



Dental Claims Data and Utilization Pattern Review

August 24, 2018

Dear Care1st Dental Providers and Staff:

Thank you for the services that you provide to Care1st members. We appreciate your treatment of the members that we serve.

Care1st embraces the commitment of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) to improve the delivery of health care services. The new Affordable Care Act signed into law on March 23, 2010 significantly impacts health care in this country by promoting preventative medicine, improved coordination of services and reducing waste and inefficiencies. To maintain Care1st's responsibility of taxpayer dollars, Care1st contracts with *Advantica*® to assist in their quality improvement and utilization management for their dental program.

On behalf of Care1st, Advantica is reviewing dental claims data and utilization patterns. Utilization patterns were compared across the network of providers to identify potential outliers. An outlier is defined as a practitioner whose treatment patterns differ greatly from those of his/her peers. As a result of these findings, Advantica may notify providers who vary from network utilization trends. When variances are identified we will monitor overall claims and utilization data or, if necessary, will perform a focused review on specific CDT codes.

While Advantica recognizes there are occurrences in which outliers are justifiable, we would like to remind everyone that it is the provider's responsibility to ensure billing is appropriate, including oversight of outsourced billing practices.

Our goal is to ensure that Care1st members receive the services they need, when they need them and to continue to provide you with excellent service.

Should you have any questions regarding this information you may contact Dr. Pfitzinger, Advantica's Dental Director, at 314-543-4976 or wpfitzinger@advanticabenefits.com.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Care1st!

Care1st Network Management

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