

Medicare Advantage Provider Newsletter



Q3 2021 Provider Newsletter

COVID-19 Information for Providers

The COVID-19 situation is changing quickly, and we are monitoring changes closely. To assist our provider partners in navigating this changing situation, Aspirus Health Plan has created and is maintaining a [COVID-19 Information for Health Care Providers](#) document on our Provider Website.

Recently, we updated the following sections:

- On the Billing and Payment page, under “COVID-19 Tests and Treatment,” extended the waiving of coinsurance, copays and deductibles for in-network hospital observation and inpatient services to treat COVID-19 through December 31, 2021.
- On the Telehealth, Telemedicine and Technology Based Services page, under Telehealth Services, added a list of services that become telehealth eligible services effective March 1, 2021, through the end of the public health emergency.
- On the Billing and Payment page, updated guidance on using the CS modifier.
- On the Authorizations page, the end date for the waiving of authorization for post-acute services was extended from July 31, 2021, to August 31, 2021.

Aspirus Health Plan is monitoring inquiries for common questions and will update these web pages with additional information as it becomes available. We recommend [visiting the website](#) regularly for the latest information.

Table of Contents

COVID-19 Information for Providers	1
Aspirus Health Plan Medicare Advantage Provider Manual Updated	2
Document Improvement: Major Depressive Disorder	2
Working with Aspirus Health Plan Medicare Advantage	2
Sign Up to Have Aspirus Provider News Delivered to Your Email	2

Aspirus Health Plan’s Provider Website

<https://www.aspirushealthplan.com/medicare/providers/>

Aspirus Health Plan’s Provider Assistance Center

715-631-7412 or 1-855-931-4851 toll free

Contact Provider News

providernewsMA@aspirushealthplan.com



Aspirus Health Plan Medicare Advantage Provider Manual Updated

Aspirus Health Plan Medicare Advantage has updated the Credentialing chapter of the [Provider Manual](#). Specific updates are called out in the Appendix.

Documentation Improvement: Major Depressive Disorder

When documenting for Major Depressive Disorder (MDD), it is critical to capture the episode and severity with the most accurate diagnosis codes. Accurately and completely documenting Major Depressive Disorder to the highest degree of specificity supports high-quality care for your patients. Documentation should include:

- Episode:
 - Single or recurrent
- Severity:
 - Mild
 - Moderate
 - Severe without psychotic features or severe with psychotic features
- Clinical status of the current episode:
 - In partial or full remission
- Document any treatment plans, medication, counseling/therapy

Documentation Examples:
Major depression, recurrent, in remission
Moderate recurrent major depression
Major depression, single severe episode with psychotic features

Working with Aspirus Health Plan Medicare Advantage

Whether you are a new provider or a long-standing partner, we have created the [Working with Aspirus Health Plan Medicare Advantage Provider Guide](#) to provide a high-level overview of key administrative procedures important to our partnership.

We recommend reviewing this guide for information outlining the [Provider Website](#), [Provider Manual](#), [Provider News](#), [Product Benefit information](#), and much more.

Sign Up to Have Aspirus Provider News Delivered to Your Email

Make sure you get the latest Medicare Advantage provider news from Aspirus Health Plan by [signing up to receive our emails](#). We encourage you to share the sign-up information staff in your organization as well. Once you sign up, you will receive the newsletter and other essential, timely updates from Aspirus Health Plan via email. Signing up is easy! Just fill out the simple form and submit it. Then watch for communications as they become available.

Thank you for your help in improving our communications to the provider community!