rules and contracting requirements including timelines for decision making. All clinical information is evaluated utilizing a nationally accepted review criteria.

The ACM onsite reviewer will identify discharge planning needs and be proactively involved by interacting with attending physicians and hospital case managers in an effort to facilitate appropriate and timely discharge. The onsite reviewer will follow the policies and procedures consistent with the guidelines set forth by Cigna-HealthSpring Health Services Department and the facility.
Adverse Determinations

Rendering of Adverse Determinations (Denials)
The Utilization Management staff is authorized to render an administrative denial decision to participating providers based only on contractual terms, benefits, or eligibility.

Every effort is made to obtain all necessary information, including pertinent clinical information and original documentation from the treating provider to allow the Medical Director to make appropriate determinations.

Only a Cigna-HealthSpring Medical Director may render an adverse determination (denial) based on medical necessity but he/she may also make a decision based on administrative guidelines. The Medical Director, in making the initial decision, may suggest an alternative Covered Service to the requesting provider. If the Medical Director makes a determination to deny or limit an admission, procedure, service, or extension of stay, Cigna-HealthSpring notifies the facility or provider’s office of the denial of service. Such notice is issued to the provider and the customer, when applicable, documenting the original request that was denied and the alternative approved service, along with the process for appeal.

Cigna-HealthSpring employees are not compensated for denial of services. The PCP or attending physician may contact the Medical Director by telephone to discuss adverse determinations.

Notification of Adverse Determinations (Denials)
The reason for each denial, including the specific utilization review criteria with pertinent subset/information or benefits provision used in the determination of the denial, is included in the written notification and sent to the provider and/or customer as applicable. Written notifications are sent in accordance with CMS and NCQA requirements to the provider and/or customer as follows:

- For non-urgent pre-service decisions - within 14 calendar days of the request. For urgent pre-service decisions - within 72 hours or three calendar days of the request.
- For urgent concurrent decisions - *within 24 hours of the request.
- For post-service decisions - within 30 calendar days of the request.

*Denotes initial oral notification of the denial decision is provided with electronic or written notification given no later than 3 calendar days after the oral notification

Peer-to-Peer information is provided.
Cigna-HealthSpring complies with CMS requirements for written notifications to customers, including rights to appeal and grievances. For urgent care requests, Cigna-HealthSpring notifies the provider(s) only of the decision since the treating or attending practitioner is acting as the customer’s representative. If the denial is either concurrent or post service (retrospective) and the customer is not at financial risk, the customer is not routinely notified.

Clinical Practice Guidelines & Reference Material
Cigna-HealthSpring has adopted evidence-based clinical practice guidelines as roadmaps for health care decision-making targeting specific clinical circumstances. Cigna-HealthSpring promotes the use of clinical practice guidelines to:

- Define clear goals of care based on the best available scientific evidence.
- Reduce variation in care and outcomes.
- Provide a more rational basis for clinical management of some conditions.
- Comply with accreditation standards and regulatory expectations.

The table on page 92 contains the clinical practice guidelines approved by Cigna-HealthSpring’s Clinical Policy Committee. The table also contains links to the Web sites with the most current version of the guideline.

This information is provided for general reference and not intended to address every clinical situation associated with the conditions and diseases addressed by these guidelines. Physicians and health care professionals must exercise clinical discretion in interpreting and applying this information to individual patients. We hope you will consider this information and use it, when it is appropriate for your eligible customers.

CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES
The Cigna-HealthSpring case management program is an administrative and clinically proactive process that focuses on coordination of services for customers with multiple comorbidities, complex care needs and/or short term requirements for care. The program is designed to work as a partnership between customers, providers, and other health services staff. The goal is to provide the best clinical outcomes for customers. The central concept is early identification, education, and measurement of compliance with standards of care. The case management staff strives to enhance the customer’s quality of life, facilitates provision of services in the appropriate setting, and promotes quality cost effective outcomes. Staff customers with specific clinical expertise provide support services and coordination of care in conjunction with the treating provider.
Case Management Program Goals
Cigna-HealthSpring has published and actively maintains a detailed set of program objectives available upon request in our case management program description. These objectives are clearly stated, measurable, and have associated internal and external benchmarks against which progress is assessed and evaluated throughout the year. Plan demographic and epidemiologic data, and survey data are used to select program objectives, activities, and evaluations.

Case Management Approach
Cigna-HealthSpring has multiple programs in place to promote continuity and coordination of care, remove barriers to care, prevent complications and improve customer quality of life. It is important to note that Cigna-HealthSpring treats disease management as a component of the case management continuum, as opposed to a separate and distinct activity. In so doing, we are able to seamlessly manage cases across the care continuum using integrated staffing, content, data resources, risk identification algorithms, and computer applications.

Cigna-HealthSpring employs a segmented and individualized case management approach that focuses on identifying, prioritizing, and triaging cases effectively and efficiently. Our aim is to assess the needs of individual customers, to secure their agreement to participate, and to match the scope and intensity of our services to their needs. Results from health risk assessment surveys, eligibility data, retrospective claims data, and diagnostic values are combined using proprietary rules, and used to identify and stratify customers for case management intervention. The plan uses a streamlined operational approach to identify and prioritize customer outreach, and focuses on working closely with customers and family/caregivers to close key gaps in education, self-management, and available resources. Personalized case management is combined with medical necessity review, ongoing delivery of care monitoring, and continuous quality improvement activities to manage target customer groups.

Customers are discharged from active case management under specific circumstances which may include stabilization of symptoms or a plateau in disease processes, the completed course of therapy, customer specific goals obtained; or the customer has been referred to Hospice. A customer’s case may be re-initiated based on the identification of a transition in care, a change in risk score, or through a referral to case management.

How to Use Services
Customers that may benefit from case management are identified in multiple ways, including but not limited to: utilization management activities, predictive modeling, and direct referrals from a provider. If you would like to refer a Cigna-HealthSpring customer for case management services, please call 1-888-501-1116.

In addition, our customers have access to information regarding the program via a brochure and website and may self refer. Customers are contacted by our case management staff by telephone or face to face encounter. The customer has the right to opt out of the program. If the customer opts in, a letter will be sent to the customer and you as the provider. Once enrolled, an assessment is completed with the customer and a plan of care with goals, interventions, and needs is established.

Coordination with Network Providers
Cigna-HealthSpring offers customers access to a contracted network of facilities, primary care and specialty care physicians, mental health, and alcohol and substance abuse specialists, as well as ancillary care network. Each customer receives a provider directory annually giving in-depth information about how to find network providers in their area (by zip code and by specialty), how to select a PCP, conditions under which out-of-area and out-of-network providers may be seen, and procedures for when the customer’s provider leaves the network. A toll-free Customer Service telephone number is provided, and customers with questions are asked to reach out to the plan. Customers also have access to a series of web-based provider materials. The website allows customers to search the provider directory for doctors, facilities, and pharmacies.

The provider is a key customer of the Interdisciplinary care team. Our case management staff will work with you and your staff to meet the unique needs of each customer. Case managers work with customers and providers to schedule and prepare for customer visits, to make sure that identified care gaps are addressed and prescriptions are filled, and to mitigate any non-clinical barriers to care. In cases where provider referrals are necessitated, case managers work closely with customers to identify appropriate providers, schedule visits, and secure transportation.

The plan also has a provider incentive program that supports case management objectives and which incentivizes providers to coordinate closely with the customer and plan on specified quality measures.

Customers of our Special Needs Plan have a defined Model of Care (See Model of Care Section) that includes Provider Training. Our case management program includes initiatives specific to this population and our case managers provide support to resolve the special needs of this population. As a provider, the need to coordinate benefits available from Medicare and Medicaid may occur with our Special Needs program customers. Our Summary of Benefits available on our
website defines the benefits for your state and the case management staff can assist with identifying resources and providing support to assure coordination.

**Communications**

Cigna-HealthSpring provides multiple communication channels to customers. The plan maintains a full-service inbound call program that allows customers to inquire about all aspects of their relationship with the plan. Outbound customer services and care management calls are also made regularly to customers to encourage them to participate in clinical programs and assessment activities provided as part of their health care benefit. In addition to telephonic touch points, the plan regularly sends educational materials to customers in response to identified care gaps and changes in health status. Customers also have access to web-based materials, where they can learn more about their benefits, explore additional benefits, search the provider directory, find a pharmacy, query the formulary, and identify the time and location of sales sessions.

**Program Evaluation**

Cigna-HealthSpring continually monitors the program, and makes changes as needed to its structure, content, methods, and staffing. Changes to the program are made under two conditions: (1) changes must benefit customers; and (2) changes must be in compliance with applicable regulations and guidance. Changes to the program are accompanied by policy and procedure revisions and staff training as required. The program operates under the umbrella of the plan’s Quality Improvement Committee which reports to the Corporate Quality Improvement Committee. It is reviewed and updated annually in collaboration with the Quality Improvement Department. The plan’s Physician Advisory Committee made up of network providers, also reviews the program and its clinical guidelines at certain intervals and provides improvement recommendations.

**Confidentiality**

Cigna-HealthSpring is committed to preserving the confidentiality of its customers and practitioners. Written policies and procedures are in place to ensure the confidentiality of customer information. Patient data gathered during the case management process are available for the purposes of review only and are maintained in a confidential manner. Employees receive confidentiality training that includes appropriate storage and disposal of confidential information. Employees also sign a confidentiality agreement at the time of their initial company orientation.

**Continuity of Care**

Cigna-HealthSpring’s policy is to provide for continuity and coordination of care with medical practitioners treating the same patient, and coordination between medical and behavioral health services. When a practitioner leaves Cigna-HealthSpring’s network and a customer is in an active course of treatment, our Health Services staff will attempt to minimize any disruption in care by potentially offering continuity of care services with the current provider for a reasonable period of time.

In addition, customers undergoing active treatment for a chronic or acute medical condition will have access to the exiting provider through the current period of active treatment or a maximum of 90 calendar days, whichever is shorter. Customers in their second or third trimester of pregnancy have access to the exiting provider through the postpartum period.

If the Plan terminates a participating provider, Cigna-HealthSpring will work to transition a customer into care with a Participating Physician or other provider within Cigna-HealthSpring’s network. Cigna-HealthSpring is not responsible for the health care services provided by the terminated provider following the date of termination under such circumstances.

Cigna-HealthSpring also recognizes that new customers join our health plan and may have already begun treatment with a provider who is not in Cigna-HealthSpring’s network. Under these circumstances, Cigna-HealthSpring will work to coordinate care with the provider by identifying the course of treatment already ordered and offering the customer a transition period of up to 90 calendar days to complete the current course of treatment.

Cigna-HealthSpring will honor plans of care (including prescriptions, DME, medical supplies, prosthetic and orthotic appliances, specialist referrals, and any other on-going services) initiated prior to a new customer’s enrollment for a period of up to 90 calendar days or until the Primary Care Physician evaluates the customer and establishes a new plan of care. For additional information about continuity of care or to request authorization for such services, please contact our Prior Authorization Department at 1-800-511-6932.

**QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ORGANIZATION PROGRAM CHANGES**

Recently, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services announced restructuring of the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) program allowing two Beneficiary and Family-Centered Care (BFCC) QIO contractors to support program activities. The BFCC-QIO contactors will focus on conducting quality of care reviews, discharge and termination of service appeals, and other areas of required review.
The two chosen BFCC-QIO contractors are:

**Livanta**

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**KePRO**

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<td>2</td>
<td>(DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV)</td>
<td>KePRO 5201 W. Kennedy Boulevard Suite 900 Tampa, FL 33609</td>
<td>1-844-455-8708</td>
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<td>(AL, AR, CO, KY, LA, MS, MT, ND, NM, OK, SD, TN, TX, UT, WY)</td>
<td>KePRO 5700 Lombardo Center Drive Suite 100 Seven Hills, OH 44131</td>
<td>1-844-430-9504</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>(IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, OH, WI)</td>
<td>KePRO 5201 W. Kennedy Boulevard Suite 900 Tampa, FL 33609</td>
<td>1-855-408-8557</td>
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**SPECIAL NEEDS PLAN - MODEL OF CARE**

Medicare Advantage Special Needs Plans (SNPs) are designed for specific groups of customers with special health care needs.

**The three specific groups are:**

- “Dual eligible” beneficiaries (individuals who are eligible for both Medicaid & Medicare);
- Individuals with Chronic conditions;
- And, individuals who are residents of long-term care facilities or require that level of care and reside in the community.

In 2008, CMS issued the final regulation “Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008,” known as “MIPPA.” This regulation mandated that all Special Needs Plans have a filed and approved Model of Care by January 1, 2010. The Model of Care is an evidenced-based process by which we integrate benefits and coordinate care for customers enrolled in Cigna-HealthSpring’s Special Needs Plans. The Model of Care facilitates the early assessment and identification of health risks and major changes in the health status of customers with complex care needs, as well as the coordination of care to improve their overall health.

Cigna-HealthSpring’s Special Needs Plan Model of Care has the following goals:

- Improve access to medical, mental health, and social services.
- Improve access to affordable care.
- Improve coordination of care through an identified point of contact.
• Improve transitions of care across health care settings and providers.
• Improve access to preventive health services.
• Assure appropriate utilization of services.
• Improve beneficiary health outcomes.

Importantly, the Model of Care focuses on the individual SNP customer. SNP customers receive a health risk assessment within 90 days of enrollment and then, annually, within one year of completion of the last HRA. Based on the results of this assessment, an individualized care plan is developed using evidence-based clinical protocols. All SNP customers must have an individualized care plan. Interdisciplinary care teams are responsible for care management and support the assessment and care planning process.

Cigna-HealthSpring PCPs who treat Special Needs Plan customers are core participants of their Interdisciplinary Care Teams and oversee clinical care plan development and maintenance. Interdisciplinary care team participants include PCPs as well as practitioners of various disciplines and specialties, based on the needs of the customer. The customer may participate in the care team meetings, as may all health care providers. The plan-developed individualized care plan is recorded centrally so that it may be shared with all customers of the interdisciplinary care team, as indicated. All providers are encouraged to participate in the SNP Model of Care and interdisciplinary care teams.

Cigna-HealthSpring uses a data-driven process for identifying the frail/disabled, customers with multiple chronic illnesses and those at the end of life. Risk stratification and protocols for interventions around care coordination, care transitions, barriers to care, primary care givers, education, early detection, and symptom management are also components of the Model of Care. Based on the needs of plan customers, a specialized provider network is available to assure appropriate access to care, complementing each customer’s primary care provider.

Cigna-HealthSpring uses care transitions protocols and specific programs to support customers through transitions, connect customers to the appropriate providers, facilitate the communication process between settings, promote customer self-management and reduce the risk for readmissions. Care transitions, whether planned or unplanned, are monitored, and PCPs are informed accordingly. PCP communication to promote continuity of care and interdisciplinary care team involvement is a critical aspect of Cigna-HealthSpring’s care transitions protocols.

Implementation of the Model of Care is supported by systems and processes to share information between the health plan, health care providers and the customer. The SNP Model of Care includes periodic analysis of effectiveness, and all activities are supported by the Quality Improvement Program.

For Dual SNP customers:
Providers may contact our Health Risk Assessment department to request patients’ HRA results at 1-800-331-6769.

To discuss and/or request a copy of a patient’s care plan, refer a patient for an Interdisciplinary Care Team meeting or participate in an Interdisciplinary Care Team meeting, please contact our Case Management department at 1-888-615-2709 ext. 2714.

For Chronic SNP customers:
Providers may contact our Health Risk Assessment department to request patients’ HRA results at 1-800-331-6769.

To discuss and/or request a copy of a patient’s care plan, refer a patient for an Interdisciplinary Care Team meeting or participate in an Interdisciplinary Care Team meeting, please contact our Case Management department at 1-888-501-1116.

REFERRAL PROCESS

The Primary Care Physician (PCP) is the customer’s primary point of entry into the health care delivery system for all outpatient specialist care.

The PCP is required to obtain a referral for most outpatient specialist visits for Cigna-HealthSpring customers.

Referrals can be requested through several methods, such as:

• HSConnect
• Fax
• Phone

Your Network Operations representative can provide additional details regarding preferred method of communication in your area. Likewise, the specialist is required to ensure that a referral is in place prior to scheduling a visit (except urgent/emergent visits, which do not require referral). The specialist is also required to communicate to the PCP via consultation reports any significant findings, recommendations for treatment and the need for any ongoing care.

Electronic submission/retrieval of referrals through HSConnect helps to ensure accurate and timely processing of referrals.

All referrals must be obtained prior to services being rendered. No retro-authorizations of referrals will be accepted. Please note that we value the PCP’s role in taking care of our Cigna-HealthSpring customers and
that the PCP has a very important role in directing the customer to the appropriate specialist based on your knowledge of the patient’s condition and health history. It is also absolutely essential that customers are directed to participating providers only. In order to ensure this, please refer to our online directory or contact Customer Service for assistance.

Remember: An authorization number does not guarantee payment – services must be a covered benefit. To verify benefits before providing services, call 1-800-230-6138.

Referral Guidelines

- PCPs should refer only to Cigna-HealthSpring participating specialists for outpatient visits.
- Non-participating specialist’s visits require prior authorization by Cigna-HealthSpring.
- Referrals must be obtained PRIOR to specialist services being rendered.
- PCPs should not issue retroactive referrals.
- Most referrals are valid for 180 days starting from the issue date.
- All requests for referrals must include the following information:
  - Customer Name, Date of Birth, customer ID
  - PCP Name
  - Specialist Name
  - Date of Referral
  - Number of visits requested

If a customer is in an active course of treatment with a specialist at the time of enrollment, Cigna-HealthSpring will evaluate requests for continuity of care. A PCP referral is not required, but an authorization must be obtained from Cigna-HealthSpring’s Prior Authorization Department. For further details, please refer to the Continuity of Care section in Health Services.

Please note: A specialist may not refer the patient directly to another specialist. If a patient needs care from another specialist, he/she must obtain the referral from his/her PCP.

Self Referrals

Customers have open access to certain specialists, known as self-referred visits/services; these include but are not limited to:
- Emergency medicine (emergency care as defined in the provider contract)
- Obstetric and Gynecological care (routine care, family planning)
- Psychiatrist, Psychologist, Licensed Clinical Social Worker (behavioral health participating providers)

Please refer to Cigna-HealthSpring’s website to view the current provider directory for Participating Specialists. If a customer has a preference, the PCP should accommodate this request if possible. The only exceptions where the customer may self refer are:

- To a Participating Gynecologist for annual gynecological exam except for infertility and to see a non-participating OB/GYN. The PCP may perform the annual exam if agreed upon by the customer.
- Behavioral health referrals to Cigna-HealthSpring’s Behavioral Health Care.
- Vision Exams – customers who have a Vision benefit may self refer to a participating provider.
- Dental Coverage – customers who have a Dental benefit may self refer to a Participating Dental provider.

Primary Care Physician’s Referral Responsibilities

A PCP is responsible for ensuring a customer has a referral prior to the appointment with the specialist. There are four ways a PCP can obtain referral to specialists:

1. Log in to HSConnect.
2. Referral Form: Complete the referral form and fax it into our referral department.
3. Referral Log: If the referral to a specialist is not needed within the next forty-eight (48) hours, you may fax the referral log to us on a weekly basis.
4. Call in to the Referral Department: If the referral is an emergency, or you simply would like to speak with a referral department representative, you may obtain a referral by phone by calling:
   - Cigna-HealthSpring Precert:
     Toll Free: 1-800-511-6932
     Local: 1-832-553-3456
     Toll Free Fax: 1-888-856-3969
     Local Fax: 1-832-553-3426
   - Home Health/DME:
     Toll Free: 1-800-511-6932
     Local: 1-832-553-3313
     Toll Free Fax: 1-888-205-8658

Specialist Physician’s Referral Responsibilities

Specialists must have a referral from a PCP prior to seeing a customer if the customer’s plan requires a referral. Claims will be denied if a specialist sees a customer without a referral when the health plan requires a referral. Cigna-HealthSpring is unable to make exceptions to this requirement. If a referral is not in place, specialists must contact the customer’s PCP before the office visit. In order to verify that a referral
has been made, the specialist may log in to HSConnect or the specialist may call Cigna-HealthSpring to verify.

**Instructions for a Specialist to Obtain Referrals:**
The specialist can obtain referrals directly for the customer to another Specialist with the following limits:

1. The PCP referred the customer to the specialist
2. The following five (5) conditions must be met:
   - Diagnosis must be related to the specialty and/or service to be obtained;
   - Diagnosis must be related to reason PCP referred to referring Specialist;
   - Must be a covered benefit of the health plan;
   - The customer must be currently under the care of the referring specialist;
   - And, Referral must be made to a participating provider.
3. The specialist provides follow-up documentation to the PCP for all referrals obtained for further specialty care.
4. Referrals for the following specialty care are excluded from this process and must be referred back to the PCP to obtain referral: Non-participating providers, Chiropractor, Dermatology, Otolaryngology, Maxillofacial Surgeon, Podiatry, Optometry, Transplant Specialist, and Reconstructive (Plastic) Surgeon with the exception of breast reconstruction.
5. The referral must be obtained prior to the services being rendered.

**Note:** If all elements within the limits above cannot be met, the specialist must defer back to the PCP for further services.

The specialist may obtain referrals via HSConnect or fax. Specialist should use the fax method if the referral is not needed within forty-eight (48) hours. If the referral is needed in less than forty-eight (48) hours, the specialist must use either the telephone referral process or HSConnect.

**PHARMACY PRESCRIPTION BENEFIT**

**Part D Drug Formulary**

Formulary listings, utilization management criteria, and formulary changes for Cigna-HealthSpring formularies can be found at: [http://www.cigna.com/medicare/resources/drug-list-formulary](http://www.cigna.com/medicare/resources/drug-list-formulary).

Cigna-HealthSpring utilizes the USP classification system to develop Part D drug formularies that include drug categories and classes covering all disease states. Each category must include at least two drugs, unless only one drug is available for a particular category or class. Cigna-HealthSpring includes all or substantially all drugs in protected classes, as defined by CMS. All formularies are reviewed for clinical appropriateness by the national Cigna Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee, including the utilization management edits placed on formulary products. Cigna-HealthSpring submits all formulary changes to CMS according to the timelines designated by CMS.

A Part D drug is a drug that meets the following criteria: may be dispensed only by prescription; is approved by the FDA; is used and sold in the US; is used for a medically accepted indication; includes FDA-approved uses; includes uses approved for inclusion in the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information (AHFS DI), Micromedex, National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN), Clinical Pharmacology, plus other authoritative compendia that the Secretary of Health and Human Services identifies, as off-label uses described in peer-reviewed literature are insufficient on their own to establish a medically accepted indication; and finally includes prescription drugs, biologic products, vaccines that are reasonable and necessary for the prevention of illness, insulin, and medical supplies associated with insulin that are not covered under Parts A or B (syringes, needles, alcohol, swabs, gauze, and insulin delivery systems).

Drugs excluded under Part D include the following:

- drugs for which payment as so prescribed or administered to an individual is available for that individual under Part A or Part B; drugs or classes of drugs, or their medical uses, which may be excluded from coverage or otherwise restricted under Medicaid (with the exception of smoking cessation products);
- drugs for anorexia, weight loss or weight gain; drugs to promote fertility; drugs for cosmetic purposes and hair growth; drugs for symptomatic relief of coughs and colds; vitamins and minerals (except for prenatal vitamins and fluoride preparations); non-prescription drugs; outpatient prescriptions for which manufacturers require the purchase of associated tests or monitoring services as a condition for getting the prescription (manufacturer tying arrangements); agents used for treatment of sexual or erectile dysfunction (ED) (except when prescribed for medically-accepted indications such as pulmonary hypertension).

**Part D Utilization Management**

Cigna-HealthSpring formularies include utilization management requirements that include prior authorization, step therapy and quantity limits.

**Prior Authorization (PA):** For a select group of drugs, Cigna-HealthSpring requires the customer or their physician to get approval for certain prescription drugs before the customer is able to have the prescription covered at their pharmacy.
Step Therapy (ST): For a select group of drugs, Cigna HealthSpring requires the customer to first try certain drugs to treat their medical condition before covering another drug for that condition.

Quantity Limits (QL): For a select group of drugs, Cigna HealthSpring limits the amount of the drug that will be covered without prior approval.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), in collaboration with the Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA), has identified certain medications as high risk when used in the elderly. This list is based upon the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) 2012 Updated Beers Criteria. All medications on the list are ones for which the AGS Expert Panel strongly recommends avoiding use of the medication in older adults. Use of these medications in the elderly may result in increased rates of adverse drug events, potential drug toxicity, and an increased risk of falls and/or fractures. Due to these safety concerns, Cigna HealthSpring requires prior authorization for these medications in all customers aged 65 and older in order to confirm that the benefits outweigh the risks, and that safer alternatives cannot be used.

How to file a Coverage Determination

A Coverage Determination (CD) is any decision that is made by or on behalf of a Part D plan sponsor regarding payment or benefits to which an enrollee believes he or she is entitled. Coverage Determinations may be received orally or in writing from the customer’s prescribing physicians. For the Provider Call Center, please call 1-877-813-5595 or fax 1-866-845-7267. The address is: Coverage Determination & Exceptions, PO Box 20002, Nashville, TN 37202. The mailing address is: Part D Appeals, PO Box 24207 Nashville, TN 37202−9910.

How to file a Part D Appeal

A Part D appeal can be filed within 60 calendar days after the date of the Coverage Determination decision, if unfavorable. Cigna HealthSpring will ask for a statement and select medical records from the prescriber if a customer requests a Part D appeal. For an expedited appeal, Cigna HealthSpring will provide a decision no later than seventy-two (72) hours after receiving the appeal, and for a standard appeal, the timeframe is seven (7) days. If the request is regarding payment for a prescription drug the customer already received, an expedited appeal is not permitted.

Part D Appeals may be received orally or in writing from the customer’s prescribing physicians by calling 1-866-845-6962 or fax 1-866-593-4482. The mailing address is: Part D Appeals, PO Box 24207 Nashville, TN 37202−9910.

PHARMACY QUALITY PROGRAMS

Narcotic Case Management

Customers with potential overutilization or inappropriate utilization of narcotics are identified based on approved criteria and reports are produced monthly. Customers with at least three (3) controlled opioid pharmacy claims, four (4) different prescribers, four (4) different pharmacies and 120mg MED (morphine-equivalent dose) for 90 consecutive days within the reporting period of 120 days are included for case management. Any individual with cancer or on hospice care is excluded from the program. The Cigna HealthSpring Clinical staff review claims data and consensus must be reached by the prescribers if intervention is deemed appropriate, the case manager will send written notification to all prescribers by fax requesting information pertaining to the medical necessity of the current narcotic regimen. Cigna HealthSpring will reach out to discuss the case and consensus must be reached by the prescribers if action is required. In the most severe cases, to assist with control of overutilization, point-of-sale edits may be implemented if the prescriber desires.

Medication Therapy Management

Medication Therapy Management (MTM)-eligible customers are offered a comprehensive medication review (CMR) annually. In the welcome letters sent to the eligible customers, Cigna HealthSpring encourages each customer to call to complete their CMR before their annual comprehensive visit with their primary care provider so the customer can take their medication list to the appointment. After the completion of the CMR,
any potential drug therapy problems (DTPs) that are identified are sent to the prescribing provider and/or primary care provider by mail or fax. Along with DTPs, the provider also receives a list of the customer’s prescription history through the previous 6 months. If the customer has any questions or comments about the DTP recommendations a fax and phone number is provided for follow up. In addition to the CMR, providers may also receive targeted medication reviews (TMRs) quarterly. The TMRs are completed electronically to look for specific DTPs. If any DTPs are identified, a letter may be mailed or faxed to the provider.

**Drug Utilization Review**

Cigna-HealthSpring completes a monthly review of drug utilization data in order to determine the effectiveness, potential dangers and/or interactions of the medication(s). Retrospective Drug Utilization Review (rDUR) evaluates past data and Concurrent Drug Utilization Review (cDUR) ensures that a review of the prescribed drug therapy is performed before each prescription is dispensed, typically at the point-of-sale or point of distribution. Cigna-HealthSpring tracks and trends all drug utilization data on a regular basis to enable clinical staff to determine when some type of intervention may be warranted. Targeted providers and/or customers will receive information regarding quality initiatives by mail. Current Retrospective Drug Utilization Review (rDUR) studies that may be communicated to customers or providers include:

- Overutilization of medications (≥10 drug prescriptions per month).
- Failure to refill prescribed medications.
- Drug to drug interactions.
- Therapeutic duplication of certain drug classes.
- Narcotic safety including potential abuse or misuse.
- Use of medications classified as High Risk for use in the older population.
- Customers with a probable diagnosis of Diabetes and Hypertension without a prescription for an ACE Inhibitor or ARB medication.
- Use of multiple antidepressants, antipsychotics, or insomnia agents concurrently.
- Multiple prescribers of the same class of psychotropic drug.
- Underutilization of certain drug classes as determined by failure to meet a PDC (Proportion of days covered) ≥ 80%.

Letters to customers will focus on the rationale for medication adherence and/ or the safety issues involved. Letters to providers will include the rationale of the particular concern being addressed and will include all claims data for the selected calendar period applicable to that initiative. From any initiative, if a provider indicates that they did not write a prescription that has been associated with them or that they were not providing care for the customer at the time the prescription under investigation was written please notify Cigna-HealthSpring using the contact information on the letter.

A multidisciplinary team develops and determines the direction of pharmacy quality initiatives and the initiatives come from a variety of sources, including but not limited to, claims data analysis, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance, Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA) notifications, drug studies, and publications.

**FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE**

**2015 Part D Program Changes**

In order to protect Medicare trust funds from fraud, waste and abuse, to ensure Part D drugs are prescribed only by qualified suppliers, and to follow the recommendations from the Office of Inspector General (OIG); the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed changes to the Medicare participation requirements related to Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) certification of registration.

The DEA implements and enforces the Controlled Substances Act (CSA). The CSA makes possession of authority under state law to dispense controlled substances a requirement for both obtaining and maintaining a DEA certificate of registration. CMS equates a DEA certificate of registration to prescribe controlled substances as similar to a state’s requirement that a physician or eligible professional be licensed or certified by the state to furnish health care services.

To ensure additional controls are in place to protect the Medicare trust funds from any fraud, waste and abuse the following changes were finalized:

- Granting CMS the authority to deny a physician or eligible professional’s Medicare enrollment application if: (1) his or her DEA certificate is currently suspended or revoked; or (2) the applicable licensing or administrative body for any state in which the physician or eligible professional’s ability to prescribe drugs, and such suspension or revocation is in effect on the date he or she submits his or her enrollment application to the Medicare contractor.
- Granting CMS the authority to revoke a physician or eligible professional’s Medicare enrollment if: (1) his or her DEA certificate is suspended or revoked; or (2) the applicable licensing or administrative body for any state in which the
physician or eligible professional practices suspends or revokes his or her ability to prescribe drugs.

CMS considers the loss of the ability to prescribe drugs, via a suspension or revocation of a DEA certificate or by state action, a clear indicator that a physician or eligible professional may be misusing or abusing his or her authority to prescribe such substances. These changes are consistent with the CMS requirement that suppliers maintain compliance with all applicable licensure and certification requirements.

CIGNA HOME DELIVERY PHARMACY

One of the most important ways to improve the health of your patients is to make sure they receive and take their medications as you prescribe. Cigna Home Delivery Pharmacy can help. Our customers have 20% higher adherence rates when compared to those who use retail pharmacies alone. We send a three month supply in one fill making it easier for your patient by only having to fill four times a year – many times at a lower cost. Lastly, our customers have access to our QuickFill service which sends automatic reminders via email, phone or SMS text message making it easier for patients to refill their prescriptions so they don’t miss a dose. Talk to your patients today about Cigna Home Delivery Pharmacy for better health and health care spending. Doctors and staff can reach us at 1-800-285-4812 (option 3).

1 Cigna Analysis, 2011

QUALITY CARE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Mission Statement

Cigna-HealthSpring is dedicated to improving the health of the community we serve by delivering the highest quality and greatest value in health care benefits and services.

Values

- **Integrity** - We always conduct ourselves in a professional and ethical manner.
- **Respect** - We all have value and will treat others with dignity and esteem.
- **Team** - We recognize that employees are our main asset and encourage their continued development.
- **Communications** - We encourage the free exchange of thoughts and ideas.
- **Balance** - We manage both our personal and company priorities.
- **Excellence** - We continuously strive to exceed our customers’ expectations.
- **Prudence** - We always use the company’s financial resources wisely.

Quality Principles

Cigna-HealthSpring shall apply the guiding values described above to its oversight and operation of its system and:

- Provide services that are clinically driven, cost effective and outcome oriented.
- Provide services that are culturally informed, sensitive and responsive.
- Provide services that enable customers to live in the least restrictive, most integrated community setting appropriate to meet their health care needs.
- Ensure that guidelines and criteria are based on professional standards and evidence-based practices that are adapted to account for regional, rural and urban differences.
- Foster an environment of quality of care and service within Cigna-HealthSpring, the Senior Segment of Cigna and through our provider partners.
- Promote customer safety as an over-riding consideration in decision-making.

The Quality Improvement program provides guidance for the management and coordination of all quality improvement and quality management activities throughout the Cigna-HealthSpring organization, its affiliates, and delegated entities.

The program describes the processes and resources to continuously monitor, evaluate and improve the clinical care and service provided to enrollees for both their physical and behavioral health. The program also defines the health plan’s methodology for identifying improvement opportunities and for developing and implementing initiatives to impact opportunities identified.

The scope of the program includes:

- All aspects of physical and behavioral care including accessibility, availability, level of care, continuity, appropriateness, timeliness and clinical effectiveness of care and services provided through Cigna-HealthSpring and contracted providers and organization.
- All aspects of provider performance relating to access to care, quality of care including provider credentialing, confidentiality, medical record keeping and fiscal and billing activities.
- All services covered.
- All professional and institutional care in all settings including hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, outpatient and home health.
- All providers and any delegated or subcontracted providers.
• Management of behavioral health care and substance abuse care and services.
• Aspects of Cigna-HealthSpring internal administrative processes which are related to service and quality of care including credentialing, quality improvement, pharmacy, health education, health risk assessments, clinical guidelines, utilization management, customer safety, case management, disease management, special needs, complaints, grievances and appeals, customer service, provider network, provider education, medical records, customer outreach, claims payment and information systems.

**Quality Management Program Goals**

The primary objective of the Quality Improvement program is to promote and build quality into the organizational structure and processes to meet the organization’s mission of improving the health of the community we serve by delivering the highest quality and greatest value in health care benefits and services. The goals the organization has established to meet this objective are:

- Maintain an effective quality committee structure that:
  - Fosters communication across the enterprise;
  - Collaboratively works towards achievement of established goals;
  - Monitors progress of improvement efforts to established goals;
  - And, provides the necessary oversight and leadership reporting.
- Ensure patient care and service is provided according to established goals and metrics.
- Ensure identification and analysis of opportunities for improvement with implementation of actions and follow-up as needed.
- Promote consistency in quality program activities.
- Ensure the QI program is sufficiently organizationally separate from the fiscal and administrative management to ensure that fiscal and administrative management does not unduly influence decision-making regarding organizational determinations and/or appeals of adverse determinations of covered benefits.
- Assure timely access to and availability of safe and appropriate physical and behavioral health services for the population served by Cigna-HealthSpring.
- Promote the use of evidence-based practices and care guidelines.
- Improve the ability of all Cigna-HealthSpring staff to apply quality methodology through a program of education, training, and mentoring.
- Establish a rigorous delegation oversight process.
- Ensure adequate infrastructure and resources to support the Quality Improvement program.
- Assure provider involvement in maintaining and improving the health of Cigna-HealthSpring customers, through a comprehensive provider partnership.

**CORPORATE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (CQIC)**

The CQIC has oversight authority for Quality Improvement activities across the organization and is responsible for ensuring the development and implementation of Cigna-HealthSpring’s QI program Description, the Annual QI/UM/CM Work Plans, review and approval of Health Service Policies; monitoring credentialing, delegation oversight, customer appeal activity, and reviewing clinical and service quality initiatives. To monitor and facilitate implementation of the QI program, the CQIC has established appropriate subcommittees that provide oversight of the functions and activities within the scope of the organization’s Quality Improvement program. The CQIC may also appoint and convene ad hoc work groups as indicated.

**CORPORATE COMPLIANCE PROGRAM**

**Overview**

The purpose of Cigna-HealthSpring’s corporate compliance program is to articulate Cigna-HealthSpring’s commitment to compliance. It also serves to encourage our employees, contractors, and other interested parties to develop a better understanding of the laws and regulations that govern Cigna-HealthSpring’s operations. Further, Cigna-HealthSpring’s corporate compliance program also ensures that all practices and programs are conducted in compliance with those applicable laws and regulations.

Cigna-HealthSpring and its subsidiaries are committed to full compliance with federal and state regulatory requirements applicable to our Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D lines of business. Noncompliance with regulatory standards undermines Cigna-HealthSpring’s business reputation and credibility with the federal and state governments, subcontractors, pharmacies, providers, and most importantly, its customers. Cigna-HealthSpring and its...
employees are also committed to meeting all contractual obligations set forth in Cigna-HealthSpring's contracts with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). These contracts allow Cigna-HealthSpring to offer Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D products and services to Medicare beneficiaries.

The corporate compliance program is designed to prevent violations of federal and state laws governing Cigna-HealthSpring’s lines of business, including but not limited to, health care fraud and abuse laws. In the event such violations occur, the Corporate Compliance program will promote early and accurate detection, prompt resolution, and, when necessary, disclosure to the appropriate governmental authorities.

Cigna-HealthSpring has in place policies and procedures for coordinating and cooperating with MEDIC (Medicare Drug Integrity Contractor), CMS, state regulatory agencies, Congressional Offices, and law enforcement. Cigna-HealthSpring also has policies that delineate that Cigna-HealthSpring will cooperate with any audits conducted by CMS, MEDIC or law enforcement or their designees.

**Fraud, Waste, and Abuse**

Cigna-HealthSpring has policies and procedures to identify fraud, waste, and abuse in its network, as well as other processes to identify overpayments within its network to properly recover such overpayments. These procedures allow us to report potential fraud or misconduct related to the Medicare program to the appropriate government authority as specified at 42 C.F.R. § 422.503(b)(4)(vi) and 42 C.F.R. § 423.504(b)(4)(vi), and Cigna-HealthSpring has policies and procedures in place for cooperating with CMS and law enforcement entities.

The evaluation and detection of fraudulent and abusive practices by Cigna-HealthSpring encompasses all aspects of Cigna-HealthSpring’s business and its business relationship with third parties, including health care providers and customers. All employees, contractors, and other parties are required to report compliance concerns and suspected or actual misconduct without fear of retaliation for reports made in good faith.

**Reports may be filed in the following manner:**

To report suspected or detected Medicare program non-compliance please contact Cigna-HealthSpring’s Compliance Department at:

- **Cigna-HealthSpring**  
  Attn: Compliance Department  
  PO Box 20002  
  Nashville, TN 37202  

To report potential fraud, waste, or abuse please contact Cigna-HealthSpring’s Benefit Integrity Unit at:

- By mail:
  - **Cigna-HealthSpring**  
    Attn: Benefit Integrity Unit  
    500 Great Circle Road  
    Nashville, TN 37228

- By phone:
  - **1-800-230-6138**  
    Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST

All such communications will be kept as confidential as possible but there may be times when the reporting individual’s identity may become known or need to be disclosed to meet requirements of any governmental review actions. Any employee, contractor, or other party that reports compliance concerns in good faith can do so without fear of retaliation.

In addition, as part of an ongoing effort to improve the delivery and affordability of health care to our customers, Cigna-HealthSpring conducts periodic analysis of all levels of Current Procedural Terminology (CPT), ICD-9 and HCPCS, codes billed by our providers. The analysis allows Cigna-HealthSpring to comply with its regulatory requirements for the prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse (FWA), and to supply our providers with useful information to meet their own compliance needs in this area. Cigna-HealthSpring will review your coding and may review medical records of providers who continue to show significant variance from their peers. Cigna-HealthSpring endeavors to ensure compliance and enhance the quality of claims data, a benefit to both Cigna-HealthSpring’s medical management efforts and our provider community. As a result, you may be contacted by Cigna-HealthSpring’s contracted partners to provide medical records to conduct reviews to substantiate coding and billing.

**In order to meet your FWA obligations, please take the following steps:**

Review and revise your coding policies and procedures for compliance and adherence to CMS guidelines necessary to ensure they are consistent with official coding standards.

Complete the mandatory online training at:


- Web-Based Training (WBT) course: Medicare Parts C and D Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Training and Medicare Parts C and D General Compliance Training.
You may request a copy of the Cigna-HealthSpring Compliance program document by contacting your Cigna-HealthSpring Provider Relationship Representative.

**MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

The terms and conditions herein are included to meet federal statutory and regulatory requirements of the federal Medicare Advantage program under Part C of Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (“Medicare Advantage Program”). Provider understands that the specific terms as set forth herein are subject to amendment in accordance with federal statutory and regulatory changes to the Medicare Advantage program. Such amendment shall not require the consent of provider or Cigna-HealthSpring and will be effective immediately on the effective date thereof.

1. **Books and Records; Governmental Audits and Inspections.** Provider shall permit the Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”), the Comptroller General, or their designees to inspect, evaluate and audit all books, records, contracts, documents, papers and accounts relating to provider’s performance of the Agreement and transactions related to the CMS Contract (collectively, “Records”). The right of HHS, the Comptroller General or their designees to inspect, evaluate and audit provider’s Records for any particular contract period under the CMS Contract shall exist for a period of ten (10) years from the later to occur of (i) the final date of the contract period for the CMS Contract or (ii) the date of completion of the immediately preceding audit (if any) (the “Audit Period”). Provider shall keep and maintain accurate and complete Records throughout the term of the Agreement and the Audit Period.

2. **Privacy and Confidentiality Safeguards.** Provider shall safeguard the privacy and confidentiality of customers and shall ensure the accuracy of the health records of customers. Provider shall comply with all state and federal laws and regulations and administrative guidelines issued by CMS pertaining to the confidentiality, privacy, data security, data accuracy and/or transmission of personal, health, enrollment, financial and consumer information and/or medical records (including prescription records) of customers, including, but not limited to, the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Information promulgated pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

3. **Customer Hold Harmless.** Provider shall not, in any event (including, without limitation, non-payment by Cigna-HealthSpring or breach of the Agreement), bill, charge, collect a deposit from, seek compensation or remuneration or reimbursement from or hold responsible, in any respect, any customer for any amount(s) that Cigna-HealthSpring may owe to provider for services performed by provider under the Agreement. This provision shall not prohibit provider from collecting supplemental charges, copayments or deductibles specified in the benefit plans. Provider agrees that this provision shall be construed for the benefit of the customer and shall survive expiration, non-renewal or termination of the Agreement regardless of the cause for termination.

4. **Delegation of Activities or Responsibilities.** To the extent activities or responsibilities under a CMS Contract are delegated to provider pursuant to the Agreement (“Delegated Activities”), provider agrees that (i) the performance of the Delegated Activities and responsibilities thereof shall be subject to monitoring on an ongoing basis by Cigna-HealthSpring; and (ii) in the event that the Cigna-HealthSpring or CMS determine that provider has not satisfactorily performed any Delegated Activity or responsibility thereof in accordance with the CMS Contract, applicable state and/or federal laws and regulations and CMS instructions, then Cigna-HealthSpring shall have the right, at any time, to revoke the Delegated Activities by terminating the Agreement in whole or in part, and shall have the right to institute corrective action plans or seek other remedies or curative measures as contemplated by the Agreement. Provider shall not further delegate any activities or requirements without the prior written consent of Cigna HealthSpring. To the extent that the Delegated Activities include professional credentialing services, provider agrees that the credentials of medical professionals affiliated or contracted with provider will either be (i) directly reviewed by Cigna-HealthSpring, or (ii) provider’s credentialing process will be reviewed and approved by Cigna-HealthSpring and Cigna-HealthSpring shall audit provider’s credentialing process on an ongoing basis. Provider acknowledges that Cigna-HealthSpring retains the right to approve, suspend or terminate any medical professionals, as well as any arrangement regarding the credentialing of medical professionals. In addition, provider understands and agrees that Cigna-HealthSpring maintains ultimate accountability under its Medicare Advantage contract with CMS. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to in any way limit
Cigna-HealthSpring’s authority or responsibility to comply with applicable regulatory requirements.

5. **Prompt Payment.** Cigna-HealthSpring agrees to pay provider in compliance with applicable state or federal law following its receipt of a “clean claim” for services provided to Cigna-HealthSpring customers. For purposes of this provision, a clean claim shall mean a claim for provider services that has no defect or impropriety requiring special treatment that prevents timely payment by Cigna-HealthSpring.

6. **Compliance with Cigna-HealthSpring’s Obligations, Provider Manual, Policies and Procedures.** Provider shall perform all services under the Agreement in a manner that is consistent and compliant with Cigna-HealthSpring’s contract(s) with CMS (the “CMS Contract”). Additionally, provider agrees to comply with the Cigna-HealthSpring Provider Manual and all policies and procedures relating to the benefit plans.

7. **Subcontracting.** Cigna-HealthSpring maintains ultimate accountability for adhering to and otherwise fully complying with all terms and conditions of its contract with CMS. Provider shall not subcontract for the performance of Covered Services under this Agreement without the prior written consent of Cigna-HealthSpring. Every subcontract between provider and a subcontractor shall (i) be in writing and comply with all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations; (ii) be consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement; (iii) contain Cigna-HealthSpring and customer hold harmless language as set forth in Section 3 hereof; (iv) contain a provision allowing Cigna-HealthSpring and/or its designee access to such subcontractor’s books and records as necessary to verify the nature and extent of the Covered Services furnished and the payment provided by provider to subcontractor under such subcontract; and (v) be terminable with respect to customers or benefit plans upon request of Cigna-HealthSpring.

8. **Compliance with Laws.** Provider shall comply with all state and federal laws, regulations and instructions applicable to provider’s performance of services under the Agreement. Provider shall maintain all licenses, permits and qualifications required under applicable laws and regulations for provider to perform the services under the Agreement. Without limiting the above, Provider shall comply with federal laws designed to prevent or ameliorate fraud, waste and abuse, including but not limited to applicable provisions of federal criminal law, the False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. 3729 et. seq.) and the anti-kickback statute (section 1128B(b) of the Social Security Act).

9. **Program Integrity.** Provider represents and warrants that provider (or any of its staff) is not and has not been (i) sanctioned under or listed as debarred, excluded or otherwise ineligible for participation in the Medicare program or any federal program involving the provision of health care or prescription drug services, or (ii) criminally convicted or has a civil judgment entered against it for fraudulent activities. Provider shall notify Cigna-HealthSpring immediately if, at any time during the term of the Agreement, provider (or any of its staff) is (i) sanctioned under or listed as debarred, excluded or otherwise ineligible for participation in the Medicare program or any federal program involving the provision of health care or prescription drug services, or (ii) criminally convicted or has a civil judgment entered against it for fraudulent activities. Provider acknowledges that provider’s participation in Cigna-HealthSpring shall be terminated if provider (or any of its staff) is debarred, excluded or otherwise ineligible for participation in the Medicare program or any federal program involving the provision of health care or prescription drug services.

10. **Continuation of Benefits.** Provider shall continue to provide services under the Agreement to customers in the event of (i) Cigna-HealthSpring’s insolvency, (ii) Cigna-HealthSpring’s discontinuation of operations or (iii) termination of the CMS Contract, throughout the period for which CMS payments have been made to Cigna-HealthSpring, and, to the extent applicable, for customers who are hospitalized, until such time as the customer is appropriately discharged.

11. **Incorporation of Other Legal Requirements.** Any provisions now or hereafter required to be included in the Agreement by applicable federal and/or state laws and regulations or by CMS shall be binding upon and enforceable against the parties to the Agreement and be deemed incorporated herein, irrespective of whether or not such provisions are expressly set forth in this Manual or elsewhere in your Agreement.

12. **Conflicts.** In the event of a conflict between any specific provision of your Agreement and any specific provision of the Manual, the specific provisions of this Manual shall control.
DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any controversy, dispute or claim arising out of or relating to your Provider Agreement (“Agreement”) or the breach thereof, including any question regarding its interpretation, existence, validity or termination, that cannot be resolved informally, shall be resolved by arbitration in accordance with this Section, provided however that a legal proceeding brought by a third party against Cigna-HealthSpring, an Affiliate, provider, or any provider (“Defendant”), any cross-claim or third party claim by such Defendant against Cigna-HealthSpring, an Affiliate, provider, or any provider Facility shall not be subject to arbitration. In the event arbitration becomes necessary, such arbitration shall be initiated by either Party making a written demand for arbitration on the other Party. The arbitration shall be conducted in the county were the majority of the services are performed, in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association, as they are in effect when the arbitration is conducted, and by an arbitrator knowledgeable in the health care industry. The Parties agree to be bound by the decision of the arbitrator. The Parties further agree that the costs, fees and expenses of arbitration will be borne by the non-prevailing party. Notwithstanding this Agreement to arbitrate, Cigna-HealthSpring, an Affiliate, provider, or any provider Facility may seek interim and/or permanent injunctive relief pursuant to this Agreement in the county were the majority of the services are performed in any court of competent jurisdiction. With respect to disputes arising during the life of this Agreement, this Section shall survive the termination or expiration of the Agreement.
All Cigna products and services are provided exclusively by or through operating subsidiaries of Cigna Corporation, including Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company. The Cigna name, logos, and other Cigna marks are owned by Cigna Intellectual Property, Inc. © 2014 Cigna
TEXAS AND SOUTHWESTERN ARKANSAS
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION LIST
FOR DATES OF SERVICE ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2015

Prior Authorization (PA) Requirements
This Cigna-HealthSpring Prior Authorization list supersedes any lists that have been previously distributed or published—older lists are to be replaced with the latest version.

Cigna-HealthSpring Prior Authorization (PA) Policy
PCP’s or referring health care professionals should OBTAIN Prior Authorization BEFORE services requiring Prior Authorizations are rendered. Prior Authorizations may be obtained via HealthSpring Connect (HSC) or as otherwise indicated in the Health Services section of the 2015 Provider Manual. Please see the HealthSpring Connect section of the provider manual for an overview of the HSC portal capabilities and instructions for obtaining access.

Rendering providers should VERIFY that a Prior Authorization has been granted BEFORE any service requiring a Prior Authorization is rendered. Prior Authorizations may be verified via HealthSpring Connect (HSC) or as otherwise indicated in the Health Services section of the Provider Manual.

IMPORTANT – Prior Authorization and/or Referral Number(s) is/are not a guarantee of benefits or payment at the time of service. Remember, benefits will vary between plans, so always verify benefits.

Cigna-HealthSpring Referral Policy
Cigna-HealthSpring values the PCP’s role in directing the care of customers to the appropriate, participating health care professionals. Participating specialists are contracted to work closely with our referring PCPs to enhance the quality and continuity of care provided to Cigna-HealthSpring customers.

Although a Prior Authorization may not be required for certain services, a REFERRAL from a PCP to a Specialist MUST BE in place. The Referral should indicate PCP approved for a consultation only or for consultation and treatment, including the number of PCP approved visits.

Refer to the online directory at www.cignahealthspring.com or contact Provider Services, toll-free phone: (800) 230-6138 to locate an in-network health care professional or facility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedures/Services</th>
<th>PA Required</th>
<th>PA Not Required</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Admissions          | X           |                 | Admissions include:  
|                     |             |                 | • Inpatient Medical and Behavioral Health Admissions  
|                     |             |                 | • Inpatient Observation  
|                     |             |                 | • Inpatient Rehabilitation  
|                     |             |                 | • Skilled Nursing Facility  
|                     |             |                 | • LTAC  
|                     |             |                 | • Intermediate Care Facility/Assisted Living  
<p>| Allergy Injections without a MD visit | X | | No authorization required with a specialist referral |
| Allergy Serum and Testing |             | X | |  |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedures/Services</th>
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<td>Ambulance (Air or Ground)</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>See Comments</em></td>
<td><strong>Non-Emergent Transports and Facility to Home Transports:</strong>  &lt;br&gt; Prior authorization <strong>required</strong>  &lt;br&gt; <strong>Facility to Facility Transports:</strong>  &lt;br&gt; Prior authorization <strong>not required</strong>  &lt;br&gt; <strong>Emergent Transports:</strong>  &lt;br&gt; Prior authorization <strong>not required</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amniocentesis</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angioplasty/Cardiac Catheterization/ Stents (cardiac and renal)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arteriogram/Angiogram</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audiogram</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biopsy</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Services (Outpatient)</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone Density Study</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast Prosthesis (inserts)</td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>CMS limits coverage to one prosthesis every other year with appropriate coding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronchoscopy</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac Monitoring</td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>Any duration; placed on patient in any location (office, hospital, outpatient, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac Rehab</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td>Only covered for specific conditions under Medicare guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac Testing</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardioversion</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemotherapy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Initial treatment only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiropractic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Only covered for specific conditions under Medicare guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corticosteroid Injections</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT Scans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Requests for authorization should be directed to MedSolutions for approval</strong>  &lt;br&gt; <a href="http://www.medsolutionsonline.com">www.medsolutionsonline.com</a> or 888-693-3211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetic Shoes and Inserts</td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prior authorization required under Part B benefit for non-preferred products or when quantity limits are exceeded for preferred products.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetic Supplies and Monitors</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doppler/Duplex Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>X</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durable Medical Equipment (DME)</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>See Comments</em></td>
<td><strong>Prior Authorization is required for:</strong>  &lt;br&gt;  • All rental DME  &lt;br&gt;  • Purchased DME <strong>per contract rates, per line item greater than $500</strong>; certain items require prior authorization regardless of price  &lt;br&gt;  • All supplies <strong>per contract rates, per line item greater than $500</strong>  &lt;br&gt;  • All repairs to DME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procedures/Services</td>
<td>PA Required</td>
<td>PA Not Required</td>
<td>Comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Echocardiogram (ECG)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transthoracic Echo (TTE)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transesophageal Echo (TEE)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Stress Echo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrocardiogram (EKG)</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electroencephalogram (EEG)</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electromyography (EMG)</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrophysiology (EP)</td>
<td></td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>Includes diabetic education, nutritional counseling, and smoking cessation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endoscopy</td>
<td></td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetic Testing/Molecular Diagnostics/Pharmocogenetic Testing</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>Only covered under certain conditions under Medicare guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing Aid</td>
<td></td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>Some plans provide limited hearing aid benefit; see Customer Evidence of Coverage (EOC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemodialysis</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Health Services</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Infusion</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interventional Radiology</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab work</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>Must use contracted provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRA (all modalities)</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRI (all modalities)</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myelogram</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear Cardiac Studies</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear Radiology Studies</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior Authorization is required for:</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Whole body nuclear bone scans</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Thyroid Uptake Studies</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Gastric Emptying Study</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• HIDA Scan</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• DEXA Scan</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• VQ Scan</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Parathyroid Scan</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthotics</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient Observation</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient Surgical Procedures</td>
<td>☑️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revised 10/17/2014
MedSolutions Diagnostic Imaging Management Program will apply to membership in the following regions: ARFS, ARKL, DOC, EPIC, HOPE, INDT, LVPA, NTXH, NTXP, OKLA, SWTX, TXAR excluding HUM_PFFS/LPPO within TXAR, VIP. The program may or may not apply to IPA membership; please refer to your IPA directory for additional information.

1. DME requiring prior authorization regardless of price – chest wall oscillation vest, conductive garment for TENS or NMES, cough stimulating device, cuirass chest shell, external defibrillator, gel pressure pad or non-powered pressure overlay for mattress, hydrocollator portable unit, implantable infusion pump, incontinent treatment system, pelvic floor stimulator, jaw motion rehab system, manual and power wheelchair cushions and accessories, osteogenesis stimulator, pneumatic compression device and/or any appliance to use with it, powered wheelchair or scooter, seat lift mechanism, shoulder flexion rotation device, speech generating device, TENS device, traction equipment

2. Part B prior authorization list and request form is available on the Cigna-HealthSpring health care professional website. Medicare Part B drugs may be administered and a backdated prior authorization obtained in cases of emergency. Definition of emergency services is in accordance with the provider manual

### Procedures/Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedures/Services</th>
<th>PA Required</th>
<th>PA Not Required</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxygen Equipment</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part B - Outpatient Biologicals/Drugs</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td>See Comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peritoneal/Home Dialysis</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapy</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podiatry</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positron Emission Tomography (PET)</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventive Screenings</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosthetics</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td>See Comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulmonary Rehab</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiation Therapy</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Therapy</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td>See Comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleep Study</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty Services</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech Therapy</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ultrasound</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wound Care (Physician Office or Outpatient Wound Center)</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X-ray</td>
<td>![Checkmark]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comments**

- **Part B prior authorization list and request form** is available on the Cigna-HealthSpring health care professional website. Medicare Part B drugs may be administered and a backdated prior authorization obtained in cases of emergency. Definition of emergency services is in accordance with the provider manual.

- **Requests for authorization should be directed to MedSolutions for approval** at [www.medsolutionsonline.com](http://www.medsolutionsonline.com) or 888-693-3211.

- **Include mammogram, pap test, colonoscopy, flu and pneumonia vaccines, bone density, glaucoma screening**

- **Prior Authorization is required for**:
  - Purchased Prosthetics per contract rates, per line item, greater than $500
  - All repairs to Prosthetics

- **Prior Authorization only required for IMRT, Gamma knife, Cyber knife, and Selective Internal Radiation Therapy (SIRT)**

- **Prior Authorization required for in home**
  - Prior Authorization not required for in hospital or outpatient setting

1. MedSolutions Diagnostic Imaging Management Program will apply to membership in the following regions: ARFS, ARKL, DOC, EPIC, HOPE, INDT, LVPA, NTXH, NTXP, OKLA, SWTX, TXAR excluding HUM_PFFS/LPPO within TXAR, VIP. The program may or may not apply to IPA membership; please refer to your IPA directory for additional information.

2. DME requiring prior authorization regardless of price – chest wall oscillation vest, conductive garment for TENS or NMES, cough stimulating device, cuirass chest shell, external defibrillator, gel pressure pad or non-powered pressure overlay for mattress, hydrocollator portable unit, implantable infusion pump, incontinent treatment system, pelvic floor stimulator, jaw motion rehab system, manual and power wheelchair cushions and accessories, osteogenesis stimulator, pneumatic compression device and/or any appliance to use with it, powered wheelchair or scooter, seat lift mechanism, shoulder flexion rotation device, speech generating device, TENS device, traction equipment.
Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) and Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) Now Available!

As changing market dynamics continue to increase the pressure to maximize revenue and profit, providers and health care systems are searching for ways to reduce costs while increasing efficiency across the revenue cycle. To that end, we are pleased to announce that Cigna-HealthSpring® has partnered with Emdeon to deliver ePayment services, consisting of electronic remittance advice (ERA) transactions and electronic funds transfer (EFT) services.

You can now receive HIPAA-compliant 835 ERA files via the Emdeon Direct Connect clearinghouse channel, existing vendor channel, or Emdeon Payment Manager Deluxe. Providers who are able to automatically post 835 remittance data will save posting time and eliminate keying errors by taking advantage of 835 ERA file service.

EFT is an electronic payment method (versus paper check) that directly deposits funds, which can improve and transform your reimbursement process. It allows for faster reimbursement, payments are distributed more securely by virtually eliminating lost check payments, and cash flow is accelerated.

If you sign up for EFT, you will automatically be enrolled to receive ERA as well.

Please see the following instructions if you would like to enroll for ERAs or EFT.

ERA Enrollment Process

• Download Emdeon Provider ERA Enrollment Form at the following location:
  http://www.emdeon.com/resourcepdfs/ERAPSF.pdf
• Complete and submit ERA Enrollment Form via Email or Fax to Emdeon ERA Group:
  > Email: batchenrollment@emdeon.com
  > Fax: 1-615-885-3713
• Any questions related to ERA Enrollment or the ERA process in general, please call Emdeon ePayment Solutions at 1-866-506-2830 for assistance.

NOTE: ERA enrollment for all Cigna-HealthSpring health plans must be enrolled under Cigna-HealthSpring Payer ID “52192”.

EFT Enrollment Process

If you are already enrolled with Emdeon for EFT:

• Complete the EFT payer add change delete authorization form at http://www.emdeon.com/epayment/enrollment/EFTPCF.php
• Under the change/add/delete section, the first two columns use the Cigna-HealthSpring information (52192 and Cigna-HealthSpring)
• The last two columns will be your information
• The document can be submitted electronically with eSign located at bottom of form window.

If you are not enrolled with Emdeon for EFT, there are two methods to enroll for EFT:

• Emdeon ePayment Enrollment Form: http://www.emdeon.com/epayment/enrollment/enrollform.php
• Emdeon ePayment Enrollment Wizard Online: http://www.emdeon.com/eft/index.php

Any questions related to EFT and/or ERA Enrollment or the EFT and ERA process in general, please call Emdeon ePaymentSolutions at 1-866-506-2830 for assistance.
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES QUICK FACTS AND PHONE GUIDE

Cigna-HealthSpring is committed to providing our customers with the highest quality and greatest value in health care benefits and services. Managing the behavioral health benefits of our customers allows Cigna-HealthSpring the opportunity to demonstrate this commitment by recognizing overall needs and providing better care.

Cigna-HealthSpring will continue to offer the outpatient services listed below without the requirement of a prior authorization. Any service not listed will continue to utilize the standard authorization process.

### Services Requiring No Authorization by Participating Provider

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT Code</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>Report with Psychotherapy Add-On Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90791</td>
<td>Psychiatric diagnostic evaluation (no medical services)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90792</td>
<td>Psychiatric diagnostic evaluation with medical services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99201-99205</td>
<td>New Patient Visit (10-60 min)</td>
<td>90833-30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99211-99215</td>
<td>Established Patient (5-25 min)</td>
<td>90836-45 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99304-99306</td>
<td>New Patient Visit (10-45 min)</td>
<td>90838-60 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99307-99310</td>
<td>Established Patient (10-35 min)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90832</td>
<td>Psychotherapy (30 min)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90834</td>
<td>Psychotherapy (45 min)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90837</td>
<td>Psychotherapy (60 min)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90846</td>
<td>Family Psychotherapy (without patient present)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90847</td>
<td>Family Psychotherapy (with patient present)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3014</td>
<td>Telehealth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FUNCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHONE/ADDRESS</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800-230-6138</td>
<td>Verification of coverage and benefits; for facility admissions and other facility services, consult the Common Working File if member does present ID card.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>866-780-8546</td>
<td>Prior authorization is required for services not listed above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>866-780-8546</td>
<td>Notification is required within 24 hours of admissions; clinical staff available 24 hrs a day/7 days a week to assist with notifications and precertification.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cigna-HealthSpring Claims Dept  
P.O. Box 981706  
El Paso, TX 79998-1706

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payor ID #52192</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHONE/ADDRESS</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800-230-6138</td>
<td>Access to on-line provider portal for verification of member eligibility, authorization, and claim payment review. Select Providers tab, then HSConnect to access portal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHONE/ADDRESS</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800-230-6138</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.cignahealthspring.com">www.cignahealthspring.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Complete the top section of this form completely and legibly. Check the box that most closely describes your appeal or reconsideration reason. Be sure to include any supporting documentation, as indicated below. Requests received without required information cannot be processed.

**Request for Appeal or Reconsideration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member Name (Last, First Mi)</th>
<th>Member HealthSpring ID#</th>
<th>Member Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAST, FIRST MI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Claim number</th>
<th>Provider Name/Contact name</th>
<th>Date of Service MM/DD/YYYY</th>
<th>Provider’s contact phone number with area code ( ) -</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reason for Appeal:**
- ☐ Medical Necessity
- ☐ Notification/Precertification
  - ☐ Include Precertification/Prior Authorization number
- ☐ Referral Denial
- ☐ Payer Policy

**Reason for Reconsideration:**
- ☐ Payment Issue
- ☐ Duplicate Claim
- ☐ Retraction of Payment
- ☐ Request for Medical Records
  - ☐ Include copy of letter/request received
- ☐ Request for Additional Information
  - ☐ Include copy of letter/request received
  - ☐ Provide missing or incomplete information
- ☐ Coding Dispute
- ☐ Timely Filing
  - ☐ RA, EOB, or other documentation of filing original claim
- ☐ Coordination of Benefits

**Submit Appeals to:**

Cigna-HealthSpring
Attn: Appeals Unit
PO Box 24087
Nashville, TN 37202
Phone: 1-800-511-6943
Fax: 1-800-931-0149
Secure Email: FAX- SOL@healthspring.com

**Submit Reconsiderations to:**

Cigna-HealthSpring
Attn: Reconsiderations
PO Box 20002
Nashville, TN 37202
Phone: 1-800-230-6138
Fax: 1-615-401-4642

If no additional documentation is required for your appeal or reconsideration request, fax in only this completed coversheet. You may use the space below to briefly describe your reason for appeal or reconsideration.

**Definitions:**
- **Payment Issue:** Was not paid in accordance with the negotiated terms
- **Coordination of Benefits:** Could not fully be processed until information from another insurer has been received
- **Duplicate Claim:** The original reason for denial was due to a duplicate claim
- **Medical Necessity:** Medical clinical review
- **Pre-Certification/Notification of Prior-Authorization or Reduced Payment:** Failure to notify or pre-authorize services or exceeding authorized limits
- **Payer Policy Clinical:** Incorrectly reimbursed because of the payer’s payment policy
- **Referral Denial:** Invalid or missing primary care physician (PCP) referral
- **Request for additional information:** Missing or incomplete information *reply via sender *
- **Request for Medical Records:** Please include copy of letter/request received
- **Retraction of Payment:** Retraction of full or partial payment
- **Timely Filing:** The claim whose original reason for denial was untimely filing
Targeted Case Management and Rehabilitative Services Request Form

| Date of Completion of CANS / ANSA |  |
| Dates of Service Requested |  |
| Member Name |  |
| Medicaid Identification Number |  |
| Primary Diagnosis (if more than one primary diagnosis, enter up to 5 codes separated by commas) |  |
| Purpose of Form (specify if initial assessment LOC or re-assessment LOC) |  |

**Adult Clients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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Please indicate the recommended level of care generated from the CMBHS system.

Please indicate the provider requested level of care.

Request Approval for Deviation from Recommended Level of Care: If recommended level of care generated from the CMBHS system differs from the provider requested level of care, please provide an explanation in this space. Please attach the enrollee ANSA assessment to this request.

**Child / Adolescent Clients**

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Please indicate the recommended level of care generated from the CMBHS system.

Please indicate the provider requested level of care.

Request Approval for Deviation from Recommended Level of Care: If recommended level of care generated from the CMBHS system differs from the provider requested level of care, please provide an explanation in this space. Please attach the enrollee CANS assessment to this request.

Name of Person Completing Form

Phone & Fax Number of Person Completing Form

Name and Mailing Address of Provider Entity

Provider Entity National Provider Identifier (NPI)

Provider Entity Tax ID

Name of Targeted Case Manager

Targeted Case Manager Primary Phone Number
Advance Directive: Texas

Directive to Physicians and Family or Surrogates
Advance Directives Act (see §166.033, Health and Safety Code)

This is an important legal document known as an Advance Directive. It is designed to help you communicate your wishes about medical treatment at some time in the future when you are unable to make your wishes known because of illness or injury. These wishes are usually based on personal values. In particular, you may want to consider what burdens or hardships of treatment you would be willing to accept for a particular amount of benefit obtained if you were seriously ill.

You are encouraged to discuss your values and wishes with your family or chosen spokesperson, as well as your physician. Your physician, other health care provider, or medical institution may provide you with various resources to assist you in completing your advance directive. Brief definitions are listed below and may aid you in your discussions and advance planning. Initial the treatment choices that best reflect your personal preferences. Provide a copy of your directive to your physician, usual hospital, and family or spokesperson. Consider a periodic review of the document. By periodic review, you can best assure that the directive reflects your preferences.

In addition to this advance directive, Texas law provides for two other types of directives that can be important during a serious illness. These are the Medical Power of Attorney and the Out-of-Hospital Do-Not-Resuscitate Order. You may wish to discuss these with your physician, family, hospital representative, or other advisers. You may also wish to complete a directive related to the donation of organs and tissues.

Directive

I ____________________________________, recognize that the best health care is based upon a partnership of trust and communication with my physician. My physician and I will make health care decisions together as long as I am of sound mind and able to make my wishes known. If there comes a time that I am unable to make medical decisions about myself because of illness or injury, I direct that the following treatment preferences be honored:

If, in the judgement of my physician, I am suffering with a terminal condition from which I am expected to die within six months, even with available life-sustaining treatment provided in accordance with prevailing standards of medical care:

____ I request that all treatments other than those needed to keep me comfortable be discontinued or withheld and my physician allow me to die as gently as possible; OR

____ I request that I be kept alive in this terminal condition using available life-sustaining treatment. *(This selection does not apply to Hospice care.)*

If, in the judgement of my physician, I am suffering with an irreversible condition so that I cannot care for myself or make decisions for myself and am expected to die without life-sustaining treatment provided in accordance with prevailing standards of medical care:

____ I request that all treatments other than those needed to keep me comfortable be discontinued or withheld and my physician allow me to die as gently as possible; OR

____ I request that I be kept alive in this irreversible condition using available life-sustaining treatment. *(This selection does not apply to Hospice care.)*
Additional Requests: (After discussion with your physician, you may wish to consider listing particular treatments in this space that you do or do not want in specific circumstances, such as artificial nutrition and fluids, intravenous antibiotics, etc. Be sure to state whether you do or do not want the particular treatment.)

After signing this directive, if my representative or I elect hospice care, I understand and agree that only those treatments needed to keep me comfortable would be provided and I would not be given available life-sustaining treatments.

If I do not have a Medical Power of Attorney, and I am unable to make my wishes known, I designate the following person(s) to make treatment decisions with my physician compatible with my personal values:
1. 
2. 

(If a Medical Power of Attorney has been executed, then an agent already has been named and you should not list additional names in this document.)

If the above persons are not available, or if I have not designated a spokesperson, I understand that a spokesperson will be chosen for me, following standards specified in the laws of Texas.

If, in the judgement of my physician, my death is imminent within minutes to hours, even with the use of all available medical treatment provided within the prevailing standard of care, I acknowledge that all treatments may be withheld or removed except those needed to maintain my comfort. I understand that under Texas law this directive has no effect if I have been diagnosed as pregnant. This directive will remain in effect until I revoke it. No other person may do so.

Signed ________________________ Date ____________________
City, County and State of Residence ____________________________

Two witnesses must sign in the spaces below.

Two competent adult witnesses must sign below, acknowledging the signature of the declarant. The witness designated as Witness (1) may not be a person designated to make a treatment decision for the patient and may not be related to the declarant by blood or marriage. This witness may not be entitled to any part of the estate and may not have a claim against the estate of the patient. This witness may not be the attending physician or an employee of the attending physician. If this witness is an employee of a health care facility in which the patient is being cared for, this witness may not be involved in providing direct patient care to the patient. This witness may not be an officer, director, partner, or business office employee of a health care facility in which the patient is being cared for or of any parent organization of the health care facility.

Witness (1) ___________________________Witness (2) ___________________________
Definitions:

"Artificial nutrition and hydration" means the provision of nutrients or fluids by a tube inserted in a vein, under the skin in the subcutaneous tissues, or in the stomach (gastrointestinal tract).

"Irreversible condition" means a condition, injury, or illness:
   a. that may be treated, but is never cured;
   b. that leaves a person unable to care for or make decisions for the person's own self; and
   c. that, without life-sustaining treatment provided in accordance with the prevailing standard of medical care is fatal.

Explanation: Many serious illnesses such as cancer, failure of major organs (kidney, heart, liver, or lung), and serious brain disease such as Alzheimer's dementia may be considered irreversible early on. There is no cure, but the patient may be kept alive for prolonged periods of time if the patient receives life-sustaining treatments. Late in the course of the same illness, the disease may be considered terminal when, even with treatment, the patient is expected to die. You may wish to consider which burdens of treatment you would be willing to accept in an effort to achieve a particular outcome. This is a very personal decision that you may wish to discuss with your physician, family, or other important persons in your life.

"Life-sustaining treatment" means treatment that, based on reasonable medical judgement, sustains the life of a patient and without which the patient will die. The term includes both life-sustaining medications and artificial life support such as mechanical breathing machines, kidney dialysis treatment, and artificial hydration and nutrition. The term does not include the administration of pain management medication, the performance of a medical procedure necessary to provide comfort care, or any other medical care provided to alleviate a patient's pain.

"Terminal condition" means an incurable condition caused by injury, disease, or illness that according to reasonable medical judgement will produce death within six months, even with available life-sustaining treatment provided in accordance with the prevailing standard of medical care.

Explanation: Many serious illnesses may be considered irreversible early in the course of the illness, but they may not be considered terminal until the disease is fairly advanced. In thinking about terminal illness and its treatment, you again may wish to consider the relative benefits and burdens of treatment and discuss your wishes with your physician, family, or other important persons in your life.
Directiva a los médicos y a familiares o substitutos

Ley de Directivas Anticipadas (ver §166.033, del Código de Salud y Seguridad)

Éste es un documento legal importante conocido como Directiva Anticipada. Su función es ayudar a comunicar sus deseos relacionados con el tratamiento médico para un momento futuro cuando no esté en capacidad de hacer conocer sus deseos debido a una enfermedad o lesión. Estos deseos se basan generalmente en sus valores personales. En particular, querrá considerar qué nivel o dificultades de tratamiento está dispuesto a soportar a cambio del beneficio que obtendría en caso de estar gravemente enfermo.

Se le sugiere que hable sobre sus valores y deseos con su familia y con la persona escogida como su agente, lo mismo que con su doctor. El doctor, otro proveedor médico o una institución médica pueden ofrecerle algunos recursos para ayudarle a completar la directiva anticipada. A continuación se dan unas definiciones breves que le podrán ayudar en sus discusiones y en la planeación. Escriba sus iniciales al lado de las opciones de tratamiento que mejor reflejen sus preferencias personales. Deles una copia de su directiva a su doctor, a su hospital de costumbre, a sus parientes y a su agente. Haga una revisión periódica del documento. Mediante la revisión periódica, puede asegurar que la directiva refleje sus preferencias.

Además de esta directiva anticipada, la ley de Texas estipula otros dos tipos de directivas que pueden ser importantes en caso de una enfermedad grave. Estas son: el Poder médico y la Orden de no revivir fuera del hospital. Debe hablar sobre estos con el doctor, su familia, un representante del hospital o con otros consejeros. También es posible que desee llenar una directiva relacionada con la donación de órganos y tejidos.

Directiva

Yo, ________________________________, reconozco que la mejor atención médica se basa en una relación de confianza y comunicación con mi doctor. Juntos, mi doctor y yo tomaremos las decisiones médicas mientras yo esté en condiciones mentales de hacer conocer mis deseos. Si en algún momento yo no estoy en capacidad de tomar decisiones médicas respecto a mi salud debido a una enfermedad o lesión, ordeno que se respeten las siguientes preferencias respecto al tratamiento:

Si, a juicio de mi doctor, estoy padeciendo de una enfermedad terminal de la que se espera moriré dentro de los seis meses, incluso con tratamientos disponibles para prolongar la vida, suministrado de acuerdo con las normas actuales de atención médica:

___Yo pido que no me den o que me retiren todo tratamiento salvo aquellos necesarios para mantenerme cómodo, y que mi doctor me deje morir tan dignamente como sea posible; O

___Yo pido que me mantengan con vida en esta situación terminal usando los tratamientos disponibles para prolongar la vida. (Esta preferencia no se aplica al cuidado de hospicio).

Si, a juicio de mi doctor, estoy sufriendo de un padecimiento irreversible, que no permitirá que me atienda yo mismo ni que tome decisiones por mí mismo y se espera que moriré si no me suministran tratamientos para prolongar la vida de acuerdo con las normas actuales de atención médica:
Yo pido que no me den o me retiren todo tratamiento salvo aquellos necesarios para mantenerme cómodo, y que mi doctor me deje morir tan dignamente como sea posible; O

Yo pido que me mantengan con vida en esta situación irreversible usando tratamientos disponibles para prolongar la vida. (Esta preferencia no se aplica al cuidado de hospicio).

Peticiones adicionales: (Después de consultarle al doctor, usted querrá escribir algunos tratamientos en el espacio disponible que usted quiera o no quiera que se le den bajo circunstancias específicas, como la nutrición artificial y los líquidos, los antibióticos por vía intravenosa, etc. Asegúrese de anotar si quiere o no quiere el tratamiento en particular).

Después de firmar esta directiva, si mi representante o yo elegimos cuidado de hospicio, entiendo y estoy de acuerdo en que me den solamente aquellos tratamientos para mantenerme cómodo y que no me den los tratamientos disponibles para prolongar la vida.

Si no tengo un poder para la atención médica, y no puedo dar a conocer mis deseos, designo a las siguientes personas para que tomen decisiones con mi doctor que sean compatibles con mis valores personales:

1. ___________________________________

2. ___________________________________

(Si usted ya ha firmado un poder médico, entonces ya habrá nombrado a un agente y no deberá anotar otros nombres en este documento).

Si las personas nombradas antes no están disponibles, o si no hay un vocero designado, comprendo que se escogerá un vocero para mí, siguiendo las pautas especificadas por la ley de Texas.

Si, a juicio de mi doctor, mi muerte es inminente dentro de minutos u horas, a pesar de que me den todo tratamiento médico disponible suministrado dentro de las pautas de atención actuales, autorizo que no me den o que me retiren todo tratamiento salvo aquellos necesarios para mantenerme cómodo. Comprendo que bajo la ley de Texas esta directiva no tiene efecto si se ha diagnosticado que estoy embarazada. Esta directiva seguirá en efecto hasta que yo la revoque. Nadie más puede hacerlo.

Firmado_____________________________ Fecha________________

Ciudad, condado y estado de domicilio

________________________________________

Dos testigos tienen que firmar en los espacios siguientes.

Dos testigos adultos hábiles tienen que firmar a continuación, reconociendo la firma del declarante. El testigo designado Testigo (1) no puede ser una de las personas designadas para tomar decisiones relacionadas con el tratamiento para el paciente y no puede estar relacionado con el declarante por sangre o por matrimonio. Este testigo no puede tener derecho a ninguna parte de la sucesión y no puede tener un reclamo en contra de la sucesión del paciente. Este
testigo no puede ser el médico que lo atiende ni un empleado del médico que lo atiende. Si el testigo es empleado del centro de salud en el cual se cuida al paciente, este testigo no puede estar directamente involucrado en el suministro de atención al paciente. Este testigo no puede ser funcionario, director, socio o empleado de la oficina del centro de atención médica donde se atiende al paciente o de ninguna organización matriz del centro de atención médica.

Testigo (1)____________________________________

Testigo (2)____________________________________

Definiciones:
"Nutrición e hidratación artificial" quiere decir el suministro de nutrientes o líquidos mediante una sonda puesta en una vena, bajo la piel en los tejidos subcutáneos o en el estómago (tracto gastrointestinal).

"Padecimiento irreversible" quiere decir un padecimiento, lesión o enfermedad:
 a. que se puede tratar, pero que nunca sana;
 b. que deja a la persona incapaz de cuidarse o tomar decisiones por ella misma, y
 c. que sin el tratamiento para prolongar la vida, suministrado conforme con las normas actuales de atención médica, podría ser fatal.

Explicación: muchas enfermedades graves como el cáncer, la insuficiencia de cualquier órgano vital (el riñón, el corazón, el hígado o el pulmón) y una enfermedad del cerebro grave, como la demencia de Alzheimer, se pueden considerar irreversibles desde muy temprano. No hay curación, pero el paciente puede mantenerte con vida por periodos prolongados de tiempo si recibe tratamientos para prolongar la vida. Más tarde durante la misma enfermedad, ésta se puede considerar terminal cuando, incluso con tratamiento, se espera que el paciente muera. Usted deberá considerar qué niveles de tratamiento está dispuesto a soportar para lograr un resultado particular. Ésta es una decisión muy personal que usted deberá discutir con el doctor, la familia u otras personas importantes en su vida.

*Tratamiento para prolongar la vida" quiere decir un tratamiento que, a juicio médico, preserva la vida de un paciente y sin el cual el paciente moriría. El término se refiere a medicamentos para preservar la vida y a medios artificiales para mantener la vida como los respiradores mecánicos, el tratamiento de diálisis del riñón, la hidratación y la nutrición artificial. El término no se refiere a la administración de medicamentos para el dolor, la ejecución de un procedimiento quirúrgico necesario para suministrar comodidad ni ningún otro servicio médico ofrecido para aliviar el dolor del paciente.

"Padecimiento terminal" quiere decir una enfermedad incurable causada por lesión, enfermedad o dolencia que a juicio médico produciría la muerte dentro de unos seis meses, incluso con el tratamiento disponible para prolongar la vida suministrado de acuerdo con las normas de atención médica actuales.

Explicación: muchas enfermedades graves se pueden considerar irreversibles desde muy temprano en la evolución de la enfermedad, pero no se considera terminal hasta que la enfermedad ha avanzado bastante. Al pensar en una enfermedad terminal y su tratamiento, deberá considerar los beneficios y las dificultades relacionados con el tratamiento y discutirlos con el doctor, la familia u otras personas importantes en su vida.
OUT-OF-HOSPITAL DO-NOT-RESUSCITATE (OOH-DNR) ORDER
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

This document becomes effective immediately on the date of execution for health care professionals acting in out-of-hospital settings. It remains in effect until the person is pronounced dead by authorized medical or legal authority or the document is revoked. Comfort care will be given as needed.

A. Declaration of the adult person: I am competent and at least 18 years of age. I direct that none of the following resuscitation measures be initiated or continued for me: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), transcutaneous cardiac pacing, defibrillation, advanced airway management, artificial ventilation.

Person's signature
Date
Printed name

B. Declaration by legal guardian, agent or proxy on behalf of the adult person who is incompetent or otherwise incapable of communication:

I am the: ☐ legal guardian; ☐ agent in a Medical Power of Attorney; ☐ proxy in a directive to physicians of the above-noted person who is incompetent or otherwise mentally or physically incapable of communication.

Based upon the known desires of the person, or a determination of the best interest of the person, I direct that none of the following resuscitation measures be initiated or continued for the person: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), transcutaneous cardiac pacing, defibrillation, advanced airway management, artificial ventilation.

Signature
Date
Printed name

C. Declaration by a qualified relative of the adult person who is incompetent or otherwise incapable of communication: I am the above-noted person's:

☐ spouse, ☐ adult child, ☐ parent, OR ☐ nearest living relative, and I am qualified to make this treatment decision under Health and Safety Code §166.088.

To my knowledge the adult person is incompetent or otherwise mentally or physically incapable of communication and is without a legal guardian, agent or proxy. Based upon the known desires of the person or a determination of the best interests of the person, I direct that none of the following resuscitation measures be initiated or continued for the person: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), transcutaneous cardiac pacing, defibrillation, advanced airway management, artificial ventilation.

Signature
Date
Printed name

D. Declaration by physician based on directive to physicians by a person now incompetent or nonwritten communication to the physician by a competent person: I am the above-noted person's attending physician and have:

☐ seen evidence of his/her previously issued directive to physicians by the adult, now incompetent; OR ☐ observed his/her issuance before two witnesses of an OOH-DNR in a nonwritten manner.

I direct that none of the following resuscitation measures be initiated or continued for the person: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), transcutaneous cardiac pacing, defibrillation, advanced airway management, artificial ventilation.

Attending physician's signature
Date
Printed name
Physician's signature
Date
License #

PHYSICIAN'S STATEMENT: I am the attending physician of the above-noted person and have noted the existence of this order in the person's medical records. I direct health care professionals acting in out-of-hospital settings, including a hospital emergency department, not to initiate or continue for the person: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), transcutaneous cardiac pacing, defibrillation, advanced airway management, artificial ventilation.

Physician's signature
Date
Printed name
License #

E. Declaration on behalf of the minor person: I am the minor's: ☐ parent; ☐ legal guardian; ☐ managing conservator.

A physician has diagnosed the minor as suffering from a terminal or irreversible condition. I direct that none of the following resuscitation measures be initiated or continued for the person: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), transcutaneous cardiac pacing, defibrillation, advanced airway management, artificial ventilation.

Signature
Date
Printed name

TWO WITNESSES: (See qualifications on backside) We have witnessed the above-noted competent adult person or authorized declarant making his/her signature above and, if applicable, the above-noted adult person making an OOH-DNR by nonwritten communication to the attending physician.

Witness 1 signature
Date
Printed name
Witness 2 signature
Date
Printed name

Notary in the State of Texas and County of: Notary Seal
Notary's printed name: __________________________________________

[Note: Notary cannot acknowledge the witnessing of the person making an OOH-DNR order in a nonwritten manner]

F. Directive by two physicians on behalf of the adult, who is incompetent or unable to communicate and without guardian, agent, proxy or relative: The person's specific wishes are unknown, but resuscitation measures are in reasonable medical judgment, considered ineffective or unnecessary or not in the best interests of the person. I direct health care professionals acting in out-of-hospital settings, including a hospital emergency department, not to initiate or continue for the person: cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), transcutaneous cardiac pacing, defibrillation, advanced airway management, artificial ventilation.

Attending physician's signature
Date
Printed name
Signature of second physician
Date
Printed name

Physician's electronic or digital signature must meet criteria listed in Health and Safety Code §166.082(c).

All persons who have signed above must sign below, acknowledging that this document has been properly completed.

Person's signature
Attending physician's signature
Second physician's signature
Witness 1 signature
Witness 2 signature
Notary's signature

This document or a copy thereof must accompany the person during his/her medical transport.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ISSUING AN OOH-DNR ORDER

PURPOSE: The Out-of-Hospital Do-Not-Resuscitate (OOH-DNR) Order on reverse side complies with Health and Safety Code (HSC), Chapter 166 for use by qualified persons or their authorized representatives to direct health care professionals to forgo resuscitation attempts and to permit the person to have a natural death with peace and dignity. This Order does NOT affect the provision of other emergency care, including comfort care.

APPLICATION: This OOH-DNR Order applies to health care professionals in out-of-hospital settings, including physicians’ offices, hospital clinics and emergency departments.

IMPLEMENTATION: A competent adult person, at least 18 years of age, or the person's authorized representative or qualified relative may execute or issue an OOH-DNR Order. The person's attending physician will document existence of the Order in the person's permanent medical record. The OOH-DNR Order may be executed as follows:

Section A - If an adult person is competent and at least 18 years of age, he/she will sign and date the Order in Section A.

Section B - If an adult person is incompetent or otherwise mentally or physically incapable of communication and has either a legal guardian, agent, or proxy power of attorney, or proxy in a directive to physicians, the guardian, agent, or proxy may execute the OOH-DNR Order by signing and dating it in Section B.

Section C - If the adult person is incompetent or otherwise mentally or physically incapable of communication and does not have a guardian, agent, or proxy, then a qualified relative may execute the OOH-DNR Order by signing and dating it in Section C.

Section D - If the person is incompetent and his/her attending physician has seen evidence of the person's previously issued proper directive to physicians or observed the person competently issue an OOH-DNR Order in a nonwritten manner, the physician may execute the Order on behalf of the person by signing and dating it in Section D.

Section E - If the person is a minor (less than 18 years of age), who has been diagnosed by a physician as suffering from a terminal or irreversible condition, then the minor's parents, legal guardian, or managing conservator may execute the OOH-DNR Order by signing and dating it in Section E.

Section F - If an adult person is incompetent or otherwise mentally or physically incapable of communication and does not have a guardian, agent, proxy, or available qualified relative to act on his/her behalf, then the attending physician may execute the OOH-DNR Order by signing and dating it in Section F with concurrence of a second physician (signing it in Section F) who is not involved in the treatment of the person or who is not a representative of the ethics or medical committee of the health care facility in which the person is a patient.

In addition, the OOH-DNR Order must be signed and dated by two competent adult witnesses, who have witnessed either the competent adult person making his/her signature in section A, or authorized declarant making his/her signature in either sections B, C, or E, and if applicable, have witnessed a competent adult person making an OOH-DNR Order by nonwritten communication to the attending physician, who must sign in Section D and also the physician's statement section. Optionally, a competent adult person or authorized declarant may sign the OOH-DNR Order in the presence of a notary public. However, a notary cannot acknowledge witnessing the issuance of an OOH-DNR in a nonwritten manner, which must be observed and only can be acknowledged by two qualified witnesses. Witness or notary signatures are not required when two physicians execute the OOH-DNR Order in section F. The original or a copy of a fully and properly completed OOH-DNR Order or the presence of an OOH-DNR device on a person is sufficient evidence of the existence of the original OOH-DNR Order and either one shall be honored by responding health care professionals.

REVOCATION: An OOH-DNR Order may be revoked at ANY time by the person, person's authorized representative, or physician who executed the order. Revocation can be by verbal communication to responding health care professionals, destruction of the OOH-DNR Order, or removal of all OOH-DNR identification devices from the person.

AUTOMATIC REVOCATION: An OOH-DNR Order is automatically revoked for a person known to be pregnant or in the case of unnatural or suspicious circumstances.

DEFINITIONS

Attending Physician: A physician, selected by or assigned to a person, with primary responsibility for the person's treatment and care and is licensed by the Texas Medical Board, or is properly credentialed and holds a commission in the uniformed services of the United States or a facility or any parent organization of the health care facility.

Health Care Professional: Means physicians, nurses, physician assistants and emergency medical services personnel, and, unless the context requires otherwise, includes hospital emergency department personnel. [HSC §166.081(5)]

Qualified Relative: A person meeting requirements of HSC §166.088. It states that an adult relative may execute an OOH-DNR Order on behalf of an adult person who has not executed or issued an OOH-DNR Order and is incompetent or otherwise mentally or physically incapable of communication and is without a legal guardian, agent in a medical power of attorney, or proxy in a directive to physicians, and the relative is available from one of the categories in the following priority: 1) person's spouse; 2) person's reasonably available adult children; 3) the person's parents; or, 4) the person's nearest living relative. Such qualified relative may execute an OOH-DNR Order on such described person's behalf.

Qualified Witnesses: Both witnesses must be competent adults, who have witnessed the competent adult person making his/her signature in section A, or person's authorized representatives making his/her signature in either Sections B, C, or E on the OOH-DNR Order, or if applicable, have witnessed the competent adult person making an OOH-DNR Order by nonwritten communication to the attending physician, who signs in Section D. Optionally, a competent adult person, guardian, agent, proxy, or qualified relative may sign the OOH-DNR Order in the presence of a notary instead of two qualified witnesses. Witness or notary signatures are not required when two physicians execute the order by signing Section F. One of the witnesses must meet the qualifications in HSC §166.003(2), which requires that at least one of the witnesses not: 1) be designated by the person to make a treatment decision; 2) be related to the person by blood or marriage; 3) be entitled to any part of the person's estate after the person's death either under a will or by law; 4) have a claim at the time of the issuance of the OOH-DNR against any part of the person's estate after the person's death; or, 5) be the attending physician; 6) be an employee of the attending physician or (7) an employee of a health care facility in which the person is a patient if the employee is providing direct patient care to the patient or is an officer, director, partner, or business office employee of the health care facility or any parent organization of the health care facility.

Report problems with this form to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) or order OOH-DNR Order/forms or identification devices at (512) 834-6700.

Declarant's, Witness', Notary's, or Physician's electronic or digital signature must meet criteria outlined in HSC §166.011

Publications No. EF01-11421 - Revised July 1, 2009 by the Texas Department of State Health Services
Disclosure Statement for Medical Power of Attorney
Advance Directives Act (see §166.163, Health and Safety Code)

This is an important legal document.
Before signing this document, you should know these important facts:

Except to the extent you state otherwise, this document gives the person you name as your agent the authority to make any and all health care decisions for you in accordance with your wishes, including your religious and moral beliefs, when you are no longer capable of making them yourself. Because "health care" means any treatment, service or procedure to maintain, diagnose, or treat your physical or mental condition, your agent has the power to make a broad range of health care decisions for you. Your agent may consent, refuse to consent, or withdraw consent to medical treatment and may make decisions about withdrawing or withholding life-sustaining treatment. Your agent may not consent to voluntary inpatient mental health services, convulsive treatment, psychosurgery, or abortion. A physician must comply with your agent's instructions or allow you to be transferred to another physician.

Your agent's authority begins when your doctor certifies that you lack the competence to make health care decisions.

Your agent is obligated to follow your instructions when making decisions on your behalf. Unless you state otherwise, your agent has the same authority to make decisions about your health care as you would have had.

It is important that you discuss this document with your physician or other health care provider before you sign it to make sure that you understand the nature and range of decisions that may be made on your behalf. If you do not have a physician, you should talk with someone else who is knowledgeable about these issues and can answer your questions. You do not need a lawyer's assistance to complete this document, but if there is anything in this document that you do not understand, you should ask a lawyer to explain it to you.

The person you appoint as agent should be someone you know and trust. The person must be 18 years of age or older or a person under 18 years of age who has had the disabilities of minority removed. If you appoint your health or residential care provider (e.g., your physician or an employee of a home health agency, hospital, nursing home, or residential care home, other than a relative), that person has to choose between acting as your agent or as your health or residential care provider; the law does not permit a person to do both at the same time.

You should inform the person you appoint that you want the person to be your health care agent. You should discuss this document with your agent and your physician and give each a signed copy. You should indicate on the document itself the people and institutions who have signed copies. Your agent is not liable for health care decisions made in good faith on your behalf.
Even after you have signed this document, you have the right to make health care decisions for yourself as long as you are able to do so and treatment cannot be given to you or stopped over your objection. You have the right to revoke the authority granted to your agent by informing your agent or your health or residential care provider orally or in writing, by your execution of a subsequent medical power of attorney. Unless you state otherwise, your appointment of a spouse dissolves on divorce.

This document may not be changed or modified. If you want to make changes in the document, you must make an entirely new one.

You may wish to designate an alternate agent in the event that your agent is unwilling, unable, or ineligible to act as your agent. Any alternate agent you designate has the same authority to make health care decisions for you.

This Power of Attorney is not valid unless it is signed in the presence of two competent adult witnesses. The following persons may not act as ONE of the witnesses:

- the person you have designated as your agent.
- a person related to you by blood or marriage;
- a person entitled to any part of your estate after your death under a will or codicil executed by you or by operation of law;
- your attending physician;
- an employee of your attending physician;
- an employee of a health care facility in which you are a patient if the employee is providing direct patient care to you or is an officer, director, partner, or business office employee of a health care facility or of any parent organization of the health care facility; or
- a person who, at the time this power of attorney is executed, has a claim against any part of your estate after your death.
Designation of Health Care Agent:

I, _______________________________________ (insert your name) appoint:

Name: ____________________________________
Address: __________________________________
                                         __________________________________ Phone: ______________

as my agent to make any and all health care decisions for me, except to the extent I state otherwise in this document. This medical power of attorney takes effect if I become unable to make my own health care decisions and this fact is certified in writing by my physician.

Limitations On The Decision Making Authority Of My Agent Are As Follows:

__________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________

Designation of an Alternate Agent:
(You are not required to designate an alternate agent but you may do so. An alternate agent may make the same health care decisions as the designated agent if the designated agent is unable or unwilling to act as your agent. If the agent designated is your spouse, the designation is automatically revoked by law if your marriage is dissolved.)

If the person designated as my agent is unable or unwilling to make health care decisions for me, I designate the following person(s), to serve as my agent to make health care decisions for me as authorized by this document, who serve in the following order:

First Alternate Agent
Name: ____________________________________
Address: __________________________________
                                         __________________________________ Phone: ______________

Second Alternate Agent
Name: ____________________________________
Address: __________________________________
                                         __________________________________ Phone: ______________

The original of the document is kept at __________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

The following individuals or institutions have signed copies:

Name: ____________________________________
Address: __________________________________
                                         __________________________________

Name: ____________________________________
Address: : __________________________________
                                         __________________________________

(continued on reverse)
Duration
I understand that this power of attorney exists indefinitely from the date I execute this document unless I establish a shorter time or revoke the power of attorney. If I am unable to make health care decisions for myself when this power of attorney expires, the authority I have granted my agent continues to exist until the time I become able to make health care decisions for myself.

(If Applicable) This power of attorney ends on the following date: ______________________

Prior Designations Revoked
I revoke any prior medical power of attorney.

Acknowledgement of Disclosure Statement
I have been provided with a disclosure statement explaining the effect of this document. I have read and understand the information contained in this disclosure statement.

(You Must Date and Sign This Power of Attorney)

I sign my name to this medical power of attorney on _____ day of _____________ (month, year) at ____________________________

(City and State)

__________________________

(Signature)

__________________________

(Print Name)

Statement of First Witness
I am not the person appointed as agent by this document. I am not related to the principal by blood or marriage. I would not be entitled to any portion of the principal's estate on the principal's death. I am not the attending physician of the principal or an employee of the attending physician. I have no claim against any portion of the principal's estate on the principal's death. Furthermore, if I am an employee of a health care facility in which the principal is a patient, I am not involved in providing direct patient care to the principal and am not an officer, director, partner, or business office employee of the health care facility or of any parent organization of the health care facility.

Signature: ____________________________

Print Name: ____________________________ Date: ________________

Address: ______________________________

Signature of Second Witness

Signature: ____________________________

Print Name: ____________________________ Date: ________________

Address: ______________________________

version 10/25/99
Declaración referente al poder médico
Ley de Directivas Anticipadas (ver §166.163, del Código de Salud y Seguridad)

Éste es un documento legal importante. Antes de firmar este documento debe saber esta información importante:

Salvo los límites que usted imponga, este documento le da a la persona que usted nombre como su agente la autoridad de tomar, en su nombre, y cuando usted ya no esté en capacidad de tomarlas por su propia cuenta, todas y cada una de las decisiones referentes a la atención médica conforme con sus deseos y teniendo en cuenta sus creencias morales y religiosas. Puesto que "atención médica" se refiere a cualquier tratamiento, servicio o procedimiento para controlar, diagnosticar o tratar cualquier padecimiento físico o mental, su agente tiene el poder de tomar, en su nombre, decisiones sobre una amplia gama de opciones médicas. Su agente puede dar consentimiento, negar consentimiento o retirar el consentimiento para recibir tratamiento médico y puede decidir si suspender o no dar tratamiento para prolongar la vida. Su agente no puede autorizar su ingreso voluntario a un hospital para recibir servicios de salud mental, ni que le den tratamiento convulsivo, psicocirugía o un aborto. El doctor deberá seguir las instrucciones de su agente o permitir que se le cambie a usted de doctor.

La autoridad de su agente comenzará cuando su doctor certifique que usted no está en capacidad de tomar decisiones de carácter médico.

Su agente tiene la obligación de seguir sus instrucciones cuando tome decisiones en su nombre. A menos que usted especifique lo contrario, su agente tiene la misma autoridad que usted tendría para tomar decisiones sobre su atención médica.

Antes de firmar este documento, es muy importante que hable sobre éste con el doctor o con cualquier proveedor médico para asegurarse de que entienda la naturaleza y los límites de las decisiones que se tomarán en su nombre. Si no tiene un doctor, debe hablar con alguien más que sepa de estos asuntos y pueda contestar sus preguntas. No necesita la ayuda de un abogado para hacer este documento, pero si hay algo en este documento que usted no entienda, debe pedirle a un abogado que se lo explique.

La persona que usted nombre como su agente debe ser alguien conocido y de su confianza. Debe ser mayor de 18 años, o puede ser menor de 18 años si se le ha retirado la incapacidad de minoría de edad. Si usted nombra al proveedor de atención médica o terapeuta (por ejemplo, su doctor o un empleado del centro de salud, hospital, casa para convalecientes o centro de tratamiento terapéutico, que no sea un pariente) esa persona tiene que escoger entre ser su agente o ser su proveedor de atención médica o terapeuta; conforme con la ley, una misma persona no puede desempeñar las dos funciones a la vez.

Debe informarle a la persona que usted escoja que quiere que ella sea su agente de atención médica. Usted debe hablar sobre este documento con su agente y con su doctor y darle a cada uno de ellos una copia firmada. Usted debe escribir en el documento el nombre de las personas e instituciones a quienes ha dado copias firmadas. Su agente no puede ser enjuiciado por las decisiones sobre atención médica tomadas de buena fe en su nombre.

Aun después de firmar este documento, usted tiene el derecho de tomar decisiones de atención médica mientras esté en capacidad de hacerlo y no se le puede administrar o detener un tratamiento si usted se opone. Tiene derecho de revocar la autoridad otorgada a su agente informándole a su agente o a su proveedor de atención médica o terapeuta, oralmente o por
escrito, y firmando un nuevo poder médico. A menos que indique lo contrario, el nombramiento de su cónyuge como su agente se disuelve en el caso de que usted se divorcie.

Este documento no se puede modificar o cambiar. Si quiere hacer algún cambio, tiene que hacer un documento nuevo.

Es aconsejable que nombre a un tercer agente en caso de que su agente no quiera, no pueda o esté incapacitado para actuar como su agente. Cualquier agente alterno que usted nombre tendrá la misma autoridad de tomar decisiones de atención médica en su nombre.

Este poder no tiene validez a menos que se firme en presencia de dos testigos adultos hábiles.

Las siguientes personas no pueden actuar como UNO de los testigos:
- la persona que usted ha nombrado como su agente;
- una persona que es su pariente por sangre o matrimonio;
- una persona que, después de su muerte, tenga derecho a cualquier porción de su sucesión de acuerdo con su testamento o con una adición a su testamento firmado por usted o que tenga derecho a ésta por efecto legal;
- el doctor que lo atiende;
- un empleado del doctor que lo atiende;
- un empleado de un centro de atención médica del cual usted es paciente si el empleado le está prestando servicios directamente a usted o es un funcionario, director, socio o empleado de las oficinas del centro de atención médica o de cualquier organización matriz del centro de atención médica; o
- una persona que, en el momento de firmar este poder, pueda reclamar cualquier porción de su sucesión después de su muerte.
Poder médico
Ley de Directivas Anticipadas (ver §166, 164, del Código de Salud y Seguridad)

Nombramiento de un agente de atención médica:

Yo, ________________________________________________ (escriba su nombre) nombro a:
Nombre:____________________________________________
Dirección:__________________________________________
______________________________________________ Teléfono: __________________________

como mi agente para que tome todas y cada una de las decisiones sobre atención médica por mí, a menos que yo diga lo contrario en este documento. Este poder médico entra en vigor si yo no tengo capacidad para tomar mis propias decisiones sobre la atención médica y mi doctor certifica este hecho por escrito.

La autoridad de mi agente médico para tomar decisiones tendrá las siguientes limitaciones:

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Nombramiento de un agente alterno:

(Usted no tiene que nombrar a un agente alterno, pero si quiere puede hacerlo. Un agente alterno puede tomar las mismas decisiones médicas que tomaría el agente designado si el agente designado no puede o no quiere hacer las veces de agente. Si el agente designado es su cónyuge, el nombramiento se revoca automáticamente por ley si su matrimonio se disuelve).

Si la persona designada como mi agente no es capaz o no está dispuesta a tomar decisiones médicas por mí, nombro a las siguientes personas, para que hagan las veces de agente para tomar decisiones de tipo médico conforme yo las autorice por medio de este documento. Lo harán en el siguiente orden:

Primer Agente Alterno
 Nombre:____________________________________________
Dirección:__________________________________________
______________________________________________ Teléfono: __________________________

Segundo Agente Alterno
 Nombre:____________________________________________
Dirección:__________________________________________
______________________________________________ Teléfono: __________________________
El original de este documento se mantendrá en:

____________________________________________________________________________

Las siguientes personas o instituciones tienen copias firmadas:

Nombre:______________________________________________ _______________________
Dirección:______________________________________________________________________
                                                                                     _______________________________________

Nombre:_____________________________________________ ________________________
Dirección:______________________________________________________________________
                                                                                     _______________________________________ 

**Duración**
Comprendo que este poder existirá indefinidamente a partir de la fecha en que se firma el documento a menos que yo establezca un término más corto o lo revoque. Si no estoy en capacidad de tomar decisiones médicas por mi propia cuenta cuando este poder se venza, la autoridad que le he dado a mi agente seguirá en vigor hasta que yo pueda volver a tomar decisiones por mí mismo.
(Si aplica) Este poder se vencerá en la siguiente fecha: _______________________________

**Revocación de nombramientos anteriores**
Revoco cualquier poder médico anterior.

**Acuse de recibo de la Declaración**
Me dieron la declaración en la que se explica las consecuencias de este documento. La leí y la entiendo.
(Tiene que escribir la fecha y firmar este poder)

Firmo mi nombre en este poder médico el _______ de __________________ (mes) de ______ (año) en
                                                                                     _______________________________________
(Ciudad y Estado)
                                                                                     _______________________________________
(Firma)
                                                                                     _______________________________________
(Nombre en letra de molde)

**Declaración del primer testigo**
No soy la persona designada como agente por medio de este documento. No soy pariente del poderante ni por sangre ni por matrimonio. No tendré derecho a ninguna parte de la sucesión del poderante después de su fallecimiento. No soy el médico tratante del poderante ni estoy empleado por el médico tratante. No tengo ningún derecho sobre ninguna porción de la sucesión del poderante después de su fallecimiento. Además, si trabajo en el centro de atención médica
donde es paciente el poderante, no tengo que ver con el cuidado directo del poderante y no soy funcionario, director, socio, ni empleado de la oficina del centro de atención médica ni de ninguna organización matriz del centro de atención médica.

Firma: 

Nombre en letra de molde: _______________________________ Fecha: ____________

Dirección: ____________________________________________

Firma del segundo testigo

Firma: 

Nombre en letra de molde: _______________________________ Fecha: ____________

Dirección: ____________________________________________

versión 10/25/99
ARKANSAS
Advance Directive
Planning for Important Health Care Decisions

Caring Connections
1731 King St., Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22314
www.caringinfo.org
800/658-8898

Caring Connections, a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), is a national consumer engagement initiative to improve care at the end of life.

It’s About How You LIVE

It’s About How You LIVE is a national community engagement campaign encouraging individuals to make informed decisions about end-of-life care and services. The campaign encourages people to:

- Learn about options for end-of-life services and care
- Implement plans to ensure wishes are honored
- Voice decisions to family, friends and health care providers
- Engage in personal or community efforts to improve end-of-life care

Note: The following is not a substitute for legal advice. While Caring Connections updates the following information and form to keep them up-to-date, changes in the underlying law can affect how the form will operate in the event you lose the ability to make decisions for yourself. If you have any questions about how the form will help ensure your wishes are carried out, or if your wishes do not seem to fit with the form, you may wish to talk to your health care provider or an attorney with experience in drafting advance directives.
Using these Materials

BEFORE YOU BEGIN
1. Check to be sure that you have the materials for each state in which you may receive health care.

2. These materials include:
   • Instructions for preparing your advance directive, please read all the instructions.
   • Your state-specific advance directive forms, which are the pages with the gray instruction bar on the left side.

ACTION STEPS
1. You may want to photocopy or print a second set of these forms before you start so you will have a clean copy if you need to start over.

2. When you begin to fill out the forms, refer to the gray instruction bars — they will guide you through the process.

3. Talk with your family, friends, and physicians about your advance directive. Be sure the person you appoint to make decisions on your behalf understands your wishes.

4. Once the form is completed and signed, photocopy the form and give it to the person you have appointed to make decisions on your behalf, your family, friends, health care providers and/or faith leaders so that the form is available in the event of an emergency.

5. You may also want to save a copy of your form in an online personal health records application, program, or service that allows you to share your medical documents with your physicians, family, and others who you want to take an active role in your advance care planning.
Introduction to Your Arkansas Declaration and Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care

This packet contains your Arkansas Declaration and Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care. This legal document protects your right to refuse medical treatment you do not want, or to request treatment you do want, in the event you lose the ability to make decisions yourself.

Page 1 of your document contains your Declaration, which allows you to state your wishes about medical care in the event that you either: (1) develop a terminal condition and are unable to make your own medical decisions; or (2) are in a permanently unconscious state. The declaration becomes effective when you are in either of these states, your doctor and one other doctor has determined you are in such a state, and the declaration has been communicated to your doctor. Page 1 includes a space for you to include additional directions in the event you are terminally ill or permanently unconscious.

Pages 2 and 3 of your document contain your Arkansas Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, which lets you name an Agent to make decisions about your medical care any time you lose the ability to make medical decisions for yourself. Page 3 of your document allows you to include directions in the event you lose the ability to make medical decisions for yourself. These directions are triggered any time you lose capacity, and are not dependent on you becoming terminally ill or permanently unconscious.

Your durable power of attorney for health care also appoints your agent as your Health Care Proxy to make decisions about your medical care — including decisions about life sustaining treatment — if you are terminally ill and can no longer make your own decisions about health care or are permanently unconscious.

Your durable power of attorney for health care goes into effect when your doctor determines that you are no longer able to make or communicate your health care decisions.

Page 4 of your document is your signature page. Your signature must be witnessed by two people who are 18 years of age or older.

Note: This form authorizes mental health care decisions to be made by your agent/proxy, but does not go into detail regarding mental health issues. If you would like to make advance care plans involving mental illness, you should talk to your physician and an attorney about a durable power of attorney.

Following your Arkansas declaration and durable power of attorney for health care is an organ donation form.

Note: These documents will be legally binding only if the person completing them is a competent adult (at least 18 years old).
Instructions for Completing Your Arkansas Declaration and Durable Power of Attorney

How do I make my Arkansas Declaration and Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care legal?

The law requires that you sign or someone signs at your direction on your behalf your Declaration and Durable Power of Attorney for Health in the presence of two witnesses, who must be 18 years of age or older.

Whom should I appoint as my Agent/Proxy?

Your agent/proxy is the person you appoint to make decisions about your medical care if you become unable to make those decisions yourself. Your agent/proxy may be a family member or a close friend whom you trust to make serious decisions. The person you name as your agent/proxy should clearly understand your wishes and be willing to accept the responsibility of making medical decisions for you. To avoid any confusion, you should name the same person as your agent/proxy in the Directive section as you name in the Durable Power of Attorney section.

You can appoint a second person as your alternate agent/proxy. The alternate will step in if the first person you name as an agent/proxy is unable, unwilling, or unavailable to act for you.

Can I add personal instructions to my Declaration?

One of the strongest reasons for naming an agent/proxy is to have someone who can respond flexibly as your medical situation changes and deal with situations that you did not foresee. If you add instructions to this document it may help your agent/proxy carry out your wishes, but be careful that you do not unintentionally restrict your agent/proxy’s power to act in your best interest. In any event, be sure to talk with your agent/proxy about your future medical care and describe what you consider to be an acceptable “quality of life.”

What if I change my mind?

You may revoke the instructions in your declaration at any time and in any manner, regardless of your mental or physical condition. Your revocation becomes effective when you (or a witness to your revocation) notify your doctor or other health care provider, who must then make the revocation a part of your medical record.

You may revoke your agent/proxy’s power under your durable power of attorney for health care at any time by executing a new durable power of attorney for health care or by otherwise specifying in writing that you wish to revoke it.
**What other important facts should I know?**

A pregnant patient’s Arkansas Declaration will not be honored if it is possible that the fetus could develop to the point of live birth with continued application of life-sustaining treatment.

**Instructions for Completing Your Arkansas Organ Donation Form**

**How do I make my Arkansas Organ Donation Form legal?**

The law requires that you sign your Organ Donation Form in the presence of two witnesses. Both witnesses must be 18 years of age or older. At least one of the witnesses must be a disinterested party (i.e. not a family member nor potential recipient of your donation).

**Who may receive my anatomical gift?**

Under Arkansas law, you may make a gift of all or part of your body for transplantation, therapy, research, or education to any of the following entities: a tissue or eye bank or any other organ procurement organization; hospital; accredited medical school, dental school, college, or university; or any individual designated as the recipient by you.

**Can others make a gift for me?**

Unless you explicitly prohibit such gifts, your agent/proxy or a family member has the authority to make anatomical gifts on your behalf.

**Can I refuse to make a gift?**

You can refuse to make a gift in any of these other ways: (1) any writing — including your Organ Donation Form — signed by you refusing to make such donations; (2) in your will; or (3) during a terminal illness or injury, you communicate such refusal to at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness.

**How can I revoke my gift?**

You can revoke or amend an anatomical gift by: (1) any writing signed by you revoking or amending such gift that is witnessed by at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness; (2) by the destruction or cancellation of the document of gift, or the portion of the document of gift used to make the gift, with the intent to revoke the gift. If the gift was not made in a will, you may revoke or amend it by any form of communication during a terminal illness or injury addressed to at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness.
Declaration

If I should either (1) have an incurable or irreversible condition that will cause my death within a relatively short time, and I am no longer able to make decisions regarding my medical treatment; or (2) if I should become permanently unconscious, I direct my attending physician, pursuant to the Arkansas Rights of the Terminally Ill or Permanently Unconscious Act, to

(initial only one)

1. Withhold or withdraw treatments that only prolong the process of dying and are not necessary to my comfort or to alleviate pain.

2. Follow the instructions of ____________________________,
   whom I appoint as my health care agent/proxy to decide whether life-sustaining treatment should be withheld or withdrawn.

In addition, the following specific directives apply (initial the option(s) that apply):

(initial only one)

a. It is my specific directive that nutrition may be withheld after consultation with my attending physician.

b. It is my specific directive that hydration may be withheld after consultation with my attending physician.

c. It is my specific directive that nutrition may not be withheld.

d. It is my specific directive that hydration may not be withheld.

Other directions in the event I am terminally ill and cannot make decisions, or I am permanently unconscious:

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
I, _______________________________________________, hereby
(appoint)
____________________________________________________________
(name, home address and telephone number of agent/proxy)
__________________________________________________________________________________________
as my health care agent/proxy to make any and all health care decisions
for me, except to the extent that I state otherwise.

This Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care shall take effect in the
event of my disability or incapacity, such that I become unable to make
my own health care decisions. My health care agent/proxy and any
alternate health care agent/proxy as appointed below shall have the
authority to make all health care decisions regarding any care, treatment,
service, or procedure to maintain, diagnose, treat, or provide for my
physical or mental health or personal care.

If I should either (1) have an incurable or irreversible condition that will
cause my death within a relatively short time and I am no longer able to
make decisions regarding my medical treatment; or (2) if I should become
permanently unconscious, my health care agent/proxy and any alternate
health care agent/proxy shall also have the authority to make decisions
regarding the providing, withholding, or withdrawing of life sustaining
treatment as my Proxy pursuant to the Arkansas Rights of the Terminally
Ill or Permanently Unconscious Act.

If the health care agent/proxy I appoint is unable, unwilling or unavailable
to act as my health care agent/proxy, then I appoint:

____________________________________________________________
(name, home address and telephone number of alternate agent/proxy)
__________________________________________________________________________________________
as my alternate health care agent/proxy to make any and all health care
decisions for me, except to the extent that I state otherwise.
Other Directions, in the event of my disability or incapacitation, such that I become unable to make my own health care decisions:

____________________________________________________________
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2013 Revised.
ARKANSAS DECLARATION AND DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR HEALTH CARE — PAGE 4 OF 4

Signed this _________ day of _______________, ____________.
(day)                   (month)                           (year)

Signature__________________________________________________

Address _____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

Statement by Witnesses (must be 18 or older):
I declare that the person who signed above appeared to execute this
declaration and durable power of attorney for health care willingly and
free from duress. He or she signed (or asked another to sign for him or
her) this document in my presence.

Witness _____________________________________________________
(Signature) (Date)

_____________________________________________________
(Print name)

Address _____________________________________________________

Witness _____________________________________________________
(Signature) (Date)

_____________________________________________________
(Print name)

Address _____________________________________________________

Courtes[y of Caring Connections
1731 King St., Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22314
www.caringinfo.org, 800/658-8898
Initial the line next to the statement below that best reflects your wishes. You do not have to initial any of the statements. If you do not initial any of the statements, your attorney for health care, proxy, or other agent, or your family, may have the authority to make a gift of all or part of your body under Arkansas law.

_____ I do not want to make an organ or tissue donation and I do not want my attorney for health care, proxy, or other agent or family to do so.  
_____ I have already signed a written agreement or donor card regarding organ and tissue donation with the following individual or institution:

Name of individual/institution: ______________________

_____ Pursuant to Arkansas law, I hereby give, effective on my death:

_____ Any needed organ or parts.  
_____ The following part or organs listed below:

For (initial one):

_____ Any legally authorized purpose.  
_____ Transplant or therapeutic purposes only.

Declarant name: _____________________________________________________

Declarant signature: ______________________, Date: ________________

The declarant voluntarily signed or directed another person to sign this writing in my presence.

Witness _______________________________ Date________________

Address  ____________________________________________________
__________________________________________________

I am a disinterested party with regard to the declarant and his or her donation and estate. The declarant voluntarily signed or directed another person to sign this writing in my presence.

Witness _______________________________ Date________________

Address  ____________________________________________________
__________________________________________________

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2013 Revised.

Courtesy of Caring Connections
1731 King St., Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22314
www.caringinfo.org, 800/658-8898
You Have Filled Out Your Health Care Directive, Now What?

1. Your *Arkansas Declaration and Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care* is an important legal document. Keep the original signed document in a secure but accessible place. Do not put the original document in a safe deposit box or any other security box that would keep others from having access to it.

2. Give photocopies of the signed original to your agent/proxy and alternate agent/proxy, doctor(s), family, close friends, clergy and anyone else who might become involved in your health care. If you enter a nursing home or hospital, have photocopies of your document placed in your medical records.

3. Be sure to talk to your agent/proxy(s), doctor(s), clergy, family and friends about your wishes concerning medical treatment. Discuss your wishes with them often, particularly if your medical condition changes.

4. You may also want to save a copy of your form in an online personal health records application, program, or service that allows you to share your medical documents with your physicians, family, and others who you want to take an active role in your advance care planning.

5. If you want to make changes to your documents after they have been signed and witnessed, you must complete a new document.

6. Remember, you can always revoke your Arkansas document.

7. Be aware that your Arkansas document will not be effective in the event of a medical emergency. Ambulance and hospital emergency department personnel are required to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) unless they are given a separate directive that states otherwise. These directives called “prehospital medical care directives” or “do not resuscitate orders” are designed for people whose poor health gives them little chance of benefiting from CPR. These directives instruct ambulance and hospital emergency personnel not to attempt CPR if your heart or breathing should stop.

Currently not all states have laws authorizing non-hospital do-not-resuscitate orders. We suggest you speak to your physician if you are interested in obtaining this form. *Caring Connections does not distribute these forms.*
Cigna-HealthSpring has adopted evidence-based clinical practice guidelines as roadmaps for healthcare decision-making targeting specific clinical circumstances. Cigna-HealthSpring promotes the use of clinical practice guidelines to:

- Define clear goals of care based on the best available scientific evidence
- Reduce variation in care and outcomes
- Provide a more rational basis for clinical management of some conditions
- Comply with accreditation standards and regulatory expectations

The table below contains the clinical practice guidelines approved by Cigna-HealthSpring’s Clinical Guidelines Steering Committee. The table also contains links to the websites with the most current version of the guideline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Name of Guideline</th>
<th>Organization / Web Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Heart Failure in Adults</td>
<td>2009 Focused Update Incorporated Into the ACC/AHA 2005 Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Heart Failure in Adults Primary Care Management of Chronic Stable Angina and Asymptomatic Suspected or Known Coronary Artery Disease: Ann Intern Med. 5 October 2004;141(7):562-567</td>
<td>American College of Cardiology <a href="http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/119/14/e391.full.pdf">http://circ.ahajournals.org/content/119/14/e391.full.pdf</a> American College of Physicians <a href="http://annals.org/article.aspx?volume=141&amp;issue=7&amp;page=562">http://annals.org/article.aspx?volume=141&amp;issue=7&amp;page=562</a></td>
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Approved by Clinical Guideline Steering Committee January 2014

Antithrombotic Therapy and Prevention of Thrombosis guideline adopted June 9, 2014

This information is provided for general reference and not intended to address every clinical situation associated with the conditions and diseases addressed by these guidelines. Physicians and health care professionals must exercise clinical discretion in interpreting and applying this information to individual patients. We hope you will consider this information and use it, when it is appropriate for your eligible members.
| Topic                  | Name of Guideline                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Organization / Web Address                                                                                           |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | [http://care.diabetesjournals.org/content/35/Supplement_1/S11.full.pdf](http://care.diabetesjournals.org/content/35/Supplement_1/S11.full.pdf) |
| Fall Prevention       | Prevention of Falls in Community-Dwelling Older Adults Recommendation Statement May 2012                                                                                                                         | US Preventative Services Task Force                                                                                                                                              |
|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | [http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspsfalls.htm](http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspsfalls.htm)                                                   |
|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Journal of the American College of Cardiology                                                                                                                                  |
| Osteoporosis          | Medical Guidelines for Clinical Practice for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Postmenopausal Osteoporosis, 2010                                                                                                      | American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists                                                                                                                                |

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