New Year, New Look: Provider Bulletin Becomes Self-Mailer

In honor of the New Year, CenCal Health is giving the Provider Bulletin a new look! We’re excited to announce that, moving forward, the Provider Bulletin will be a self-mailer, and will no longer require an envelope. The change supports CenCal Health’s Go Green initiative to reduce paper usage for 2020.

Deadline: Coordination of Benefits Agreement (COBA) Cross Over Claims

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) developed a model national contract, called the Coordination of Benefits Agreement (COBA). COBA standardizes the way that eligibility and Medicare claims payment information, within a claims crossover context, is exchanged, and allows for greater efficiency and simplification of crossover claims. CMS has contracted with the Benefits Coordination & Recovery Center (BCRC), a unit of Celerian Group, to provide the crossover claim files to CenCal Health.

BCRC will submit claims directly to CenCal Health, therefore no further crossover claims billed directly to CenCal Health will be processed and paid beginning January 1, 2020. This includes paper claims and claims submitted by clearing houses.

For further assistance on this change, please contact CenCal Health’s Claims department at cencalclaims@cencalhealth.org or call (805) 562-1083.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our members and our communities.

If you would like to update your billing information, contact your Provider Services Representative or visit our website. cencalhealth.org/providers/provider-profile-and-practice-changes
According to the American College of Cardiology, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States.¹ With 2020 right around the corner, now is the perfect time to talk to your patients about their cardiovascular health. A few simple steps your patients can take to help lower their risk of cardiovascular disease include: knowing their risk factors, eating a heart healthy diet, increasing physical activity, and managing their weight.² For more information on a heart healthy lifestyle, visit cencalhealth.org/health-and-wellness and search “Heart Healthy Lifestyle.”

In recent years, e-cigarette use among high school teens has skyrocketed by more than 75%, and by nearly 50% for middle school-age children. The dramatic increase in “vaping” (a term to describe using e-cigarettes) is poised to reverse a two-decade decline in youth smoking.

Many teens don’t realize that e-cigarettes are harmful and contain nicotine. Yet, the most commonly sold e-cigarette contains about as much nicotine as a pack of cigarettes. Manufacturers work hard to convince the public that vaping is a healthier alternative to smoking—while also denying they’re targeting kids with flavors like cotton candy and marshmallow.

This past November, CenCal Health held both teen and parent focus groups, in English and Spanish, to gain understanding of local beliefs and uses of e-cigarettes. The feedback will help CenCal Health create and disseminate effective messaging and tools that resonate with teens, and stem the tide on this new and dangerous epidemic.

We encourage providers to utilize appropriate screening guidelines for all youth and adults. For more information, see our Provider Manual, section E.12 “Steps to Take for Tobacco Cessation.” cencalhealth.org/providers/forms-manuals-policies/provider-manual

HEALTH PROMOTION UPDATE

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CenCal Health Holds Focus Groups in Response to Teen Vaping Epidemic

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CLINICAL CORNER

We Heart the New Year: Ask Your Patients about Their Cardiovascular Health Today!

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CenCal Health’s Pharmacy Department Prescribes Education to Improve Prescribing Practices for Medi-Cal Recipients

To improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of prescribing and dispensing practices for Medi-Cal recipients, CenCal Health’s Pharmacy department is providing all current DUR educational articles on their web page. The educational interventions include ongoing dissemination of information through the Medi-Cal bulletin process about clinically important, drug specific therapy problems.

cencalhealth.org/providers/pharmacy

CLINICAL CORNER

CenCal Health Partners to Form the Community C. Difficile Reduction Coalition (CCDRC)

Santa Barbara County may be experiencing a significant surge in Clostridium Difficile Infections (CDI). Recent estimates by the Center for Disease Control have shown that CDI infects approximately half a million Americans each year, causing 29,000 deaths. Studies have shown that about 41% of CDI are community acquired infections, and antibiotic use remains the leading risk factor. Other risk factors involved in the causation of CDI include advanced age, chemotherapy, chronic renal disease, chronic liver disease, and malnutrition.

Cottage Health recently reported a 300% increase in community acquired CDI admissions over the past 5 years. As a result, CenCal Health Cottage Health, Santa Barbara County Department of Public Health, and Sansum Clinic have partnered to form the Community C. Difficile Reduction Coalition (CCDRC) to investigate the incidence, prevalence, and causation of this concerning health problem.

CenCal Health’s role in the CCDRC will be to assist with statistical analysis and correlation, the creation of educational campaigns to encourage effective antibiotic stewardship, and information sharing with providers to combat the prevalence of infections within the community.

For more information on recommendations intended to improve the diagnosis and management of CDI in adults and children, please visit Infectious Diseases Society of America’s website. idsociety.org/practice-guideline/clostridium-difficile

For more information about CenCal Health’s partnership with CCDRC, please contact Carlos Hernandez, CenCal Health’s Director of Quality Measurement, at (805) 685-9525, extension 1620.
Effective October 2019, all new members going forward will receive updated CenCal Health ID cards. The change is a result of CenCal Health's updated branding; existing members will still be using the previous version. Providers will find all pertinent, variable information in the same locations as before.

Happy Holidays!
From our office to yours, we wish you the happiest of holidays.

CenCal Health will be closed on Wednesday, December 25th, and Wednesday, January 1st, in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day.

PROVIDER NEWS

Look for New CenCal Health ID Cards

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Proposition 56 Supplemental Payment

The California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act (Proposition 56) increased the excise tax on cigarettes and tobacco products for purposes of funding specified expenditures, including programs administered by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).

DHCS has proposed supplemental payments for physician services in both the Medi-Cal fee-for-service (FFS) and Medi-Cal managed care delivery systems be applied for qualifying services provided on July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. CenCal Health’s requirement is to reimburse applicable providers, which excludes Federally Qualified Health Care Centers (FQHCs). The procedure codes listed below are inclusive of the supplemental payment to CenCal Health eligible members, including members with other health care coverage and excluding members with Medicare primary.

What to expect to see in future CenCal Health claims payments:

- Explain code G9 (payment has been increased due to Prop 56 Supplemental Payment Methodology) will be applied to current claims due for supplemental payment.

- Explain code H3 (additional payment made due to Prop 56 Supplement Payment Methodology) will be applied effective October 25th, 2019 and payment will be appear on the November 1st, 2019, EOP payment for all retroactive dates of service claims due for supplemental payment.

- Late filing reductions and share of cost (SOC) will not apply to these supplemental payments; full supplemental amount will be paid for dates of service July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, to CenCal Health eligible members, including members with other health care coverage and excluding members with Medicare primary.

### PHARMACY UPDATE Formulary Updates

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Formulary Status</th>
<th>Restrictions / Limits</th>
<th>Implementation Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bromsite 0.075% drops</td>
<td>Eye- General Disorders</td>
<td>Formulary: Code 1 Restriction: Code 1 of “Must be written by an Ophthalmologist”</td>
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<td>Lotemax SM 0.38% gel drops</td>
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<td>Midodrine 2.5mg, 5mg, 10mg tablets</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease- Miscellaneous Agents</td>
<td>Formulary</td>
<td>11/1/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rybelsus 3mg, 7mg, 14mg tablets</td>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>Formulary: Quantity Limit Restriction: Quantity limit os #30/30DS</td>
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<td>Dermatology-Anti-infective</td>
<td>Formulary</td>
<td>11/1/19</td>
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To learn more about these payment updates, please visit the DHCS Medi-Cal website or cencalhealth.org/providers/claims/claims-corner

More Questions?
Contact the Provider Services department at psrgroup@cencalhealth.org or call (805) 562-1676.

*Indicates New Prop 56 reimbursable service.