

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Florida Providers

Date: October 25, 2022

Subject: AmeriHealth Caritas' NEW "Connecting Our Members to Premier Ancillary Services & Specialists" (COMPASS) Program

Beginning December 1, 2022, AmeriHealth Caritas Florida will implement AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASSSM, a referral optimization initiative that will give referring Primary Care Providers (PCPs) information about specialists' performance as measured by established and objective quality and efficiency performance measures. Initially, AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS will assess the performance of specialist providers, but ancillary service providers will be included in a later phase.

At AmeriHealth Caritas Florida our mission is to help people get care, stay well, and build healthy communities. To help achieve that mission, we are committed to providing members access to effective, efficient, and quality services. The AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS program is designed to support that objective.

This program, which is voluntary for PCPs and specialists, strives to increase member access to high-performing specialists by:

1. Twice per year, calculating the quality and efficiency of specialists' performance based upon established and objective quality and efficiency performance measures.
2. Using that information to rank specialists in our provider network by a defined set of episode categories.
3. Assigning an AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS score to in-network specialist providers who meet the minimum number of episodes to participate in the program based on their ranked performance against their peers.
4. Sharing the AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS scores of providers who are participating in the program with PCPs (and specialists) in the form of an AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS Referral Guide for each episode category, broken down by provider specialty and hospital referral region (HRR).

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What are AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS episode categories?

The episode categories used in the AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS program have condition-specific definitions that group the entire range of care used to treat a clinical condition for a specific time period across the continuum of care. The episode categories are defined by PROMETHEUS Analytics® and are used across the health care sector. Episode category descriptions are included in the AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS Program Guide.

What are AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS episodes?

An AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS episode is a measurement of a single occurrence that meets the criteria of an episode category (e.g., Pregnancy (PREGN) is a condition that is triggered retroactively by the presence of a Vaginal Delivery or Cesarean Section episode. Since Pregnancy is triggered by a delivery episode, it has a 300-day look back and no look forward period. Episodes include all components of the total episode costs within the measurement, or study period (e.g., the costs associated with typical or routine care, complications, and potentially avoidable complications).

Episode categories are described as chronic, procedural or other. Procedural episode types are episodes attributed to specific clinical procedures (e.g., colonoscopy). Procedural episode types have shorter episode durations than chronic episodes. Chronic episodes are episodes related to chronic conditions with a twelve-month episode duration (e.g., asthma and diabetes). Other episode types are related to pregnancy and newborn care.

What episode categories are being implemented?

AmeriHealth Caritas Florida will implement the initiative for the following episode category:

- Pregnancy

The publication of AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS scores is limited to the program participating specialists providing care that meets the criteria within the aforementioned set of episode categories for each of the bi-annual reporting periods.

How are AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS scores calculated?

In-network specialty providers are scored based on their ranked performance against peers meeting the episode category criteria within an HRR. HRRs are geographic delineations that use zip code area groupings to define unique healthcare market regions. After implementation, provider scores will be updated twice annually in the COMPASS Referral Guide for program participating providers.

AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS scores are calculated utilizing established and objective quality and efficiency performance measures through the following steps:

1. Attribute episodes to individual specialist providers based on episode category criteria. To qualify for program participation, individual specialist providers must be attributed to five or more episodes within a 1-year reporting period for chronic episode categories and a 2-year reporting period for procedural episode categories.
2. Calculate episode case rates.
3. Apply episode-specific risk adjustment.
4. Evaluate quality performance and efficiency performance.
5. Rank provider performance against like peers within the specialist's HRR.
6. Calculate AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS scores.
7. Publish AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS scores for providers who are participating in the program.

How will the AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS Referral Guide be used?

The AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS Referral Guide will be a resource for PCPs who would like to access additional information to make informed referrals for their patients. The Referral Guide will be updated twice annually and will be available to both PCPs and specialists via our secure provider portal, NaviNet. The Referral Guide will be organized by episode category, provider specialty, and HRR. Providers with performance above the network average, as compared to peers, and who are participating in the program will be indicated by an AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS score of two and a half or more in the Referral Guide. Program-participating specialty providers with scores lower than two and a half will be listed in the Referral Guide in alphabetical order but will not have a score indicated. Specialist providers who do not meet the minimum number of attributed episodes for the episode category associated with their specialty, or who are part of an entity that has opted out of the program will not be listed in the AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS Referral Guide. Although PCPs will have access to the Referral Guide to aid in making referrals, they are not required to utilize the Referral Guide in their referral process.

Referrals made on the basis of the information presented in the AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS Referral Guide should not affect a member's ability to choose who they see for in-network specialty care. Members have the right to decide the specialist from whom they ultimately receive care.

Can a specialist provider opt out of this program?

Entities can opt-out of the program at the tax ID level, but individual specialists can't opt-out individually. If an entity (tax ID) in which a specialist is affiliated doesn't wish to appear in the initial Referral Guide, **an entity representative must submit a written request to their provider account executive by November 24, 2022**, which is at least seven days prior to the Referral Guide deployment on December 1, 2022. The request must include the entity's tax name, tax ID, and acknowledgement that once the opt-out request is submitted, no individual specialists affiliated with the entity's tax ID will be listed in the Referral Guide. Entities wanting to opt-out post-implementation must submit a request at least 30 calendar days prior to the next scheduled Referral Guide update, which occurs bi-annually on or about April 1 and October 1. Providers will be updated if the report publication date changes. Once an entity has opted-out, the specialist providers affiliated with the entity's tax ID won't be included in Referral Guides unless a formal request is made by the entity in writing to participate.

Failure to opt-out of the program is equivalent to agreeing to participate. By agreeing to participate in the program, the entity permits AmeriHealth Caritas Florida to publish the score of each specialist affiliated with the entity's tax ID as described above and in the Program Guide.

For detailed information about the AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS program (including a complete list of episode category descriptions, the opt-out process, and how to appeal AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS program determinations), please refer to the AmeriHealth Caritas COMPASS Program Guide on our website at www.amerihealthcaritasfl.com

Questions:

If you have questions about this communication, please contact your Provider Account Executive or Provider Services at **1-800-617-5727**.