



Article on Chiropractic Prior Authorization

05/12/2014

To the Molina Chiropractic Network,

Re: Prior authorization requirements for Chiropractic Treatment

Thank you for your continued commitment to providing quality health care. Molina Healthcare of Ohio requires prior authorization for all chiropractic care. We have had numerous questions regarding this process, which started in January 2014. We hope to address some of the questions we have received to help make this a better process for our members and providers.

The Ohio Medicaid benefit for chiropractic care is described in the Ohio Administrative Code, (OAC) Section 5160-8-11 Covered chiropractic physician service and limitations. This citation can be reviewed online at <http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/5160-8-11>.

The OAC is very clear in defining the benefit under Ohio Medicaid. Maintenance therapy, per the OAC above, is defined as “therapy that is performed to treat a chronic, stable condition or to prevent deterioration,” and is not covered. Spinal axial conditions and functional mechanical disabilities of the spine are covered, as stated in the Limitations of coverage, Section (E.) Section (E) (1) states:

- (1) Spinal axis aches, strains, sprains, nerve pains, and functional mechanical disabilities of the spine are considered to provide therapeutic grounds for chiropractic manipulative treatment. Most other diseases and disorders do not provide therapeutic grounds for chiropractic manipulative treatment. Examples of non-covered diagnoses are multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, muscular dystrophy, sinus problems and pneumonia.

A treatment plan is required with measurable goals, and plans for continued treatment including duration and frequency of visits, and objective measure that will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of treatment. Please note that physical therapy modalities are not covered when performed or ordered by a chiropractor. This is outlined in detail in the OAC reference above.

This mailing contains a model treatment plan developed by the Ohio State Chiropractic Association. We do not require a specific treatment plan or document, and we are not stating that this form must be used, but it is an example of a treatment plan that would contain the elements necessary to review a request for chiropractic treatment. We

appreciate the permission of the Ohio State Chiropractic Association to include this form in our mailing.

We hope this information will help our chiropractor network providers understand our process and the chiropractic benefit for Ohio Medicaid members. Again, thank you for being a valuable participant in our provider network. Questions should be addressed to Provider Services at (855) 322-4079.

Sincerely,

Robert. N. Robison, M.D.
Lead Medical Director