

Integrated Imaging Management Program

to begin for Walmart associates and Tyson team members in your area

Beginning January 1, 2013, Walmart associates and Tyson team members and their covered dependents throughout the United States will begin participating in an Integrated Imaging Management Program for outpatient diagnostic imaging procedures. You may leverage current benefit verification processes or call the number on the patient's BlueAdvantage Administrators of Arkansas (BlueAdvantage) identification card to determine if your patients are included in the program.

There are two primary components included in the Integrated Imaging Management Program described below.

1. Prospective Case Review and Education

- Similar to programs in your local market, BlueAdvantage prospectively will be applying evidence-based clinical guidelines for elective, outpatient CT, MRI, Nuclear Cardiology, PET and Echocardiography exams.
- You can determine if your patient is included in the program by checking benefits and eligibility through your normal processes. Messaging will instruct your staff to contact Carelon Medical Benefits Management (Carelon) Specialty HealthSM to request or verify an order number one of two ways: online through Carelon's ProviderPortalSM at www.aimspecialtyhealth.com/goweb or via telephone using the toll-free number displayed on the back of the member's ID card or directly to Carelon at 1-866-688-1449. The member also may initiate the request.
- Imaging studies performed in conjunction with emergency room services, inpatient hospitalization, outpatient surgery (hospitals and free standing surgery centers), urgent care centers or 23-hour observations are excluded from this requirement.

2. Provider/Patient Transparency

- Carelon will be leveraging the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association's National Consumer Cost Transparency (NCCT) data set for transparency purposes. This data is submitted two times per year by the Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Plan with whom you contract.
- Carelon will share NCCT imaging facility cost information with your staff during the clinical review process to promote awareness.
- Carelon also will make outbound phone calls to your patients to inform them of the imaging facility options available.

It is important to note that your patients will not be denied access to services if they **do not** choose the lower-cost option and that Carelon outreach will exclude pediatric and cancer patients. The goal of this program is to provide you and your patients with information to make informed choices. And for BlueAdvantage members who have coinsurance plans and pay a percentage of costs out of pocket, the program could mean significant savings.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact:

Patricia Fields, Manager BlueAdvantage National Accounts, 501-301-7389



**BlueAdvantage
Administrators of Arkansas**

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