

Episodes of Care Announcements

Re: 2018 First Quarter Report Release



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Episodes of Care PAP Reports Will Be Delayed in 2018

Many providers are aware of Arkansas Medicaid's effort toward an upgrade to a new Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) called InterChange. The "go live" date was November 1, 2017. The Health Care Innovation (HCI) unit which manages the programs Episodes of Care (EOC), Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) and Medical Neighborhood Performance Reports (MNPR) are "downstream" users of MMIS claims data. There were significant changes to the structure, content, form and format of the adjudicated claims data used to process EOC, PCMH and MNPR reports. These complexities required re-programming of retrospective calculations to accommodate this new data. **This will result in the delay of reports usually produced in the first quarter of 2018.** For the Episodes of Care reports usually published in January, the actual release date is currently unknown. We are working diligently to minimize the delay. Once we receive sufficient "new" data to assure the quality and accuracy of reports, normal processing will resume. The latest information will be posted on the Health Care Payment Improvement Initiative website: www.paymentinitiative.org.

Policy Rule Change Affecting ADHD and ODD Episodes of Care

A policy rule change to remove the ADHD and ODD episodes was approved effective January 1, 2018. Arkansas Medicaid's Health Care Innovation unit proposed this rule change in response to Behavioral Health Transformation. Implemented July 1, 2017, this transformation placed the responsibility for the cost of care of Tier 1 Behavioral Health beneficiaries with the primary care physicians who are enrolled in the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) program. Additionally, Behavioral Health Transformation yielded new, modified and deleted billing codes which makes the historical data on which these episodes are constructed invalid. Continuing these episodes would result in erroneous reports that do not serve the intent of the program.

New Report for Behavioral Health Providers

Although these two episodes are being removed, Arkansas Medicaid's Health Care Innovation unit is committed to continuing to provide valuable financial and quality data for behavioral health services. In furtherance of this commitment, new informational reports are being released for providers who serve the behavioral health population. The first of these reports is a cost report to behavioral health providers, broken down by diagnosis category, which releases this quarter. More reports will be added over time. The first few quarterly releases will be "transitional", while the switch to the new BH coding system results in a blending of data between the old and new systems. Although these reports are being published alongside the Episodes of Care reports, they will not have a gain or risk sharing component.