ANNUAL LAB TEST REQUIRED FOR PATIENTS ON HYPERTENSION MEDICATIONS

CenCal Health's annual HEDIS evaluation indicated opportunity for improvement when monitoring patients on persistent medications. Patients on certain medications such as Angiotensin Converting Enzyme (ACE) Inhibitors, Angiotensin Receptor Blockers (ARB), Diuretic or Digoxin, require an annual lab test (chemistry or renal panel) to assure kidney function is not compromised.

In an effort to improve CenCal Health’s HEDIS performance, we have mailed a list of members assigned to your practice who are being prescribed these medications. This list can be used to outreach to the members and remind them to complete the necessary lab test. A notification will also be sent directly to the members offering a $25 gift card incentive to those members who complete the lab test.

For questions regarding clinical quality measures, please contact Paula Curran, RN Quality Improvement Manager at 805.562.1637 or pcurran@cencalhealth.org.

THE IMPORTANCE OF UPDATING YOUR PROVIDER PROFILE

CenCal Health believes in publishing accurate and up-to-date provider information. Notifying CenCal Health regarding any changes to your providers and/or practice information is an important part of ensuring that claims are paid efficiently, mail reaches the appropriate destination and your practice is listed accurately in our Provider Directory.

To update your practice information or notify CenCal Health of any changes please contact the Provider Services Department at 805.562.1676 or utilize the Change of Address Form located on CenCal Health's website at https://www.cencalhealth.org/for_providers/providers_only/index.html.
NEW STAFF - PROVIDER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

David Shoun, Provider Contracts Manager

We are proud to welcome David Shoun, Provider Contracts Manager to the Provider Services Department. He has a Master of Business Administration degree from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. David comes to us from Aloha Care Health Plan in Hawaii. His background is in Provider Network Management and Contracting and most recently he served as Provider Services Manager.

David is new to the Santa Barbara area, is originally from East Tennessee, and has spent the last 12 years in Hawaii. He likes playing guitar as well as many outdoor activities including hiking, biking and snorkeling.

Please join us in welcoming David to the Provider Services Department!

HEALTH EDUCATION RESOURCES

Providing health education is an essential part of a patient visit; but is not always possible during the appointment. Offering materials and resources encourages patients to self-manage their health and serve as a reminder of what may have been discussed during their visit. CenCal Health has a collection of patient resources, including a DVD on managing type 2 diabetes at home, as well as handouts on diabetes, asthma, weight management, immunizations, smoking cessation, and more. We are happy to provide these materials to your office as additional resources for patients.

Materials can be downloaded from the Health Education section of CenCal Health’s website at https://www.cencalhealth.org/for_providers/HEprovider/index.html

To request materials, please contact the Health Promotion Educator at 805.562.1662 or healthed@cencalhealth.org.

ICD-10 TRANSITION UPDATE

The deadline for providers to adopt the new ICD-10 code-set, used to identify medical conditions and procedures is October 1, 2015. The Nation’s provider community has expressed concerns regarding the investment of time and resources and potential claims disruptions that may interfere with patient care. In response to the provider concerns, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the American Medical Association (AMA) announced that they will be releasing additional guidance to allow for flexibility in the claims auditing and quality reporting process thus allowing the medical community to gain experience using the new ICD-10 code set.

CenCal Health will continue to move forward in our implementation process to ensure our readiness for October 1st. CenCal Health will continue to keep you informed on the details of this transition. For ICD-10 information, please view the links provided.


CLAIMS CORNER

REMEMBER: DELETION OF MODIFIER “ZS” FOR MEDI-CAL

The State of California and CenCal Health will discontinue the use of local modifier “ZS” on August 1, 2015. Claims received with modifier- ZS on or after this date of service will be denied. CenCal Health strongly recommends discontinuing the use of modifier- ZS effective immediately. Services formerly billed with modifier –ZS can be submitted without a modifier or with any other modifiers as needed.

There is no change to the use of modifiers -26 and -TC. Providers should continue to use these modifiers appropriately when submitting claims for professional services only or technical services only.

For questions, contact The Claims Department at 805.562.1083 or view the Claims Corner section of CenCal Health’s website at https://www.cencalhealth.org/for_providers/ICD10.html

The Provider Bulletin is produced as a timely supplemental information service for provider office staff and is published monthly by the Provider Services Department. Questions and/or suggestions for articles may be made to psrgroup@cencalhealth.org or by calling 805.562.1676. Sign up for the electronic Provider Bulletin at http://www.cencalhealth.org/for_providers/bulletins/index.html.