

News You Can Use

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Important Federal Employee Program (FEP) Changes Federal Copay Reminders for Dual Specialists

Providers who hold dual specialties and one specialty is primary care medicine should require the patient's copay to be taken at the primary care physician (PCP) level first. For example: If a provider's specialty is listed as gastroenterology and internal medicine, then the patient should pay the copay amount required for internal medicine services.

This change was effective for Standard Option as of January 1, 2010. See the May/June issue of *BlueLink* for additional information. *BlueLink* is available in the *Providers & Physicians* section of www.carefirst.com.

If you have questions about your specialty listing with CareFirst, call Provider Information and Credentialing, 410-872-3500 or 877-269-9593.

Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)

As of July 1, 2010, prior approval is no longer required by Standard or Basic Option FEP for outpatient IMRT treatment for head, neck, breast or prostate cancers. This change affects the following IMRT procedure codes:

- 77301
- 77418
- 0073T

For your convenience, a list of the diagnoses that this applies to is listed below:

140-149.9	Malignant neoplasm of the lip , oral cavity and pharynx
160.0	Malignant neoplasm of nasal cavities
160.2-160.5	Malignant neoplasm of the paranasal sinuses
161.0-161.9	Malignant neoplasm of the larynx
174.0-174.9	Malignant neoplasm of female breast
175.0-175.9	Malignant neoplasm of male breast
185	Malignant neoplasm of prostate

Prior approval is required for all other diagnoses. These changes will be reflected in the Service Benefit Plan Brochure for 2011.

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Helpful Reminders

The following information will help improve how you do business with CareFirst:

Referral Submission

- For Maryland Point of Service: Fax referrals to 410-998-5741 the same day the primary care physician (PCP) writes it. This allows the specialist claim to be processed correctly. Holding the referral beyond that day may cause the specialist claim to be paid as an out-of-network benefit.
- For BlueChoice: PCP writes the referral then gives it to the patient to present to the specialist at the time of the service. Do not fax the CareFirst BlueChoice referral to CareFirst. The specialist submits the referral information to CareFirst on the electronic or paper CMS 1500 claim form.

Provider Information and Credentialing (PI&C)

Contact PI&C at 410-872-3500 or 877-269-9593 to inquire about the status of your contract or your contract application.

CareFirst Direct

CareFirst Direct is the online tool you can use to check claim statuses, file inquiries /appeals, and verify benefits. Your Provider Relations representative will be happy to show you how to get started.

Center for Provider Education & Training

At your convenience, visit the Center for Provider Education & Training to access on-line learning modules and learn more about CareFirst's products and policies. The CareFirst Direct tutorial is also available. The center's home page can be accessed via the *Providers & Physicians* section of www.carefirst.com.

CareFirst Website

Visit the *Providers & Physicians* section of www.carefirst.com at least once a week to read the most recent "News and Updates" from CareFirst. Other resources you will find include medical policies, medical forms and provider manuals.

BlueLink

Register your e-mail address at www.carefirst.com > *Providers & Physicians* > *Electronic Services* > *e-mail registration* and continue receiving information regarding updates to our administrative policies, seminars and other valuable information to help you do business with us.