

UCare to Suspend Authorizations in 2019 for *UCare Choices* Plans (Individual & Family Plans)

During 2019, UCare will temporarily suspend the requirement for prior authorizations for services delivered to members with *UCare Choices* and *Fairview UCare Choices* (renamed as UCare Individual & Family Plans and UCare Individual & Family Plans with Fairview in 2019). This means providers **will not** need to submit prior authorization requests for medical services, behavioral health services and provider-administered drugs for these members from dates of service of Jan. 1, 2019, to Dec. 31, 2019. Notification requirements will remain in effect for inpatient services, skilled nursing facility admissions, nursing home facility admissions, and transplants.

Effective Jan. 1, 2019, until Dec. 31, 2019:

- We have suspended authorization requirements for *UCare Choices* and *Fairview UCare Choices* (renamed as UCare Individual & Family Plans and UCare Individual & Family Plans with Fairview in 2019) members for medical services (including outpatient therapy and DME), behavioral health services and provider-administered drugs. Authorization will still be required for dental, pharmacy benefit drugs and chiropractic services.
- If you have already submitted a request for services and received approval that will span into 2019, please proceed in providing the service to our member. No further action is required for 2019.
- During this period, UCare will pay claims for covered services without requiring authorization numbers.
- UCare requires that medical necessity criteria is met for all services delivered. UCare publishes medical necessity criteria in the Provider Manual, and providers are expected to follow this guidance. Although prior authorization is not required, UCare reserves the right to retroactively audit services for medical necessity and recoup payment for those services that did not meet criteria.

We will notify you when we reintroduce our authorization requirements.

We have prepared a list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#). If you have further questions, please call UCare's Provider Assistance Center at 612-676-3300 or 1-888-531-1493.