

March 16, 2018

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

Provider Directory Verification is Due by March 31, 2018

It's important to have up-to-date information in our provider directory. Be sure to verify your information for our provider directory *no later than March 31, 2018*. If you are not accountable for provider data, please forward this to the responsible person. Confirming and/or updating your information is easy, secure and fast! [Learn more>>](#)

HEALTH CARE PLANS (MEDICARE ADVANTAGE)

Tips to Help You Get Ready for New Medicare ID Cards

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will replace Social Security numbers on red, white, and blue Medicare cards with unique numbers to reduce the risk of fraud and identity theft. New cards will be issued from April 2018 to April 2019. The new Medicare ID number, called a Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI), will be alphanumeric, and therefore more secure. We encourage you to get your billing systems ready now to accept the new ID number format. [Learn more>>](#)

SilverSneakers Can Help Your Patients Live Life to Fullest

The SilverSneakers[®] fitness program makes it easy and affordable for Medicare members to get fit and have fun. SilverSneakers membership is offered at *no charge* to members enrolled in our Medicare Advantage BlueMedicareSM health plans. The innovative wellbeing improvement program helps older adults stay physically active and socially engaged. Don't miss the SilverSneakers provider guide and participant outcomes. [Learn more>>](#)

PHARMACY

OxyContin No Longer Covered for Non-Medicare Members; Current Users Must Switch *Before April 1, 2018*

Xtampza ER (oxycodone ER) has replaced OxyContin (oxycodone HCl ER) as our preferred long-acting, abuse-deterrent oxycodone product. Other long-acting pain relief products are available, including fentanyl patch and morphine ER tablets. **Please discuss alternative treatment options with your patients currently prescribed OxyContin before April 1.** [Learn more >>](#)

QUALITY / HEDIS / CAHPS PHARMACY

Updated HEDIS Measure Acute Bronchitis Tip Sheet

We've updated our tip sheet about the avoidance of antibiotic treatment for adults with acute bronchitis. The tip sheet gives an overview of the measure and includes important information about antibiotic resistance and the CDC's recommended *delayed antibiotic prescribing* as a strategy. [Learn more >>](#)