

# Medicare Advantage Provider Newsletter



## Q4 2022 Provider Newsletter

### Aspirus Health Plan Medicare Advantage Provider Manual Updated

Aspirus Health Plan has updated the following chapters of the [Medicare Advantage Provider Manual](#): Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), Authorization & Notification Standards, Medical Necessity Criteria for Services Requiring Authorization and Member Appeals & Grievances Process.

### Product Information for Providers Updated

The Aspirus Health Plan Highlights document has been released for 2023. The Plan Highlights document assists providers in working with Aspirus Health Plan and our members. It includes information about the member ID card, benefits and copayments for Medicare Advantage members. Access the Plan Highlights on the [Aspirus Health Plan website](#).

### Aspirus Health Plan Launches New Medicare Advantage Provider Website

In October, Aspirus Health Plan launched a new Provider Website. Information has stayed the same, but you will notice a new look and feel to the site. In the coming months, Aspirus Health Plan will continue to update the website to enhance the provider online experience. Visit <https://medicare.aspirushealthplan.com/providers> to check out the new website!

### COVID-19 Information for Providers

To assist our provider partners in navigating the COVID-19 situation, Aspirus Health Plan has created and is maintaining a

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#### Aspirus Health Plan's Provider Website

<https://medicare.aspirushealthplan.com/providers>

#### Aspirus Health Plan's Provider Assistance Center

715-631-7412 or 1-855-931-4851 toll free

#### Contact Provider News

[providernewsMA@aspirushealthplan.com](mailto:providernewsMA@aspirushealthplan.com)

*Aspirus Health Plan has partnered with UCare, based out of Minnesota, as the administrator for our Medicare Advantage Plan.*



COVID-19 Information for Health Care Providers document on our [Provider Website](#). Recently, we updated the following sections:

### **Billing and Payment**

- COVID-19 vaccine codes were updated.
- Information within the COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibodies section was updated.

Aspirus Health Plan is monitoring inquiries for common questions and will update the web document with additional information as it becomes available. We recommend reviewing the document regularly for the latest information.

## **Clinical Practice Guidelines Updated**

Aspirus Health Plan, through the Quality Improvement Advisory Committee (QIAC), adopts medical clinical practice guidelines from nationally or locally recognized sources. Sources may include medical specialty societies and other professional organizations. The guidelines are based on reasonable medical evidence or a consensus on clinical treatment patterns by physicians in the selected field of practice. At least every two years, QIAC reviews and approves the content of the guidelines. In September 2022, Aspirus reviewed and approved the following clinical practice guidelines.

### **Medical**

*No changes or modifications made in 2022:*

#### [Asthma, Diagnosis and Management](#)

Primary Source: Global Initiative for Asthma

#### [Diabetes, Type 2; Diagnosis and Management](#)

Primary Source: American Diabetes Association

#### [Management of Heart Failure in Adults](#)

Primary Source: Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC)

#### [Obesity in Adults; Prevention and Management](#)

Primary Source: American Academy of Family Physicians

#### [Preventive Services for Adults](#)

Primary Source: American Academy of Family Physicians

### **Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder**

*Existing Guidelines that were reviewed with no suggested updates:*

#### [Treatment of Patients with Major Depressive Disorder](#)

Primary Source: American Psychiatric Association

#### [Treatment of Patients with Schizophrenia](#)

Primary Source: American Psychiatric Association

*Existing Guideline that was reviewed and new suggested updates:*

[Treatment of Patients with Substance Use Disorders](#)

Primary Source: American Psychiatric Association

*Due to the recommendation to implement ASAM for Opioid Use Disorder, we will not use this CPG for opioid related guidance.*

**New Guidelines:**

[The ASAM National Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder](#)

Primary Source: American Society of Addiction Medicine

[Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Acute Stress Disorder](#)

Primary Source: Veterans Association/Department of Defense

To view Aspirus Health Plan's most currently adopted clinical practice guidelines, visit the Clinical Practice Guidelines – Medical & Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder chapter in the [Aspirus Provider Manual](#) or find them on the [Clinical Practice Guideline webpage](#) of the Provider Website.

## 2023 Pharmacy Benefit Documents

Documents related to the 2023 Aspirus Health Plan formulary are now available at <https://medicare.aspirushealthplan.com/formulary>.

In mid-October, Aspirus Health Plan will begin sending postcards to Medicare members impacted by changes to the 2023 formulary. The postcards will list the drug impacted, the type of change, as well as any formulary alternative(s). Letters will also be sent to the providers of these members with the same information.

The goal of the 2023 changes is to enhance the safe use of medications and offer the most clinically and cost-effective therapy for members. Additional pharmacy information for providers, including Medical Injectable Drug Prior Authorization Resources can be found on the [Medicare Pharmacy page of the Provider Website](#).

## Reminder: Medicare Part D Vaccine Information

As a reminder, Aspirus Health Plan denies claims for providers administering Part D vaccines in their clinics.

The preferred method is to buy a Part D vaccination at a pharmacy and have it administered at the pharmacy. The member would only be responsible for the coinsurance or copayment.

If the Part D vaccination is provided at the clinic, we request the provider submit the claim using an electronic claims adjudication portal called TransactRx. By submitting the claims electronically, the patient is charged the same copay they would be charged at a retail pharmacy at the time of service, and the provider is reimbursed for their cost in a timely manner. There is no need to submit a claim form to Aspirus Health Plan. Additional information is available in the Claims & Payment section of the [Provider Manual](#).

## 2023 Authorization and Notification Grids Now Available

The 2023 medical, mental health & substance use disorder services and pharmacy authorization requirements are now available. Please find them on the [Prior Authorization & Notification Requirement and Referrals webpage](#).

## Documentation Improvement: Arrhythmias

Tips for documenting arrhythmia, include the following:

<b>Location:</b>	Atrial, ventricular, supraventricular, etc.
<b>Rhythm type:</b>	Flutter, fibrillation, long QT syndrome, sick sinus syndrome, etc.
<b>Acuity:</b>	Acute, chronic, paroxysmal, etc.
<b>Cause:</b>	Hypertension, hyperkalemia, alcohol consumption, digoxin, etc.
<b>Additional information:</b>	Treatment status, pacemaker status, adverse effect of a drug, etc.

Documentation that includes the above will produce complete and accurate coding and diagnostic reporting. The medical record will accurately reflect the patient's condition, current treatment, and assist others in improving the patient's overall health status.

## Aspirus Health Plan Medicare Advantage Provider Assistance Center Holiday Hours

The Provider Assistance Center (PAC) is open Monday through Friday, 8 am-5 pm and can be reached at: 715-631-7412 (local), or toll-free: 1-855-931-4851.

The Provider Assistance Center is **closed** for the following holidays:

- Thanksgiving (observed) - Thursday, Nov. 24 and Friday, Nov. 25, 2022
- Christmas Eve and Day (observed) – Friday, Dec. 23 and Monday, Dec. 26
- New Year's Day (observed) – Monday, Jan. 2