Covered California

Due to CMS regulatory requirements and the resulting cost implications and financial burdens, Contra Costa Health Plan (CCHP) has informed Covered California that it will not seek recertification for the 2015 Plan Year.

This difficult decision to withdraw had to be made because the new requirements pose administrative and financial burdens that could impact our ability to fulfill our mission to serve the most vulnerable people in Contra Costa County. This will affect about 1,000 of our 138,000 CCHP members. We are working with Covered California and the California Department of Managed Health Care on plans to transition these CCHP members enrolled through the Exchange into other Health Plans in Contra Costa County by January 1, 2015.

We are disappointed that we will no longer be able to offer our plan on the Exchange. However, as the Affordable Care Act (ACA) encourages, we continue our focus on Medi-Cal enrollment and are encouraged by the success we have had in enrolling more than 31,000 people through Medi-Cal Expansion.

We are honored to have participated in Covered California in this sentinel first year and to be able to continue to contribute to the health care reform efforts that have brought access to health care for so many more people in need. We remain open to future consideration of participating in a state Bridge which would be focused on additional low income populations. We have previously participated in discussions with the state about the possibility of creating a Bridge and we would support these efforts. For more information or updates, go to www.contracostahealthplan.org.
CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Contra Costa Health Plan’s (CCHP) Utilization Management Unit (UM) provides oversight and monitoring of services provided to members. UM decisions are based only on appropriateness of care and service and the member’s benefit package. CCHP does not compensate or reward the Medical Director, UM Manager, Medical Consultants or line staff members for issuing denials nor offer incentives to encourage denials.

The UM Unit’s normal business hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm. After normal business hours, on weekends and holidays, the phone lines are routed to the Advice Nurse Unit for urgent matters or messages can be left on the UM phone lines for the next business day.

Providers can request, free of charge, copies of clinical guidelines used for decision-making by contacting the Authorization Unit at (925) 957-7260.

When requested services are denied or modified, providers have the opportunity to discuss the UM decision. Providers are notified (via Notice of Action, Notice of Non-Coverage, etc.) on how to contact the reviewer and when the reviewer is available to discuss the decision.

Any individual who has been professionally involved in an issue or case may not participate in the review, evaluation, or final disposition of the case or participate in the appeal/reconsideration process.

Request for Enteral Nutrition Products

The information below pertains to enteral nutrition products for our Medi-Cal members. Please note that periodic physical assessment and follow up evaluation with the primary care provider (PCP) are required for continued authorization of enteral nutrition products.

Upon receipt of a prescription signed by a licensed provider, the Health Plan will:

1. Make a decision regarding therapeutic enteral formula in a timely manner as described below:
   a. Emergency requests: no prior authorization required when there is a bona fide emergency requiring immediate treatment.
   b. Expedited requests: within three (3) working days for services if a provider or a plan determines that following the standard timeframe could seriously jeopardize the member’s life or health or ability to attain, maintain, or regain maximum function.
   c. Non-emergency requests: within five (5) working days when proposed treatment meets objective medical criteria, and is not contraindicated.
   d. Regimen already in place: within five (5) working days for review of a currently provided regimen as consistent with urgency of the member’s medical condition.

2. Include appeal rights on all Notices of Action.
**TIDBITS FROM UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT Continued…**

**What About the Women, Infants and Children’s (WIC) Program?**

1. Providers should refer members to WIC for **basic formula** needs. Request for therapeutic enteral formulas should be sent to the Health Plan for review.

2. Women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or postpartum, or the parent/guardian of a child less than 5 years of age should be referred to a local WIC agency for food supplement and nutrition education program services, with documentation of the referral made in the member’s medical record.

3. Providers must provide a current hemoglobin (Hgb) or hematocrit (Hct) laboratory value with the WIC referral and periodically as needed for ongoing WIC program participation, and document the value in the member’s medical record.

4. Local WIC offices are noted in the table below or use the following link for other locations: [http://www.apps.cdph.ca.gov/wic/resources/laSearch/results_sites.asp?agencyID=105](http://www.apps.cdph.ca.gov/wic/resources/laSearch/results_sites.asp?agencyID=105)

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**Injection Safety Alert**

The Joint Commission has issued an alert to all healthcare organizations to pay more attention to multi-dose injectable medications. According to the CDC, since 2001 more than 150,000 patients have had to be notified to be tested for blood-borne pathogens after their potential exposure to unsafe injections. Nearly half of these outbreaks involved transmission of hepatitis B or C, the rest were outbreaks of bacterial infections.

The most common misuse of vials primarily involves the reuse of single-dose vials. Single-dose vials typically lack preservatives, and using them more than once carries substantial risk for bacterial contamination, growth, and infection. Some unsafe practices with multi-use vials are using the same syringe to re-enter a vial multiple times for the same patient, or saving vials for use on another patient. A high percentage of these events have occurred in pain management clinics and cancer clinics.

Staff should always follow safe injection and infection control practices—including correct aseptic technique, hand hygiene and the one-time-only use of needles and syringes—along with the specific recommendations for single-dose/single-use vials and multiple dose vials. Remember “**one needle, one syringe, only one time.**”
Pharmacy and Therapeutics News Notes

Preferred Drug List (PDL) changes should be effective the first week of July 2014.

The CCHP Pharmacy and Therapeutics committee approved addition of the following agents to the Preferred Drug List. These agents will not require Prior Authorization:

- lovastatin

Other formulary changes:

- pravastatin new patient starts subject to step-therapy requiring at least 1-month claim within past year of either simvastatin or atorvastatin or ritonavir

Dispensing Controlled Substances

In response to the national epidemic of opiate abuse, DEA has begun enforcing their regulatory oversight of pharmacists’ role in dispensing controlled substances. DEA wants to ensure prescriptions are issued for a legitimate medical purpose. Pharmacies and pharmacists are requiring more information including but not limited to: diagnosis, previous medications tried, and length of expected treatment. They will apply more scrutiny to opiate prescriptions which exceed 120mg/day of morphine equivalent. Prescribers should be aware they may be informed should a pharmacy discover possible issues during a CURES lookup of the patient.

Controlled substance schedule II-V 30-day supply limit

CCHP will begin processing DEA schedule 2-5 controlled-substance prescriptions for no more than the quantity of medication calculated to last 30 days. For example if dosing 1 TID, #90 units for 30 days would process, but #180 units for 60 days would reject with a message that quantities greater than 30 days are not covered.

For prescriptions in schedules 3, 4, and 5, quantities greater than a 30 day supply can be saved or “rolled over” by the pharmacy as refills. For example, 1 qd with #90 would be processed by the pharmacy as #30 plus 2 more refills.

For schedule 2 prescriptions, which cannot legally be refilled, the pharmacy will be unable to save the excess quantity as refills. For patients who are seen at longer than monthly intervals, CCHP recommends issuing one triplicate for each month of medication desired. This set of monthly prescription security forms can be issued to a patient during one visit. The patient may drop off all forms at once at the pharmacy. The pharmacy can dispense the current month’s form and "hold" the future forms in the patient's prescription profile. This mitigates the risk of lost prescription forms and eliminates the need for patients to return to the prescriber for each month’s form.

Rationale:

- CCHP will be conforming more to DEA guidance for controlled substances by:
  - Reducing large quantities of medications having the highest potential for theft, fraud, diversion, abuse, and misadventuring from entering our communities
  - DEA vigilance increasing due to current nationwide prescription drug abuse epidemic
    - Please see www.pdmpexcellence.org/drug-abuse-epidemic
- CCHP peer health plans cover controlled substance prescriptions with only 30 day Supply limit
- Reducing potential waste
- Majority of currently issued prescriptions paid by CCHP are already 30 days or less

Pharmacy and Therapeutics continued on next page
CCHP updates the Preferred Drug List (PDL) formulary after each quarterly Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee meeting. CCHP invites and encourages practitioners to access each update through the following means:

A printable copy of the CCHP preferred drug list can be found here:

A searchable CCHP preferred drug list can be found here:

EPOCRATES — free mobile & online formulary resource

How to add the CCHP formulary to your epocrates user profile:

2. Click on "My Account" in the top right.
3. Sign in with your Epocrates username and password, if needed.
4. Click on "Edit Formularies."
5. Follow the on screen instructions to select and download formularies or to remove formularies.
   - For the ‘Select State’ filter, click California
   - For the ‘Select Category’ filter, click Health Plan
   - Choose the Contra Costa Health Plan formulary; click the ‘Add’ button
   - Click the "Done" button when you've finished.
6. Update your device, and the formularies on your mobile device will be changed accordingly.

Epocrates mobile is supported on the iOS (iPhone, iTouch, iPad), Android, & BlackBerry platforms.

If you have any questions about the installation or use of Epocrates, please contact Epocrates Customer Support at goldsupport@epocrates.com or at 1 (800) 230-2150.

Questions and comments may be directed to CCHP Pharmacy by emailing cchp_pharmacy_director@hsd.cccounty.us.

Blood Clotting Factor Product Carve-Out from Managed Care Medi-Cal

A note to blood clotting factor providers:

Effective starting July 1, 2014, providers should follow billing instructions for noncapitated services (fee-for-service Medi-Cal or special programs) as specified in the Blood and Blood Derivatives Section of the Medi-Cal provider manuals. The below-listed coagulation factors will be a noncapitated benefit and not reimbursed by Contra Costa Health Plan. These drugs are listed under the category “Blood Factors: Coagulation Factors.”

Coagulation Factors:

- Factor XIII (antihemophilic factor, human)
- von Willebrand factor complex (human), Wilate
- Factor VIII (antihemophilic factor, recombinant) (XYNTHA)
- Antihemophilic factor VIII/von Willebrand factor complex (human)
- von Willebrand factor complex (Humate-P)
- Factor VIIa (antihemophilic factor, recombinant)
- Factor VIII (antihemophilic factor, human)
- Factor VIII (antihemophilic factor, recombinant)
- Factor IX (antihemophilic factor, purified, nonrecombinant)
- Factor IX complex
- Factor IX (antihemophilic factor, recombinant)
- Antiinhibitor (HCPCS J7198)
CCHP requires prior authorization for any genetic, gene or BRCA tests. These tests are not considered standard laboratory blood draws, and in fact require that the blood specimen is sent to a specialized laboratory. Below, we have listed the most common codes that are affected and require prior authorization from the health plan.

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<tr>
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Tidbits from UM continued on next page
## TIDBITS FROM UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT continued...

Request for Genetic, Gene, and BRCA Testing...

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**Provider Relations Tidbit**

**DHCS and Deactivation of FFS Medi-Cal Providers**

As part of an ongoing process to update provider information, effective July 1st, DHCS will deactivate providers from the Provider Master File who have not billed FFS in the last 12 months. If you are using the POS system to access eligibility information, you may still obtain eligibility information by the following ways:

- Call the Automated Eligibility Verification System (AVES) at **1 (800) 407-1295**
- Go to [https://www.medi-cal.ca.gov/Eligibility/Login.asp](https://www.medi-cal.ca.gov/Eligibility/Login.asp)

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**Report of Tuberculosis in Contra Costa County - 2013**

**Facts**

**57** Number of People with TB Disease in Contra Costa in 2013

**People with TB Disease**

**3 out of 10 have diabetes**

In 2013, people with TB Disease were 3.7 times more likely to have diabetes than people without TB. If a person comes from a country with high rates of TB and has diabetes, they should get tested!

**13** Average number of contacts exposed by each person with contagious TB in 2013

**458** Total number of contacts tested for TB by Contra Costa Public Health in 2013

**7 Months** Average length of treatment for TB disease in 2013

**TB Reporting**

The TB Control Program receives reports on all cases of TB. Physicians, Clinical Lab directors and other providers are required by law to report confirmed and suspected cases of TB to Public Health within one working day of the diagnosis of TB or suspected TB. Providers should complete a Confidential Morbidity Report (CMR) and FAX to Contra Costa Public Health (CCPH) at **(925) 313-6465**. For Questions about TB reporting, providers should call at **(925) 313-6740**.

**Medical Consultation**

CCPH provides medical consultation to providers regarding the diagnosis and management of patients with LTBI and confirmed or suspected TB disease. For Medical Consultation, providers may call **(925) 313-6740**.

Medical consultation is also provided by the Curry International TB Center Warm line Consultation Service (response within 24 hours) Call **1 (877) 390-6682** or **(415) 502-4700**.
Welcome CPN Providers!

Diablo Valley Pediatrics Medical Group, Wesley Taft, MD—PCP-Pediatrics
Allergy and Asthma Medical Group, Angela Ingram, NP—Allergy and Immunology
Behavior Analysts, Inc., William Kent, BCBA—Behavior Analysis
Ed Support Services, LLC, Alissa Greenberg, BCBA-D—Behavior Analysis
Earl Holloway, MD—Cardiology
East Bay Cardiac Surgery Center Medical Group, Ryan Garcia, PA—Cardiology
Nutrition For Your Lifestyle, Sandy Cortez, RD—Dietitian
Diabetes and Endocrinology Specialists, Anita Bhat, MD—Endocrinology
Planned Parenthood, Kelly Lohman-Baesen, PA, Sarah McNeil, MD—Family Planning,
Rebecca Menashe, CNM—Midwife
Northern California Gastroenterology Consultants, Inc., Kiran Narsinh, MD—Gastroenterology
Epic Care-East Bay Medical Oncology-Hematology Associates, Jasdeepa Nagi, MD—Hematology/
Medical Oncology
East Bay Aids Center, Jessica Horwitz, NP—HIV/AIDS
Axis Community Health, Matthew Narron, PsyD—Psychology
Sarah Carson, LCSW—Clinical Social Work
East Bay Nephrology Medical Group, Inc., Ruby Harrison, NP—Nephrology
Beverly Richardson, NP, Affiliated with Debra L. Stewart, DO—OB/GYN
La Clinica De La Raza, Emily Corrigan, MD—OB/GYN
West Coast Retina Medical Group, Sara Haug, MD—Ophthalmology
Karen Pham, OD—Optometry
Comprehensive Psychiatric Services, Melissa Wycoff-Montenegro, MD, Roobal Sekhon, DO—
Psychiatry
LifeLong Medical Care, Linda Duritz, MD—Psychiatry
Medical Oncology-Hematology Associates, Mariam Korah, MD—Radiation Oncology
Walnut Creek Surgical Associates, Inc., Eugenia Kang, MD—General Surgery
Bay Area Surgical Specialists, Inc., Lloyd Ford, MD—Head/Neck Surgery
East Bay Cardiovascular and Thoracic Associates, Ricardo Aguirre, MD—Surgery Vascular
Welcome New CCRMC Providers located at the Martinez Wellness Center (MWC)
The Building Name: George and Cynthia Miller Wellness Center

PCP-Family Medicine
Kenneth Katzman, MD, David Pepper, MD, Monica Laimayum, MD, Jamie Navel, MD

PCP-Pediatrics
Joanna Chin, MD, Victoria Agnost, MD

Pediatrics
Patrick Maher, MD, Dan Barrett, DO, Gwendolyn Hamilton, MD

PCP-Adult Medicine
Nusrat Chaudhry, MD

Welcome New CCRMC Providers at other locations

Emma Winfield, NP
Antioch Health Center

Chere Sealey, NP, Lizabeth Linn, NP
Concord Health Center

Ian Wallace, MD, Ahmed Farrag, MD, Takanori Watanabe, MD
Martinez Health Center
The Bulletin Board

Mark your Calendar for our next PCP Community Provider Network Meeting.
We encourage and appreciate your participation!

West County July 15, 2014
West County Health Center
13601 San Pablo Ave., Administrative Conference Room A
San Pablo, CA 94806
7:30 - 9:00 AM

Central/East County July 22, 2014
1350 Arnold Drive, Conference Room #103
Martinez, CA 94553
7:30 - 9:00 AM

* Please note next CPN meeting dates: West County Tuesday, October 21, 2014
   Central/East Tuesday, October 28, 2014

Our URAC accredited Advice Nurse Unit
is available for our members 24 hours a day, 7 days a week including holidays.
Members can call The Advice Nurse Unit at
1 (877) 661-6230 Press 1.

Providers needing help with translation services
or needing help with arranging face to face ASL (American Sign Language)
interpretation services call
1 (877) 800-7423 Press 4.

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CPN Meeting Materials
are available on our website at:
www.contracostahealthplan.org.

Visit our CCHP Provider & Pharmacy Online
Search Engine (OSE) at:
www.contracostahealthplan.org

For ccLink Web Portal Access Agreements
go to our website located at www.cchealth.org,
click on “Health Plan,” select “For Providers”,
Then Forms & Resources, under ‘Information For Providers’, located in black box, under the green
ccLink logo click on the PDF files named
ccLink Provider Portal Access Agreement and Attachment A. Print
out and follow instructions on first page.

Need more information call (925) 313-9500.

Holiday Observed by CCHP
September 1, 2014, Labor Day

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Search Engine (OSE) at:
www.contracostahealthplan.org
Contra Costa Health Plan
Provider Call Center 1 (877) 800-7423

Press 1 – Member Eligibility and Primary Care Physician Assignment
Press 2 – Pharmacy Services Department
Press 3 – Authorization Department/Hospital Transition Nurse
Press 4 – Interpreter Services (Advice Nurse)
Press 5 – Claims Department
Press 6 – Provider Relations Department
Press 7 – Member Services Department