Change In Precertification Process For Inpatient Non-hospital Detoxification (3A) Services

Scope: This alert applies to all HealthChoices and Allegheny County Drug and Alcohol (ALDA) providers of inpatient non-hospital detoxification (3A) services.

Purpose: Community Care recognizes the severity of the opiate epidemic in Pennsylvania and the need for members to have timely access to services. In order to assist with access to care, the following 2 phase plan will be implemented over the next several months.

Phase 1 (April 24, 2017)
Prior requirements stated that providers were required to request a 3A detox precert on the day of admission. However, providers will now be permitted to request an authorization on the next calendar day with no penalty. If the member meets PCPC criteria for admission, an authorization for 4 days of 3A will be issued. Care managers will continue to gather the same clinical information. However, the following 4 scenarios may require additional questions or a physician advisor review:

1. 3A request for a member who is pregnant;
2. 3A request for a member who has been in inpatient MH, 3A, 3B, 4A, or 4B in the last 14 days;
3. 3A request for a member who is using a substance that does not require detoxification, or there is no detoxification protocol;
4. 3A request for a member who is detoxing from a prescribed medication that would be more appropriately detoxed with the prescriber.

Provider outreach will be occurring to answer any questions and confirm the start date. Providers will be asked to identify the staff who will complete the precerts and the scheduled appointment times to complete the precerts.

Phase 2 (Fall 2017 - expected completion)
Providers will be able to request 3A admissions for members ages 16 and older via the Community Care ePortal Request Center. Providers will enter brief demographic information and dimensions 1-3 of the PCPC and will receive a 4 day auth. If the member falls into one of the above 4 scenarios or is under
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April 17, 2017

Contracts:
Adams
Allegheny
Berks
Blair
Carbon/Monroe/Pike
Chester
Erie
Lycoming/Clinton
North Central
Northeast
York

Allegheny County Drug and Alcohol (ALDA)

age 16, they will receive an alert directing them to call the provider line to complete a telephonic precert.

Outreach will occur closer to implementation of the web portal for staff training.

If you have any questions regarding this change in procedure, please contact your assigned Care Manager at Community Care.