Please participate in UCare’s Pay for Performance (P4P) Program

UCare would like to invite provider groups and care systems to participate in the 2015 Pay for Performance (P4P) Program. We are pleased to offer financial recognition to provider groups and care systems that demonstrate superior or improved performance. Click here for more information.

All participating care systems and clinics must Opt-in by February 27, 2015. Click here to opt-in.

Quality Improvement Priorities 2015

In 2015, UCare will focus on improving several health measures for our state and public program members. Clinicians and clinic staff can assist us in achieving our goals by encouraging UCare members to take advantage of the programs and incentives we offer. Click here for more information on member incentives and to print our incentive vouchers.

- *Coming Soon* in 2015: UCare, in partnership with Medica, HealthPartners, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and Metropolitan Health Plan, will release a toolkit for improving your patients’ antidepressant medication adherence, particularly in racial and ethnic minority populations. Watch for announcements about this toolkit as well as a related webinar series in 2015-2016.

- *New* in 2015: We will offer a $20 colon cancer incentive to MSHO and MSC+ members who are in need of a screening and complete one of the following tests:
  - Colonoscopy completed every 10 years
  - Flexible Sigmoidoscopy completed every 5 years
  - Stool test which can be conducted at home every year

- **Well-Child Visits and Immunizations**: We offer many incentives for well-child visits and preventive care, including a $50 voucher for getting six well child visits by 15 months of age, and a $50 voucher for 2 year olds that are up to date on their vaccines.

(Continued on next page)
Prenatal/Postpartum: We offer $75 vouchers for new and pregnant moms to get their prenatal visit in the 1st trimester, and postpartum visit within 3-8 weeks of delivery.

Antidepressant Medication Continuity: We are encouraging members that are newly prescribed antidepressant medications to continue on their medication for at least 6 months. We are offering members that use Thrifty White pharmacy additional education from pharmacy staff on antidepressant medications.

Asthma: We encourage our members with asthma to fill their maintenance, or long-term controller inhalers throughout the year. We also offer eligible members incentives to participate in UCare’s Asthma Action Program. Call the Disease Management line to refer a member: 612-676-6539 or 1-866-863-8303, or click here to use the online referral form.

Preventive Screenings: We encourage members to receive their preventive screenings, including chlamydia screenings (for women ages 16-24), mammograms (women ages 52-74), cervical cancer screening (women ages 21-64), and colon cancer screenings (men and women ages 50-75).

These are just a few of the many UCare initiatives focusing on improving the health of our members. For more information on these and other projects, go to ucare.org > Providers> Resources & Training> Quality Programs. Thank you for continuing to emphasize the importance of preventive care for our members.

2015 Authorization and Notification Changes at a Glance

UCare’s 2015 authorization and notification requirements are now available on our website at ucare.org/providers, under the Authorization & Eligibility section. We are pleased to publish several reference documents for UCare plans. The following authorization and notification reference documents are available: State (Medicaid) and Federal (Medicare) programs medical services, UCare Choices and Fairview UCare Choices (Commercial) medical services, behavioral health and pharmacy.

We have continued to expand these reference materials based on your feedback. Please ensure this information reaches the staff who handles authorizations and notifications within your organization.

2015 changes at a glance

Dental Services: Effective January 1st, UCare has a new dental delegate, Delta Dental, see page 2 of the authorization and notification documents for specific information.

| The following changes were made to the authorization and notification requirements for UCare’s State and Federal Programs (UFS, MSHO, PMAP, MnCare, MSC+ and UCare Connect): |
| Authorization required for sacral fusions. Back (Spine) surgery section has been updated. |
| Authorization required prior to first visit for Home Care Nursing (HCN – formerly Private Duty Nursing): Home Care Nursing section has been added. |
| Authorization is required for durable medical equipment purchase if over $500. Durable Medical Equipment-purchase section updated. |
| Authorization is required for wheelchair accessories (purchase) if over $500. Wheelchairs including parts/accessories section updated. |

UCare Choices and Fairview UCare Choices: Minor updates made for Medical Services, no changes to authorization or notification requirement for 2015.

Thank you for working with us on authorizations and notifications as we aim to reduce your time and effort in supporting our members’ health and wellbeing. If you have questions, our Provider Assistance Center can help: 612-676-3300 or 1-888-531-1493, Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.
New licensing requirements for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in Minnesota

Effective January 1, 2015, Governor Dayton signed into law a bill introducing new licensing requirements for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). This new law requires licensure for all APRNs for practice authority. It also removes the requirements for a collaborative management plan and written prescribing agreement for APRNs. To become licensed, an APRN is now required to hold a current RN license and submit documentation of successful completion of an acceptable graduate APRN program and current certification as an APRN in a role and population focus. APRNs consist of NPs, CNMs, CNS and CRNAs.

In accordance with this new law, as of January 1, 2015, UCare now requires all APRNs to obtain and maintain the new APRN license requirements. APRNs who have not been issued the new APRN license no longer meet UCare’s Pre-application Credentialing Criteria A (4):

- Appropriate verified license, registration, certification or other required qualification to practice in the state(s) where the APRN is applying to provide care or services.
  - If you are an APRN that is newly applying participation within UCare’s network, you must have 1st obtain the appropriate license prior to submitting your initial credentialing application to UCare.
  - **If you are an existing participating UCare practitioner,** you will be administratively terminated from participation effective January 1, 2015. **This means any claims for dates of service after the termination date will not be paid.**
    - If during this time of termination, your recredentialing lapses or the termination is greater than 30 days, you will be required to complete the initial credentialing process.


Webinar Reminder: American Cancer Society Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines & Best Practices - Wednesday, January 21, 2015, from Noon-1:00 p.m.

For those who have registered, remember to join us for a webinar hosted by the American Cancer Society and sponsored by UCare and MN Community Measurement. The webinar is titled “Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines and Best Practices.” Dr. Debbie Saslow, the Director of the Breast and Gynecological Cancer division of the American Cancer Society, will be presenting the latest information on cervical cancer screening.