

Health assessments for Medicare Advantage members

As part of the recent Health Care Reform legislation, quality measures are being used to evaluate health plans. These quality measures are based largely on published care guidelines, such as those in the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) and National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) standards. To satisfy those requirements, BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee has two programs that will help facilitate care coordination with network physicians.

The **first program** involves arranging voluntary, in-home, in-depth health risk assessments conducted by clinicians trained in CMS Medicare Advantage regulations for a portion of its Medicare Advantage membership. BlueCross has partnered with two entities to administer these assessments. The assessments are intended to collect data only, no care is provided. The assessments will not interfere with the care you provide. In fact, a key aspect of the program is the encouragement of routine appointments with the member's primary care physician for wellness and maintenance visits.

The **second program** involves making a tool, the provider assessment form (PAF) available on the company website to you to assist with the coordination and documentation of the health care of your senior members in the office. The PAF is designed to be used in conjunction with a patient's routine visit or on its own. The summary will include your analysis and health care plan to encourage patients to seek regular medical care. Additionally, the PAF provides a mechanism to allow the BlueCross Case Management staff to coordinate resources for your patients, thus reducing time-consuming work for your staff.

The PAF should be completed once every calendar year for each of your BlueAdvantage patients. In appreciation of your participation in completing the detailed assessment, BlueAdvantage will reimburse the service as E/M code 99420 with a maximum allowable charge of \$155.00. The reimbursement is in addition to the normal charges for the visit.

Questions about either of these programs may be directed to our Provider Service Line[†].