



PROVIDER BULLETIN
#06-2019

TO: Participating hospitals that provide covered services to AmeriHealth New Jersey members

FROM: Clinical Services – Utilization Management team

DATE: May 2, 2019

SUBJECT: Precertification requirement for non-emergent inpatient transfers, including ambulance transport

As communicated through a *Partners in Health Update*SM [article](#), AmeriHealth HMO, Inc. and AmeriHealth Insurance Company of New Jersey (collectively, AmeriHealth New Jersey) requires precertification for all non-emergent transfers from one inpatient acute-care setting to another inpatient acute-care setting as well as for non-emergent land and air ambulance transports for AmeriHealth New Jersey members **as of January 1, 2019.**

Requesting precertification

The method for requesting precertification differs depending upon the type of service and who requests it.

For non-emergent transfers from one inpatient acute-care setting to another inpatient acute-care setting

- Facilities need to call the AmeriHealth New Jersey Utilization Management team to request precertification when a non-emergent inpatient transfer request is initiated by the facility, regardless of the way the member will be transported.
- The receiving facility should obtain the precertification authorization from the transferring facility before the non-emergent inpatient transfer occurs.
- Facilities are not able to initiate non-emergent inpatient transfer requests through the NaviNet[®] web portal at this time.

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We encourage you to share this information with appropriate members of your staff.

For non-emergent ambulance transportation

- **Ambulance providers should *verify* that the transferring facility has obtained precertification for *all* non-emergent ambulance transport requests through the Authorizations transaction on NaviNet. If an authorization is not found, please contact the requesting transferring facility.**
- For any other elective ambulance transport requests initiated by the ambulance provider, the precertification request must be submitted through the Authorizations transaction on NaviNet.
- When non-emergent air ambulance requests are initiated by the ambulance provider, the precertification request must be called in to the AmeriHealth New Jersey Utilization Management team. Providers are not able to initiate non-emergent air ambulance requests through NaviNet at this time.

Failure to obtain or verify precertification when required may result in a reduction in payment or non-payment for services rendered. Inpatient transfers, including ambulance transportation, performed on an emergency basis are still subject to post-payment review.

For more information

If you have any questions about this change, please call the AmeriHealth New Jersey Utilization Management team at **1-888-YOUR-AH1**.

This requirement is reflected in our *Preapproval/Precertification List*, which is available on our [website](#).

The Billing & Reimbursement for Ancillary Services section of the *Hospital Manual for Participating Hospitals, Ancillary Facilities, and Ancillary Providers* will be updated to reflect this requirement.

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