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To: All Physical Therapy Providers

From: IEHP – UM

Date: August 28, 2024

Subject: **Reminder: PT Authorization Requests Require Medical Justification to Avoid Potential Overutilization**

Please be advised of an important update regarding our physical therapy (PT) authorization process.

During a recent audit by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), IEHP was presented with a finding that authorizing a standard set of CPT codes that is not tailored to correlate with each respective Members' diagnoses may result in over utilization.

As a reminder, we will NOT authorize a standard set of CPT codes when authorizing Physical Therapy. CPT codes will be authorized as clinically appropriate and specific to each individual Member's diagnosis.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of codes involving specific limbs/orthotics/prosthetics that can/will be reviewed for medical necessity:

- 97116 Therapeutic procedure; Gait training
- 97760 Orthotics management and training
- 97761 Orthotic Management and Training and Prosthetic Training
- 97763 Orthotics/Prosthetics management and/or training subsequent orthotics/prosthetics encounter, each 15 minutes
- 29445 Application of rigid leg cast to the lower extremity
- 29581 Application of a multilayer compression system to the lower leg, ankle, foot
- 29580 Application of a paste boot to the lower extremities

It is essential that IEHP comply with regulatory requirements and that we demonstrate appropriate utilization management processes in place.

If you have any questions, please contact the IEHP Provider Call Center at (909) 890-2054, (866) 223-4347 or email ProviderServices@iehp.org

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