



1335 NORTH FRONT STREET, HARRISBURG, PA 17102
T: 717-232-5762 • F: 717-232-8368
WWW.PENNCHIRO.ORG

******* URGENT PCA MEMBER UPDATE *******

Aetna Changes, New Pre-Authorization as of 9/1/18

As you surely know, for the past several years, PCA has taken on the fight against health insurers' and their heavy-handed overreach into the patient- doctor relationship.

PCA's fight has been embodied in legislation (e.g., Workers' Comp "improvements," outlawing multiple co-payments in a single office visit, untimely retroactive reviews), regulations (e.g., delegation to unlicensed personnel, chiropractic specialty advertising) and in countless meetings/ discussions with the PA Insurance Department (e.g., IBX fee cuts, oversight of third party administrators' excesses).

As many of you have already commented, now we're facing a host of other pre-authorization and pre-certification initiatives from health insurers, most notably from Aetna/ Coventry, supposedly to become effective on September 1, 2018.

You might recall that a similar effort by Highmark last year resulted in PCA generating and submitting a host of questions about Highmark's initiative. After several proposed challenges to the new Highmark initiative, continued questions involving many legislators and the PA Department of Insurance for many months (and no responses from Highmark to PCA's questions), Highmark eventually made the wise decision to for the time being to suspend its proposed medical policies and conceded to the PCA's relentless pursuit to making sure Chiropractors in the commonwealth get treated fairly and ethically.

PCA is again reaching out to YOU, the members, to help us pose similar concerns and questions to both Aetna/ Coventry as it attempts to create a pre-certification program with NIA.

To that point, by no later than Friday, June 15, please email your questions, concerns or comments about the Aetna and Coventry new pre-certification policies directly to PCA's General Counsel, Jason B. Martin, Esquire: jbmartin@jbmartinlaw.com. Jason will gather your questions, distill them into a professionally respectful inquiry and send to each insurer for response.

The PCA on your behalf has reached out already to Aetna and we will plan to have a meeting with Aetna as soon as feasible to discuss the concerns we collect about the carriers to make sure that patients are not inappropriately denied access to care with this new NIA program. We will keep YOU updated on our efforts to change or at least challenge the proposed policies of Aetna/ Coventry and we'll likewise advise you of any needed outreach from our members to support PCA's efforts.

One last note - we'll address the Aetna/ Coventry issue at our upcoming Annual Convention, being held June 29- July 1 at State College's Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center, so if you want to engage with PCA on this and MANY MORE PERTINENT ISSUES....

PLAN TO ATTEND THE PCA CONVENTION

&

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

To register, go to: <https://pennchiro.org/convention-2/>

Saturday, June 30, 12:30pm – 2pm

(lunch included)