



MOUNT CARMEL

To: Mount Carmel Medical Staff Members

From: Karen Geisler
Vice President, Patient Financial Services

Date: June 7, 2010

Subject: **UNITED HEALTHCARE'S CARDIOLOGY NOTIFICATION PROGRAM**

Recently, UHC (UnitedHealthcare) notified providers regarding changes in preauthorization requirements for diagnostic catheterization and electrophysiology implants for UnitedHealthcare Choice, Choice Plus, Select and Select Plus benefit plans as well as Medicare Advantage plans offered by SecureHorizons and Evercare. Notification under this program will be required for services rendered in **all settings (e.g. Inpatient, Observation, Office Based and Outpatients)**. This notification program will apply to **all** physicians rendering diagnostic catheterization, electrophysiology implant procedures including those physicians who have received the UnitedHealth Premium quality and efficiency of care designation

The effective date for this action is **July 1, 2010**. The need for the procedure must be consistent with evidence based clinical guidelines. Once that is established, a notification number will be provided to the physician. Without completion of the entire notification process, a notification number will not be issued and an administrative reimbursement reduction will occur for the physician rendering the service. Balance billing the patient is precluded under this program. However, Physicians should not delay emergency care in order to notify. If the physician determines that the procedure is required on an urgent or emergent basis, the service should be performed and notification should be requested retrospectively.

Please contact UHC at www.UnitedHealthcareonline.com or by phone at 1-866-889-8054 to request authorization for these services. You can also request authorization by fax at 1-866-886-8061, Monday through Friday, during normal business hours.

Dr Richard Gajdowski, UHC Medical Director will be at MCE Siegel Center, June 10, 2010 at 7:30am to present and discuss evidence based clinical guidelines used for UHC's Radiology and Cardiology notification process.

Further information regarding this change can be found at UHC physician's web site>clinical resources>Cardiology. If you have questions regarding this information, please contact Kitty Fox at 614-546-4891 or Ann Colvin at 614-546-4825.

Thank you for your assistance in implementing this UHC required change.

CC: Dr. Richard Streck Ron Whiteside Jackie Primeau Lyn Flanagan
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